

# 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

**15<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

## **Pentecost Sunday (C)**

Today we celebrate the Solemn Feast of Pentecost, fifty days after Easter. The readings all highlight the powerful action of the Holy Spirit, who strengthens our love for the Father and the Son, and inspires us to break out of ourselves and spread and defend our faith.

At our Baptism we became temples of the Holy Spirit, in order that our lives might manifest the goodness of God dwelling within us. During the course of our lives, through sin, we can lose the grace of the Holy Spirit within us, and this can manifest itself through negative attitudes, bitterness, complaining, finding fault etc. In other words we are not at peace.

When the grace of the Spirit in us is weakened or lost, it can be restored, through the Sacrament of Penance. In the Gospel Jesus gives His apostles the power of the Holy Spirit to forgive sins in His name, and thus dispense His gift of peace. The Holy Spirit helps us to know ourselves better; to know where we have acted rightly and wrongly; He shows us how to best use the gifts God has given us, and He convicts us of our sins and shortcomings, not out of malice, but in order to draw us closer into the life of the Trinity. He is our teacher and we should come as His pupils to learn from Him. The Holy Spirit teaches us to know Christ better and follow Him more closely.

The first reading describes the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This is what happens in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is the sacrament by which a fuller measure of the Spirit and of His grace is conferred upon a baptised Christian, making him or her a soldier of Christ and a witness of His gospel to the world.

Confirmation has three effects: 1) it strengthens our relationship with Christ, allowing it to become more intimate. 2) It gives us the grace to defend our faith when we are challenged or under attack, and 3) it also empowers us to go forth and spread it with conviction. Sometimes people neglect to receive this Sacrament, and even as adults have not been confirmed. Here in the parish we run a course for adults wishing to be confirmed. There are others who do receive the Sacrament but it seems to make no visible difference to their lives, or they neglect the faith soon after receiving it. The Sacrament of Confirmation gives the wonderful power of the Holy Spirit, but in order for it to be effective we cannot let it lie latent and dormant. We must call upon it, and use it.

The Holy Spirit gives 7 gifts, and we should pray for those gifts, to help us face whatever situations we come up against. The first three gifts are wisdom, knowledge and understanding: these help us to know more about our faith and about ourselves; the next is fortitude or courage, which helps us face difficulties; counsel, which helps us to advise and lead others kindly, and piety and fear of the Lord, in which we humble ourselves before God, and thus become able to learn from Him.

Today we keep in mind the words of our Pentecost sequence, which describe the action of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Let us not neglect the Spirit, but turn to Him, and ask Him to 'bend our stubborn heart and will, melt the frozen, warm the chill. May He give us joys that never end.' Amen.

**Fr Maurice**

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 7.30pm in the Church. Godparents are also encouraged to attend.

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

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**NEXT WEEK: PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY:**

The fifth annual Parish May Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place next **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May**. Everyone is invited to gather **just before 2pm** at the Upper Site of Our Lady & St George School (E17 3EA). After a blessing and crowing of a statue of Our Lady, we will process along Shernhall Street to the Church, where the rosary will be prayed in a number of languages. The walk is about half a mile, and both the school and the Church are wheelchair-accessible. The afternoon will conclude at about 4pm, with refreshments in the parish hall. Please do come along with your families, and invite others to come too.

The First Communion children will attend and walk in their Communion attire; and the Confirmation Candidates will also participate, and lead a mystery of the Rosary.

Processions are an outward expression of our faith, and we come together to honour Our Lady and ask for her maternal intercession for our families, schools and parish.

**CONFIRMATION:** The next session for the Confirmation programme is this Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> May at 4pm in the Parish Hall. Please continue to keep the young people and their families in your prayers.

**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 – or for adults who may have been baptised but never received First Communion or Confirmation. The group meets every Thursday at 8pm in the Church meeting room.

**READERS FOR SATURDAY 6PM VIGIL MASS:** We are looking for new readers to join the rota for the Saturday 6pm Vigil Mass. If you would be interested in being considered for this, please give your name, address and email address to Fr Maurice in an envelope FAO Jenny Richmond. It would be necessary to attend a brief training session.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO DOOR OF MERCY, BRENTWOOD:** Our Parish will be going to visit the Holy Door at Brentwood Cathedral on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May, and a coach is now booked to depart the parish at 11am. Upon arrival we will go through the Holy Door, then have lunch. After lunch, confessions will be available, Mass will be celebrated at 3pm and we will return to Walthamstow by 5pm. **The list at the back of the Church is now full, but keep an eye on it for cancellations.** We request £8 per seat, collected on the day, which includes a small donation to the Cathedral for use of its facilities. All attending will need to bring a packed lunch. The coach has 53 seats.

**SAFEGUARDING IN THE PARISH:** For safeguarding purposes, we request that all small children be accompanied by their parents / carers when using the church toilets, as young children are often unable to close the doors by themselves.

**UPCOMING PARISH MISSION:** There will be a Parish/School Mission from the 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016. The mission will be a week of talks and prayer aimed to renew us in faith and to reflect particularly on the gift of God's mercy, during the current year of mercy. Fr Soji Olikkal and a team of helpers will facilitate the week. Please keep an eye out for further announcements.

**GIFT AID ENVELOPES:** The new sets of offertory envelopes are now available. **Please collect yours if you are registered for the scheme.** Registering to donate to the parish via the envelopes allows the parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 given, at no extra cost to the giver. This makes your generous donations go further, and supports the upkeep of the Church and its buildings, and our schools. If you would like to register for the Gift Aid scheme, or have any questions about it, please contact Joan on 07950 249 988.

**GLOBAL CATHOLIC TV NETWORK - EWTN:** Are you getting EWTN Catholic television and radio? It's free and easy to access! EWTN is a global Catholic television and radio network packed with Catholic teaching, events, discussion, news, family entertainment, conversion stories, saints' lives and more. View live Catholic events from around the world, including the Holy Father's weekly audience and Sunday Angelus from Rome. EWTN is available through numerous means, including Sky TV (channel 589), and online. For more information, and a live stream, visit [www.ewtn.co.uk](http://www.ewtn.co.uk).

**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:**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Frances South, whose funeral will take place at Manor Park Crematorium on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 3.30pm.

Bernard Filby, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon.

Reginald Victor Matovu, whose funeral will take place at St Patrick's Cemetery on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May at 2.00pm.

Florendo Viado, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 12.15pm.

Elizabeth Carroll who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon, followed by burial at Chingford Mount Cemetery.

**ROTAS – MAY**

Counting	1/5 <b>B</b>	8/5 <b>D</b>	15/5 <b>E</b>	22/5 <b>B</b>	29/5 <b>C</b>
Christian Kitchen	7/5 <b>Nor</b>	14/5 <b>G</b>	21/5 <b>A</b>	28/5 <b>B</b>	

The offertory collection for last week was £1694.30

Many thanks for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Michael Fitzpatrick (RIP)
Sun 15 May	<b>Pentecost Sunday (C)</b>
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Joan Lambourne (RIP)
12.00pm	Boyce Chandisingh (RIP)
Mon 16 May	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Paddy O'Halloran (RIP)
9.15am	Dercilia Fonseca & Family (Ints)
Tue 17 May	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Ozario Fonseca (RIP)
9.15am	Ambrose Dillsworth (RIP)
Wed 18 May	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Delmira Rodrigues (RIP)
9.15am	Margaret Perry (RIP)
Thu 19 May	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Mother Angelica (RIP)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Fri 20 May	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Special Ints
9.15am	Special Ints
Sat 21 May	<b>Feria</b>
10.00am	Special Ints
6.00pm	Maureen Bee (RIP)
Sun 22 May	<b>The Most Holy Trinity (C)</b>
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Richard Balfe (RIP)
12.00pm	Georgina Dillon (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, 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, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Mary and Anthony O'Boyle, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Bill Walsh, 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, Pdraig Hester, Regina Jose, Tony Keane

### **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.