

# 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

**13 November 2016**

**Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)**

Today is the 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Church's year; next Sunday is the last Sunday of the year before Advent begins. Towards the end of the Church's year, the readings remind us that all things are ultimately passing. As we look around us, we see nature itself in decline.

In the gospel, the disciples are in awe of the magnificent building that was the Jerusalem Temple. It was adorned with marble and gold, making it breathtaking to behold. But Jesus tells them, 'the days will come when there shall not be left one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.' The disciples were shocked, but Jesus gave them a lesson in the true value of material things – even those devoted to God – they are all passing. Even for us, it is important that our Churches are beautiful, but the architecture and design are not ends in themselves – they must point beyond themselves to the presence of the risen Christ in the Eucharist. Christ cautions us to be aware of what is permanent, and what is transitory. We should not misplace our trust; for our own lives, what is important is not the external appearance, but the internal temple of our love. Having a heart moulded on Christ, and making that the source of all our thoughts, decisions and actions: that is the splendor that lasts.

When we reflect on our relationship with Christ, we realize how much we fall short of what He calls us to be. We are often carrying the wounds of sin and division in us. Malachi in the first reading foresees the day on which God will judge everyone. God is described as the sun, which burns up and consumes evil, but for those who stand in awe of God, the fire is really the love of Christ, which purifies and heals. As Pope Emeritus Benedict said, 'the fire that both burns and saves is Christ Himself...all that we build during our lives can prove to be mere straw, pure bluster, and it collapses. Yet, in the pain of this encounter, when the impurity and sickness of our lives become evident to us, there lies salvation.'

Before the gaze of Christ, all falsehood melts away. All the defense mechanisms, barriers, masks that we build up collapse, like the temple in the Gospel. In our sins we play around with the possibility that this or that creature could replace God, latching inordinately onto money, sex and honour. This is why we need the fire of Christ's love to purify us, even though detaching ourselves from sin is a painful and humbling process. But when we know we are loved, we open our hearts and thus allow them to be healed.

Fr Maurice

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place this Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm in the Church. Godparents are also very much 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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**NOVEMBER: MONTH OF PRAYER FOR THE DECEASED:** November is the month the Church designates as a special time for praying for all of our deceased loved ones. You may write the names of your deceased loved ones on the sheets available at the back of the Church and place these into the purple box, which will be left near the Altar during this month. Please do not put any money in the box.

We will hold our annual Mass of remembrance **next Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm** in the Church followed by refreshments.

**ADVENT CONCERT:** This year, we will not be holding a bazaar, but will instead have an Advent Concert in the Church on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 7.30pm, featuring different musical contributions from our choir and various parish groups. OLSG Primary School will help to organize it. Tickets will be £5 per family, and all proceeds will go towards supporting the development of the primary school, which recently got a 'Good' Ofsted report, and now looks to build upon this success. Please note the date and come along.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2016/17:** The next session for the First Communion Programme will be next Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November. As usual, children will register in the parish hall at 9.45am and the parents' session will begin at 10am in the hall of the Lower Site of OLSG School next door. Parents and children will then all gather for the 10am Mass on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November.

**CONFIRMATION 2017:** All those who have already submitted expressions of interest for Confirmation 2017 are asked to come to the presbytery to pick up a full application form and timetable. This needs to be completed and returned to the presbytery by Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2017:** As next year is the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Diocese of Brentwood, in thanksgiving to Our Lady we would like to organize a parish pilgrimage. Following initial enquiries, we expect to arrange an 8-day pilgrimage to Lourdes, visiting Paris and Lisieux briefly on the return journey, from Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2017, with approximate costs of £449 per adult (11+), £399 children aged 3-11, £229 infants aged 0-3. There will be an initial information evening on **Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm in the Church meeting room**; anyone interested in going should attend. Soon thereafter we will request deposits to secure places.

**STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL SURVEY:** By now all parishioners should have received our STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL booklet. If you were at Mass over the last four weeks, you would have heard Fr. Maurice and I speak about the importance of Bishop Alan's initiative and the reasons why we all need to get involved:

- Vocations to become priests are in decline. There may be as few as 50 priests in our diocese by 2030
- Fewer people attend Mass. Fewer Baptisms, Confirmations and Marriages
- Fewer volunteers and Lay Leaders
- Will we have the resources within our church to maximize opportunities for evangelization and sacramental preparation?

If you haven't already done so, please complete the question sheets and drop them in the SOTG suggestion box or email me at [conrad.sotg@gmail.com](mailto:conrad.sotg@gmail.com). Spare question sheets are available in the church porch. Your response will be included in the "Parish Questionnaire" and will be forwarded to the Diocese. Your thoughts and ideas are important to us. Together we can plan for a vibrant and flourishing parish community in the years ahead. Thank you. Conrad Almeida

**BIBLE STUDY GROUP:** St George's Bible Study Group will recommence from Mondays 14th November (8.00-9.30 pm) in church meeting room. We explore, reflect and meditate on the following week's Scripture readings and as Jesus said to His Disciples, 'Come and See', we now invite you to come and see if this will help you on your faith journey/formation. For further information, please contact Andrew Koduah 07823324468

**HCPT 161 - Dates for your Diary:**

**Thursday 15th December** - Carol singing at Blackhorse Rd Tube Station. 5pm to 8pm,

**Friday 3rd February** - Bingo! Yes it's back by popular demand - details to follow.

**Saturday 18th March** - St Patrick's Gala Band Night and buffet! - more details to follow.

**OLSG NURSERY INTAKE 2017/18: Children born between 01.09.2013 and 31.08.2014**

Parents wishing to apply for a nursery place for September 2016 can download the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) from the school website [www.olsgweb.org](http://www.olsgweb.org) or collect the form from Lower Site School Office, 140 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU. There will be a choice of full time or part time places term time only. Part Time Hours: Mornings 8.45am – 11.45am; Afternoons 12.15pm – 3.15pm; Fulltime (8.45am to 3.15pm) part funded. Packs are available from the Lower Site School Office from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November. **The closing date for completed forms is Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2017.** If you have any queries please telephone Mrs Moloney on 020 8520 8500

**ADMISSIONS FOR RECEPTION, OLSG SCHOOL:** If your child was born between 01.09.2012 and 31.08.2013 they are due to start school in September 2017. To apply for OLSG School, please see further information on the Church noticeboard for details of the forms to be completed.

**SIGNING OF PRIMARY SCHOOL (RECEPTION) FORMS:** Fr Maurice will be available for signing primary school forms for Reception classes, in the Church meeting room at the following times **only:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2-4pm; Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> November 5-7pm.

**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 take place on **Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Church meeting room.** 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.

**FRIENDS OF HOLY FAMILY WINTER TABLETOP SALE:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November, 10am-1pm, Walthamstow Site, 1 Shernhall Street, London E17 3EA. Sat 19th Nov 2016. Doors open to the public from 10:00am - 1:00pm, and to sellers to arrive at 9am. To book a table, email the Friends for a booking form at [t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk) or phone the school office on 020 8520 0482. Tables £10.00 in advance, £15 on the day subject to availability. Admission 50p adults, children free.

**RIP**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Margaret Hicks, whose body will be received into the Church on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 4pm, and whose Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon.

Madge Pope, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 11.15am in the Church

May they rest in peace

**ROTAS – NOVEMBER**

Counting	6/11 <b>F</b>	13/11 <b>C</b>	20/11 <b>B</b>	27/11 <b>E</b>
Christian Kitchen	5/11 <b>Nor</b>	12/11 <b>F</b>	19/11 <b>G</b>	26/11 <b>A</b>
Hospital	6/11 <b>D</b>	13/11 <b>A</b>	20/11 <b>B</b>	27/11 <b>D</b>

The offertory collection last week was £1691.09. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Ellen Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 13 Nov	<b>Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) (Remembrance Day)</b>
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Fr Patrick Daly (Ints)
12.00pm	Tim Campbell (RIP)
Mon 14 Nov	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Len Finney (Ints)
9.15am	Kitty & Richard Mackey (Ints)
Tue 15 Nov	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Eric Walls (RIP)
9.15am	Kathleen Hallahan (Ints)
Wed 16 Nov	<b>St Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop, Secondary diocesan co-patron</b>
7.00am	Special Ints & Holy Souls (RIP)
9.15am	John & Mary Staunton (RIP)
Thu 17 Nov	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Special Ints & Holy Souls (RIP)
9.15am	Sr Kathleen, Noel & Maria Staunton (RIP)
Fri 18 Nov	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Special Ints & Holy Souls (RIP)
9.15am	Deceased Members of Pereira family (RIP)
Sat 19 Nov	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>
10.00am	Special
6.00pm	The souls of family and friends of Jason & Kristina (RIP)
Sun 20 Nov	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Solemnity)</b>
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Kathleen Sweeney (Ints)
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, 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, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio

### **Morning Prayer:**

### **Rosary:**

### **Reconciliation (Confessions):**

**Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am**

**Weekdays after morning Mass**

**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.

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