

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain);
Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)
Sr. Anne Marie (Pastoral Care)

Our Lady & St George's Primary School:
Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552
Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

6th September 2015

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (B)

Today, the pace of life is very fast and so many things occupy our attention. Despite huge advances in telecommunications, people seem more isolated and focussed on their own interests. Technology has brought with it a drive for efficiency; everything must be instant or we become impatient. With all this information swirling around in us, we can be deaf to the transcendent – to the world beyond this, and to the deeper purpose of life.

It is difficult to hear the voice of God if we are completely immersed in rushing around and are surrounded by noise. The man in the Gospel today is deaf and has a speech impediment. This ailment isolates him. He is brought to Jesus, and the Lord takes him aside and heals him, opening his ears and restoring his speech.

We too may find an impediment in our lives, some difficulty, or perhaps a deep hurt, that affects our relationship with God and other people. In this age of self-sufficiency, people look for healing in all kinds of ways. They can consult experts, read guidebooks and search the Internet, but none of these things, which may be good in themselves, can actually remove the barrier or impediment. Just as with this deaf man, he couldn't heal himself; the impediment could only be removed by Christ's healing touch.

It is through prayer, and especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation, that we encounter the healing Christ, the divine physician. In that Sacrament, He takes us aside, and removes the impediments that we wish to be rid of, and which we present to Him. It costs us nothing, but brings a real peace.

The Gospel also shows us how we can be the means by which others are brought to Christ. You will notice that others bring the deaf man to Jesus. He doesn't go himself. Likewise we may be in a position to bring our friends and family, who may have fallen away and need help, back to the only One who can help them.

It is counter-cultural to be a Christian, and to even profess faith today. But as Isaiah says in the first reading, we should have courage and not be afraid, because Our Lord desires to heal us and bring us a freedom that the world cannot offer.

This offer of freedom is available to everyone, rich and poor alike. The Lord does not make distinctions between classes of people, as we do. So we should not be afraid to bear witness to Him, in any situation we find ourselves in. For the healing of some ailment, everyone needs to be brought to Christ.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 21st September at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required. Please speak to one of the priests for more information.

SCHOOLS REOPEN: This week our schools re-open. We wish our students and staff a blessed and productive academic year.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7.00am and 9.15am daily Masses have now resumed.

6:30PM SUNDAY MASSES: As Fr David Waller has now become Parish Priest of Christ the King in Chingford, the Sunday evening Mass at 6.30pm will no longer take place at St George's. We thank Fr David and the Ordinariate group for their ongoing support.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT commences again on Monday 7th September.

RCIA (BECOMING A CATHOLIC): The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group will be starting up again on Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Church meeting room, from 10th September. This group is for people interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and exploring the possibility of entering the Church. For more information speak to one of the priests.

WALTHAMSTOW DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL: A deanery pastoral council has recently been formed, with representatives from the six parishes that comprise our deanery (St Patrick's, St George's, Christ the King, Our Lady of Grace, St Joseph's, and St Thomas of Canterbury). The committee will discuss issues of importance for our parishes, and mechanisms for working together. The meeting will take place on 7th September at 8pm in the presbytery. All members are asked to attend.

PARISH BAZAAR: It has been agreed that there will be a parish bazaar on 27th and 28th November. The bazaar planning committee will first meet on Monday 28th September at 7.30pm in the Church meeting room. Anyone interested in helping is very welcome to come to this meeting.

Churchill Estates has already agreed to sponsor the event, with their advertising board scheme. They will donate £10 for each board displayed outside a parishioner's home. To sign up for this scheme, please add your name to the list at the back of the Church.

JUSTICE & PEACE MEETING: The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will be on Wednesday 9th September, 7.30-9.30pm in the Church meeting room.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting of the finance committee will take place on Monday 28th September at 8.00pm in the Presbytery.

DIVINE MERCY HEALING SERVICES resume on Sunday evenings at 5pm.

STATUE OF OUR LADY: During the month of October, the month of the Rosary, a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be available to parishioners to have in their homes for a day. If you would like to have the statue in your home, please contact Louella (07545 625 109) or drop your details into the presbytery in an envelope marked 'Statue

of Mother Mary' stating the dates of your choice. Every effort will be made to accommodate your choice where possible.

'ASSISTED SUICIDE' BILL: On Friday 11th September the House of Commons will debate and vote on a Bill to legalise assisted suicide. This will put the most vulnerable people in our society at risk. Please contact your MP, urging them to attend the debate and vote against the Bill. You can send an e-mail to your MP via the Catholic Bishops' Conference website (<http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/assisted-suicide>).

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2015/16: Parents wishing their child to make their First Holy Communion in 2016 must attend the parents meeting on Monday 14th September 2015 at 8pm in the Church. The child must be in school year 4 or above. Please speak to Fr Patrick for more information.

CONFIRMATION 2015/2016: The new Confirmation programme will start in October. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for more information.

SICK CALLS TO HOSPITAL: In light of strict data protection rules it is important that on entering hospital you tell the nurses that your details or those of your relatives be passed to the Catholic chaplain, if you wish to be visited. We visit the wards during the week and also provide a 24-hour on-call service in case of emergency.

AFRICAN CHAPLAINCY MASS: The annual Mass for the African Communities will take place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark (SE1 7HY) on Sunday 20th September at 3pm. The main celebrant will be Bishop Patrick Lynch. For more information speak to Deacon Joseph.

ROTAS – SEPTEMBER

Hospital	6/9 B	13/9 D	20/9 A	27/9 B
Counting	6/9 C	13/9 D	20/9 E	27/9 D
Christian Kitchen	5/9 Nor1	12/9 E	19/9 Nor2	26/9 F

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of

Patrick Murphy, whose Requiem Mass will take place at
11am on Monday 7th September

Cornelia Joseph, whose Requiem Mass will take place on
Wednesday 9th September at 10.15am

May they rest in peace.

The offertory collections over the summer were: 26th July - £1223.37; 2nd August - £2332.75; 9th August - £1048.53; 16th August - £1148.72; 23rd August - £1238.06; 30th August - £1202.18. Many thanks for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George this week

6.00pm	Dennis Fahey (RIP)
Sun 6 th Sept	Twenty Third Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
8.30am	People of the Parish
10.00am	Tim Campbell (RIP)
12.00pm	Joseph Moise (Thanksgiving)
Mon 7 th Sept	Feria
7.00am	Gerry Kelleher (RIP)
9.15am	Eileen Riordan (RIP)
Tue 8 th Sept	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7.00am	Benny Tully (RIP)
9.15am	Deceased members and relatives of Angelina Hoareau
Wed 9 th Sept	St Peter Claver, Priest
7.00am	Angeina Horeau & family (Thanksgiving)
9.15am	Philip Mitchell (Ints)
Thu 10 th Sept	Feria
7.00am	Joe & Robyn Fleming (Ints)
9.15am	Ray Finney (RIP)
Fri 11 th Sept	Feria
7.00am	Kathy Ogles (Ints)
9.15am	Marcella Kelly (Ints)
Sat 12 th Sept	The Most Holy Name of Mary
10.00am	Tim Campbell (RIP) & Gertrude Pereira (RIP)
6.00pm	John & Josie Keenan (RIP)
Sun 13 th Sept	Twenty Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (B)
8.30am	Tim Campbell (RIP)
10.00am	People of the Parish
12.00pm	Len Church (RIP)

We pray for those in our parish community who are ill:

Christopher Browne, Rose Dennehy, Carol Hogermeer, Brian Keane, Ignatius Keane, Tony McCarthy, Rose O'Neill, Andrea Roberts, Promise Shinondo, Victoria Wyndham, Christine Conway, Nora Meades, Veronica Nolan, Mr & Mrs Charles, Maureen Bee, Denis Collins, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Angelina Hoareau, Archie Garrod, Martin Keane, Masangela Tardioli, Alix Charlery, Natalie Rosario, Ronald Rolle, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Mary and Anthony O'Boyle, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Bill Walsh, Margaret Perry, Bridget Lyons, Kristina Klimasauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Archie, George & Issac, Luis & Lukas, Anne Hutton, Comfort Kwawu, Judith Hilton.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Adoration & Exposition:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am

Weekdays after morning Mass

Mon – Fri: 7.30am-8.30am and at the following times:

Mon: 10.00am – 7.00pm Weds: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Fri: 9.45am – 10.45am, Sat: 10.30am-11.30am

Sat. 10.30am – 11.00am. 5.00pm – 5.30pm. During these times the priest is in the Reconciliation Room, to the left of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. Confessions are also available at other times on request; please call at the house.