

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

8th November 2015

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Today's first reading and Gospel present stories of two widows. Widows in ancient Israel were very vulnerable; they did not have inheritance rights and usually had to rely on their children, male relatives or charity for survival. They would not have the state support we have, so life would be hard for them. The widow in the first reading is living through a harsh famine and has few resources left to support herself and her son. The Prophet Elijah is sent to her and he asks her for water and bread. The woman has so little; she only has enough for one last meal and then expects to starve, but she is still willing to give from her scant resources – and God blesses her generosity. She is able to prepare food for all of them without running out. In the Gospel, Jesus praises the widow who puts two small coins in the treasury. Like the widow in the first reading, this widow also has so little and yet is willing to give all that she has – and for this Christ commends her.

In these accounts, we see that divine logic overturns human ways of thinking. Our natural instinct when faced with scant resources or destitution would be to hold onto everything we have, to see to it that we ourselves have enough. But the great paradox and a great truth of the spiritual life, is that *abundance comes from the willing gift*. The act of freely giving away to others, especially when this is most difficult for us, bring the greatest blessings. What we share with others could be our wealth, but also our possessions, our time, our faith and our joy. Giving to others in these ways brings great peace and healing to us.

The central point is to forget ourselves. That is why Jesus criticises the scribes so harshly in the Gospel, because they delight in their own honour, they crave esteem and human respect, and even their outward display of piety is a show. In the end, this reflects a deep insecurity. They were learned men, and there is nothing wrong with that, but they lacked humility and were over-concerned with their own position. This can be a danger for us too: whatever gifts we have are wonderful and should be used for God's glory, and not to puff up our own pride and sense of importance. If we are seeking after status, privilege, titles, in order to satisfy our egos – it is a sign of fear and insecurity. These are false supports, which are short-lived.

God's ways are different. The two widows are animated by the love of God. Their actions are not self-serving; there is nothing in it for them. It is only when we know how deeply God loves us that we can trust Him enough to let go and give fully of ourselves. One of the Beatitudes we heard last week was 'blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.' – to be poor in spirit means we are detached from worldly things, recognising that everything is a gift from Him.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 7th December at 7.30pm.

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

PARISH BAZAAR: The parish bazaar will take place on 27th and 28th November. The bazaar planning committee will next meet on Monday 9th November at 7.30pm – anyone interested in helping is very welcome to come to this meeting. Donations of good quality items are now being collected in the foyer of the Church. For more information, please see the poster on the noticeboard. Raffle tickets have now been distributed. **Please return any unsold tickets, or tickets you are unable to sell, so that they can be distributed to others to sell and are not wasted.** Thank you for your ongoing support for the bazaar.

NOVEMBER: PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SOULS and MASS FOR THE DECEASED During the month of November we pray especially for our deceased loved ones. There will be sheets in the Church porch on which you can write the names of your deceased family members and friends, and place these in the purple box in front of the Altar. Please do not put any money in this box.

There will be a **Mass** for all our deceased loved ones on Friday 20th November at 7.30pm, followed by refreshments in the Church meeting room.

WALK WITH ME ADVENT BOOKLETS: A journey of prayer for Advent and Christmastide for the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Now available in the Repository priced at £1. Using these booklets is a good way to prepare spiritually for Christmas.

ST GEORGE'S SVP (ST VINCENT DE PAUL) SOCIETY CONFERENCE APPEAL: There will be a second collection on 15th/16th November to fund-raise for the Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch which will be held on Sunday 13th December as well as to provide practical assistance to those in need especially over Christmas, and to help with our work in the parish. If you are interested in helping us in our work or know of anyone in need please advise an SVP member taking the collection.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting of the Finance Committee is Monday 23rd November at 8pm.

MAINTENANCE MEETING: The next meeting of the Maintenance Committee will take place on Monday 16th November at 8pm.

VOCATIONS GROUP: The next meeting of the Vocations group will be on Saturday 21st November at 4pm. The group is for all young people, and we discuss how the Christian life is lived through marriage, priesthood, religious and single life.

RCIA (BECOMING A CATHOLIC): The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group meets on Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Church meeting room. 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.

RECEPTION INTAKE, OUR LADY & ST GEORGE SCHOOL: If your child was born between 1.9.11 and 31.8.12 they are due to start school in September 2016. To apply to OLSG School, you will need to complete the common application form available at www.eadmissions.org.uk and return to Waltham Forest Admissions by 15th Jan 2016. You will also need to complete the Supplementary Information Form, available from www.olsgweb.org, which needs to be returned to the Lower Site School office by 15th Jan 2016. For more information contact Mrs Moloney on 0208 520 8500.

SIGNING OF PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS: Fr Maurice will be available to sign primary school application forms at the following times ONLY: Saturday 14th November, 3-5pm and Monday 16th November, 6-8pm, in the Church meeting room.

Our Lady and St. George's Catholic Primary and Nursery School will be holding an extra information meeting for parents with children who will be starting Reception in September 2016 (children born between 01.09.2011 and 31.08.2012). The meeting will be on **Wednesday 18th November at 7.00pm in the Lower Site, Shernhall Street, E17 9HU.** If you were unable to attend one of our previous meetings, this will give you an opportunity to find out more about our school. Please either email the school on office@olsgweb.org or telephone the school office to let us know that you can attend the meeting.

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.

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of:

Emmanuel Jacob, a young parishioner and past student of Holy Family College, who died last week. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to his parents Jacob and Molamma at this very sad time. His funeral details are being arranged.

Patrick McHugh, whose funeral will take place at Manor Park Crematorium on Friday 13th November at 2.30pm

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – NOVEMBER

Hospital	1/11 A	8/11 B	15/11 D	22/11 A	29/11 B
Counting	1/11 D	8/11 C	15/11 F	22/11 B	29/11 E
Christian Kitchen	7/11 Nor1	14/11 C	21/11 Nor2	28/11 D	

The offertory collection for 31st Oct/1st Nov was £1405.75

Many thanks for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Len & Babs Finney (Ints)
Sun 8 th Nov	Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) (Remembrance Day)
8.30am	Norma Gesmundo Escueta (RIP, Anniv.)
10.00am	Jerry Seary, Anthony Seary (Ints)
12.00pm	Tim Campbell (RIP)
Mon 9 th Nov	Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7.00am	Special Ints
9.15am	Benedict Maxwell (Ints)
Tue 10 th Nov	St Leo the Great, Priest, Doctor of the Church
7.00am	Elaine Francis (RIP)
9.15am	Bridie Lacon (Ints)
Wed 11 th Nov	St Martin of Tours, Bishop
7.00am	Christine and Lara Fleming (Ints)
9.15am	Phoebe Roach (RIP)
Thu 12 th Nov	St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr
7.00am	Joe McGee (Ints)
9.15am	Nial Fleming (Ints)
Fri 13 th Nov	Feria
7.00am	Brenda (Ints)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Sat 14 th Nov	Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am	Kristina Klimasauskaite (Ints)
6.00pm	Ellen Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 15 th Nov	Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Felicio D'Souza (RIP)
12.00pm	Tim Campbell (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, Gloria and Tracy Joseph, Colin Nye.

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, inside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, to the left. Confessions are also available at other times on request; please call at the house.