

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

24th July 2016

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus' disciples wanted to know how they should best pray. They had spent much time with Jesus, and saw Him pray, and unite Himself with His heavenly Father. So they ask the Lord: 'teach us to pray.' He responds by giving them the words of the Our Father. We all know this prayer, we are taught it as children, and it can fall off our lips without any thought or reflection. But if we stop to think about it, the Our Father is a summary of several types of prayer: adoration, praise and thanksgiving, repentance, asking for strength, and for our needs. The Our Father is actually the Christian life in a nutshell, and if we pray it well, it will really set our spiritual lives on a good track. Today let us revisit it and see what we can draw from it.

One of the important things about prayer is not to give up, but to persevere. If we give up prayer, we lose our lifeline. Prayer sometimes involves a struggle with God; we may not understand the way circumstances turn out; but God knows, and in prayer it is fine and even good for us to a struggle a little with God, like Abraham did in the first reading today. There is a dialogue, a back-and-forth, a pleading. Likewise in the Gospel, Our Lord speaks of the man who knocks persistently on his friend's door seeking bread; and he says to us, 'knock and the door will be opened; seek and you will find.'

While we knock and seek, we ask for the grace of the Holy Spirit, that we may knock and seek for the right things. Jesus tells us that our Heavenly Father longs to give us good things, but often it pleases Him that we should ask for them. Sometimes we may not ask for what is truly good for us. We need the help of the Holy Spirit then, to help us identify our real needs, and move us to ask for them.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required.

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

END OF TERM: This week our schools broke up for the summer holidays. We wish all of our students and staff a restful and happy summer break.

NEWSLETTER: Please note that there will be no newsletters in August; next week's will be the last edition until September. Mass times and intentions for the month of August will be published next week and listed in the Church porch.

WORLD YOUTH DAY begins this coming Tuesday in Krakow, Poland. It is a weeklong Catholic youth event which happens every few years, and which the Pope attends. Two million young Catholics are expected to attend. Aagin from our parish will be going along and representing us. We pray that it will be a happy and fruitful time for her and all the other young people.

7AM MASS: Please note that there will be no 7am morning Masses during August. There will be one weekday Mass at 9.15am.

ADORATION: There will be no Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament during the month of August. Adoration will resume on Monday 5th September.

GARDENERS WANTED: We have a lovely parish garden at the back of the presbytery, which is often used for parish events. Unfortunately, it is getting a little overgrown and needs some attention. If anyone has some time to spare and has some gardening experience, please speak to Fr Maurice.

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. **Sessions have now finished for summer break and will recommence on Thursday 15th September.** If you would like more information about the RCIA process please speak to one of the priests or contact Bernadette Wilson on 07804 611 914 or email bernadette.wilson1@ntlworld.com.

YOUTH 2000 RETREAT: 25-29 August 2016, Walsingham, Norfolk. A 5-day Prayer Festival for those aged 16-35, packed with dynamic talks, live-band worship, powerful prayer times, fun social activities, creative workshops, in-depth discussions, evening entertainment and loads more. There will be a coach going from East London; for more information please see the website: <http://www.youth2000.org/#!/conquerors/b2675>

STEWARD OF THE GOSPEL: As you may be aware, Bishop Alan Williams has recently appointed a number of individuals to take on the role of 'Stewards of the Gospel'. There is one individual for each parish in Brentwood and Conrad Almeida has been appointed for St George's. Conrad writes: My role is to work closely with the parishioners and Fr Maurice to complete a "Parish Questionnaire" to gather information from 1985 onwards. This includes Mass attendance, baptisms and confirmations. It also includes programmes undertaken by lay people within our parish such as Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), Christian Kitchen, St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), parish income, expenditure, the use of our resources and working with young people within our parish, to name a few. This will help us to assess how we manage what we do now and what new approaches and new initiatives are needed to meet the challenges ahead, given that vocations to the priesthood are currently in decline.

We have to ask ourselves: What good practice exists in our parish? What factors have a significant impact on the financial position of our parish? How can we increase church attendance? How can we involve the youth of our parish? By examining these and other aspects, within the teachings of Christ and the Gospel, we may be better able to address how we can sustain and increase the number of worshippers and how we can maintain a viable and flourishing parish in the years ahead.

Conrad would welcome your thoughts and ideas. Please feel free to contact him by email: conrad.sotg@gmail.com

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: 19th SEPTEMBER 2016: There will be a meeting for all those travelling on the above pilgrimage on Sunday 31st July at 3.30pm in the Church meeting room. Please note that the cost of the airport coach return is £30; this will be taken on the day. Please confirm your attendance with Stella on 0208 527 3879.

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 call Armie on 07962 501 555.

Attention: Gift Aid (Envelope Number) 3342 If you are the donor who has offertory envelope 3342 please make yourself known to Fr Maurice. We need your contact details for the database. If you are a taxpayer, please fill up Gift Aid Declaration form, as we could not trace your gift aid form. Sorry for the inconvenience and thank you for your kind support.

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 soul of Czeslawa Gryko, (Barbara Duffy's mother) who died recently. Her body will be received into the Church on Wednesday 27th July at 5pm, and her requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 28th July at 10am, followed by burial at Chingford Mount Cemetery.

May she rest in peace

ROTAS – JULY

Counting	3/7 C	10/7 D	17/7 E	24/7 F	31/7 C
Christian Kitchen	2/7 Nor	9/7 F	16/7 G	23/7 A	30/7 B
Hospital	3/7 D	10/7 A	17/7 B	24/7 D	31/7 A

The offertory collection last week was £1288.99. The second collection for Sri Lanka flood relief raised £550. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	John D'Arcy (RIP)
Sun 24 July	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Bridie Cullen (RIP)
10.00am	Michael Mullins Snr (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
Mon 25 July	St James, Apostle
7.00am	Sr Kathleen Staunton (RIP)
9.15am	John Mattimores (Ints)
Tue 26 July	Ss Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7.00am	Joe and Mary Bond (Ints)
9.15am	Richard Loughlin (RIP)
Wed 27 July	Feria
7.00am	Pat McManus (Ints)
9.15am	Sr Frances (Ints)
Thu 28 July	Feria
7.00am	Sr Bridie Stephens (Ints)
9.15am	Sr Camillus (Ints)
Fri 29 July	St Martha
7.00am	Margaret and John Moore (Ints)
9.15am	Jason Coeur-de-Lion (Ints)
Sat 30 July	Our Lady on Saturday
10.00am	Agnelo Rodrigues (Ints)
6.00pm	Patrick Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 31 July	Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Dejanire Talma (RIP)
10.00am	Margaret Perry (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish

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, 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.
