

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

20 November 2016

Last Sunday in Ordinary Time – Solemnity of Christ the King (C)

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King and as we come to the end of the church's year, we think about Jesus as our King. A king is one who rules over his subjects and leads the people of his kingdom.

When we think of earthly kings we might imagine great power, influence, wealth, honour and prestige. But Christ's kingdom is totally at odds with any display of power in the world; his rule is not oppressive, stifling or controlling.

We expect earthly kings to receive dignitaries; Jesus received the poor and despised; the beggar, the lame, the sick. Kings wear crowns and sit on thrones – Jesus wore a crown of thorns and his throne was the cross. World leaders have great power, but Christ becomes vulnerable and powerless on the Cross. Yet, He is a King, in the line of David, who as we hear in today's first reading, was anointed King of Israel. But His kingdom is not of this world: the values in Christ's kingdom are service and humility, and so we His subjects should also be not of this world. If we are to be His true subjects, we must be like little children, allowing him to reign over our lives, and serving our neighbor in imitation of Him.

Jesus is a humble King – he allows his true power to be hidden, in order that he might accomplish the mission for which He came: to die for love of His people. Recognizing Jesus' humility, the good thief in today's Gospel saw the opportunity to reject the evil that he had previously chosen. In his moment of conversion, he embraced Christ's kingdom of forgiveness, hope and eternity, saying 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' Today also marks the close of the Year of Mercy, and it is fitting to end the year with this Gospel reading, calling to mind the great mercy of God, which is never exhausted.

Next Sunday is the first Sunday of Advent, and we will be recalling that our King came to us weak and dependent. Unlike with earthly rulers, we do not need to be afraid or hesitant to approach Christ our King, and like the good thief, to seek forgiveness.

The feast of Christ the King is about proclaiming the reign of Christ, in our hearts and in the world. Let us not be afraid to proclaim Christ as our King.

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.

ADVENT CONCERT: This year, we will not be holding a bazaar, but will instead have an Advent Concert in the Church **next Saturday 26th 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. **Tickets are on sale this weekend after Masses.**

SECOND COLLECTION – NATIONAL YOUTH SUNDAY: This weekend there will be a second collection to support the work of the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service. The proceeds will provide high quality speakers and resources for young people and catechists, will help young people in financial hardship to attend Catholic youth events and pilgrimages, and will fund senior youth leaders, nurses and chaplains at these events.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2016/17: The next session for the First Communion Programme will be next Saturday 3rd December. 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 4th December..

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 **next Sunday 27th November.**

ST GEORGE'S ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) CONFERENCE: There will be a second collection next weekend 26 / 27th November to support the work of the parish SVP group, helping the needy and in particular, to support its Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch. See the SVP notice board for more details about the SVP and what it does. The aim of the Society is to provide a means whereby members can practice Christianity by loving their neighbours in the person of the needy. The SVP Conference in this parish visits the lonely in their own homes or in residential homes, the sick similarly in hospital, those struggling on low incomes perhaps with young children, with personal problems, debt, or any of the many situations making life difficult or requiring a need. The SVP Christmas Lunch for the Senior Citizens of the neighbourhood has become a fixture in the life of our parish. This year it will be on **Sunday 11th December**. If you know of anyone who would benefit from meeting old friends or making new friends tell them about the lunch. See noticeboard for details.

New members are needed, and welcomed. The support of the parish community is very much appreciated, and essential. Contact Jenny Richmond, Mob: 07801 628 799.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE 2017: As next year is the 100th 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 22nd – Saturday 29th 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 4th 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: Our parish launched the Stewards of the Gospel initiative on 9 October 2016 when we handed out around 500 booklets to parishioners and question sheets in the following four weeks. It was important for as many people to be involved in the survey so that we can plan for the future of our diocese and the development of our parish life. I thank all those who have returned their sheets. So far I have received 158 replies in addition to the comments posted on the flip charts in the church meeting room. Please keep your suggestions coming in.

Did you know that our Parish has responsibility for Whipps Cross Hospital plus 6 Residential Care Homes that fall within our boundary? In addition, Fr Maurice and Sr. Anne Marie visit 32 Parishioners who are housebound three times a year for the Anointing of the Sick. Five Lay volunteers take Holy Communion to

our housebound parishioners each week. Three Lay volunteers and Fr. Nixon visit each patient at Whipps Cross Hospital every week to ask if they are Catholics and would like Holy Communion brought to them on Sundays. On Sundays a team of ten Eucharistic Ministers take Holy Communion to the sick at Whipps Cross on a rota basis every three weeks. On Mondays two Lay volunteers say the Liturgy of the Word at Whipps Cross at 4pm and Mass is said once a month. Now, imagine that in five to ten years time there are fewer priests and Lay volunteers. Who will 'Visit the Sick' - one of the seven Corporal Works of Mercy? Your responses to the question sheets are important to us so that we can plan now for the future. Conrad Almeida

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 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 14th November. **The closing date for completed forms is Thursday 9th 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.

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.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Alan Kennedy whose funeral will take place at the City of London Crematorium on Wednesday 23rd November at 1.30pm.

Pam Hodgson, who died in July, and for whom there will be a memorial Mass celebrated in the Church on Wednesday 23rd November at 2.30pm

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

May they rest in peace

ROTAS – NOVEMBER

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

The offertory collection last week was £1405.01. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	The souls of family and friends of Jason & Kristina (RIP)
Sun 20 Nov	Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Solemnity)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Kathleen Sweeney (Ints)
12.00pm	Tim Campbell (RIP)
Mon 21 Nov	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Memorial)
7.00am	Thanksgiving
9.15am	Steven Rodrigues (Ints)
Tue 22 Nov	St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr
7.00am	Teresia John (RIP)
9.15am	Francis Alfred Palmer (RIP)
Wed 23 Nov	Feria
7.00am	Clara Doherty (RIP)
9.15am	Anthenia Trim (RIP)
Thu 24 Nov	St Andrew Dung Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
7.00am	Alan Kennedy (RIP)
9.15am	Bridie Whelan (RIP)
Fri 25 Nov	St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr
7.00am	Aidan Mannion (Ints)
9.15am	Deceased members of John & Stella D'Cruz
Sat 26 Nov	Our Lady on Saturday
10.00am	April Butcher (RIP)
6.00pm	Len Finney (Ints)
Sun 27 Nov	First Sunday of Advent (Year A)
8.30am	Deceased relatives of R&S Rodrigues
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Clara Doherty (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.

Bible Study:

Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room
