

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Nixon Gomes

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

4 Sept 2016

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

If we are going to undertake a project, it is sensible to plan it properly before we begin. Jesus in the Gospel today gives the example of someone building a tower; they make sure in advance that they have the resources needed to complete it. Good planning helps ensure that our plans come to fruition. Jesus is describing the importance of prudence.

The simplest definition of prudence is 'sound decision making'. Prudence means having the wisdom to foresee what might come of various actions so that we can choose the one that will be the most effective or do the most good. St Thomas Aquinas speaks about three steps involved with prudent decision-making. Firstly, a prudent person gathers as much information as needed, also taking into account relevant moral questions, to help them properly assess the situation. Second, they consider different possible ways to proceed and make judgements about which would be the best. Third, they make the decision to act upon the prudent judgement.

All of this, in some way, is practical common sense. But prudence is also a supernatural virtue, which enables us to see the bigger picture for our lives. As today's psalm reminds us, our lives are short, and the decisions we make also have an eternal consequence for us. For that reason we know we need to order our lives towards God and seek to do what He wants of us. But how can we know God's will?

Jesus has told us that the will of God is for us to love Him and to love our neighbour with a sacrificial love, in imitation of Him. Our decisions are thus guided by God's standards, enlightened by the Gospel and strengthened by the grace of the Sacraments. God's grace will show us what is best, help us to make the right judgement, and spur us on to taking the correct action. It is not easy though, because as the first reading says, our 'perishable bodies' and 'teeming' minds afflict us when we try to pray and seek God's will, and our fast-paced culture does not lend itself to meditation and contemplation on life. We therefore need the wisdom of the Holy Spirit from on high to help us.

Sometimes the correct action will lead us to conflict, as Jesus expresses in those difficult words at the beginning of the Gospel, which speak of hating one's family as a requirement for the disciple. In saying this Jesus does not mean that we must actually hate our families, rather that our love must be correctly ordered: love of God comes first, then of family, and then others. Sometimes the prudent course of action will not be convenient for us, in fact, it can cost us, that is why Jesus says 'anyone who does not carry his cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.' But carrying the cross is the prudent thing to do, because through the cross comes resurrection and eternal life.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 12th 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.

FR PATRICK FAREWELL & MASS: Fr Patrick departed from the presbytery last Sunday, and we were sorry to see him go. We wish him all of God's blessings in his new parish of Brentwood Cathedral, where he will be serving as assistant priest. He will be returning for a farewell thanksgiving Mass on **Friday 16th September at 7.30pm**, which will be followed by refreshments in the parish hall. Next Sunday we will have a collection for Fr Patrick, to show appreciation for all his hard work during the two years he was with us, particularly his ministry in the hospital and in the schools.

WELCOME FR NIXON GOMES: This weekend we welcome Fr Nixon Gomes, our new assistant priest. We are pleased to have him with us and we pray that his ministry will bear much fruit. Please make him welcome.

SCHOOLS REOPEN: This week our schools reopen, and we wish our students and staff a happy and blessed term. We congratulate our young people and teachers for their successes in recent examinations.

MORNING MASSES: 7am Masses will resume from this Monday 5th September. On Friday 9th September, the usual 9.15am Mass will instead begin at **9.30am**, as we will be joined by the children and teachers of Our Lady & St George Primary School for a Mass to open the term.

ADORATION: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will resume on Monday 5th September.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2016/17: Parents wishing their child to make their First Holy Communion in 2017 must attend a meeting for parents on Monday 12th September in the Church hall at 7.30pm. Children must be in school year 4 or above.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: The next meeting of the Finance Committee will take place on Monday 12th September at 8pm in the Church. All members are requested to attend.

DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL: The next meeting of the Waltham Forest Deanery Pastoral Council will take place on Monday 19th September at 8pm in the presbytery. All members are requested to attend.

RCIA (BECOMING A CATHOLIC): The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 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 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.

MISSION FOLLOW-UP – TRAINING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: As a follow-on from our successful Parish Mission in July, Fr Soji and his team will be coming back to the parish on Sunday 2nd October to provide training to young people (aged 15-25) to help them feel more confident about their faith and sharing it with others. The training will run from 10am-5pm on that day. If interested, please speak to Fr Maurice.

EDUCATION SUNDAY: Next Sunday is Education Sunday and some members of Holy Family College senior staff will be speaking briefly at the end of all Masses to update on the School's progress and current development plans. There will not be an extra collection.

GREAT WITH NUMBERS AND HIGHLY ORGANISED? The parish is in need of an experienced bookkeeper / accountant who can assist with entering financial data into the parish database, recording income and expenditures and in the preparing bank reconciliation and financial statements. The role will require a couple of hours volunteer work per week. Training in easy-to-use financial software will be provided. If you are interested and able to help, please speak to Fr Maurice.

TUTORING: Icilda Stewart will be running small group tuition for children and young people from October 2016 in the parish hall, including preparation for SATs. To register your interest please call Icilda on 07949 528 873.

DECEASED MEMORIAL SERVICE: There will be a memorial service for the deceased at All Saints Church on Chingford Mount (opposite the cemetery) on the 11th September at 3pm. Fr David Waller from Christ the King will officiate.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Registering to donate to the parish via the offertory 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.

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 Ann Rooney, who died recently. Her funeral will take place at the City of London Crematorium on 13th September at 3.30pm.

May she rest in peace.

RECENT WEDDINGS: CONGRATULATIONS:

We congratulate the following couples that were married at our Church over the summer:

- Carol Edmunds and Kenneth Cameron
- Charlotte Robinson and Anthony Holden
- Brenda Thomas and Michael Appie
- Dinocharlini Charles-Yoganathan and Rajkumar Anton-Arulnayagam
- Carinna Goffe and Uzoma Okpala

We wish them all of God's blessings for their future happiness and wellbeing. dd

ROTAS – SEPTEMBER

Counting	4/9 D	11/9 B	18/9 E	25/9 F
Christian Kitchen	3/9 Nor	10/9 F	17/9 G	24/9 A
Hospital	4/9 D	11/9 A	18/9 B	25/9 D

The offertory collection last week was £1218.08. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
Sun 4 Sept	Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Michael Fitzgerald (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Abbas Saifi & Ahmad Faraz (Ints)
Mon 5 Sept	Feria
7.00am	Margaret Perry (RIP)
9.15am	Sr Rosaleen Groome (RIP)
Tue 6 Sept	Feria
7.00am	Sr Maura Mullen (Ints)
9.15am	Ronald Charles (RIP)
Wed 7 Sept	Feria
7.00am	Sr Monica Cremlin (Ints)
9.15am	Sr Monica Sheehy (Ints)
Thu 8 Sept	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
7.00am	Tony Keane (Ints)
9.15am	Anjaline D'Souza (Ints)
Fri 9 Sept	St Peter Claver, Priest
7.00am	Celine Gannon (RIP)
9.30am	Philip Mitchell (Ints) <i>[Our Lady & St George School will join this Mass]</i>
Sat 10 Sept	Our Lady on Saturday
10.00am	Pearce McGarry (RIP)
6.00pm	John & Josie Keenan (RIP)
Sun 11 Sept	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Mother Maria (Ints)
12.00pm	Ali Mubariz, Islam Al-Esawi; Noor Mohammad (Ints)

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 Godslove, 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, Padraig Hester, Regina Jose, Tony Keane

Morning Prayer:

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am

Rosary:

Weekdays after morning Mass

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Sat. 10.30am – 11.30am. 5.00pm – 5.45pm. 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.
