

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

19th March 2017

Third Sunday of Lent (A)

In the Gospel today, Jesus is tired after a long walk. We see His humanity. He is thirsty, and sits down beside a well to rest. At the well he meets a Samaritan woman, and a conversation begins.

This woman has been searching for happiness through a string of relationships, and it has only brought her pain and deep hurt. Jesus helps her to face the reality of her situation, and she begins to perceive the condition of her soul. This causes her to long for healing and wholeness.

Christ meets us where we are. As with the woman at the well, He makes us aware of our own emptiness, weakness and sinfulness. Jesus does this not to reject or condemn us, but so that we will open wide to him the door of our soul. He tells us to look for the living water that He gives, the spiritual water that satisfies the soul.

How do we get this spiritual water? It comes to us through the encounter with Christ. Jesus encountered this woman when she was rejected and vulnerable, and likewise He can meet us in our sinfulness and weakness, no matter the situation. He leads us into a deeper relationship with Him, so that we will find our fulfilment in Him. Our encounter with Jesus comes through prayer, through reading the Word of God, and through the Sacraments of the Church – in all of these, Christ is present to us, helping us to find healing and peace.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next Baptism course will take place on Monday 20th March at 7.30pm in the Church.

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: During Lent we will have the Stations of the Cross in the Church on Friday evenings at 6.45pm. Recalling and praying the Way of the Cross is an excellent Lenten practice to help us prepare for Holy Week. Do come along.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes are now available in the porch. The small boxes are for standing order donors; the larger boxes are for weekly donors. Please collect your envelopes as soon as possible. If you cannot find your box, or you wish to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please email finance@olsg.co.uk or call Armie on 07962 501 555.

SUMMER 2017 PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Thanks to those who have returned forms and deposits for the Lourdes trip. We will call a meeting soon for all attendees to discuss logistics and next steps – please keep an eye on the newsletter.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRACTICE: The practice session for the First Communion children and parents will take place next Saturday 25th March, 10am-12pm.

CONFIRMATION 2017: The next session for the Confirmation programme is next Sunday, 26th March, starting at 4pm sharp in the parish hall. Candidates are reminded that the retreat will take place on the 1st and 2nd April – please return your forms and payment to the presbytery by **today, Sunday 19th March.**

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL: There will be a meeting for members of the Stewards of the Gospel working group on Monday 20th March at 7.30pm in the Church Hall. As always, anyone who would like to be involved in Bishop Alan's initiative is welcome to attend.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION (EMHC): All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to attend a meeting on Saturday 1st April, 11am-12pm for a refresher on practicalities surrounding these duties. This meeting is compulsory, and all EMHC are asked to confirm attendance in advance or send apologies. Please contact Jenny Richmond on 07801 628 799 or in-person after Mass to confirm or give your apologies, or if you have questions.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK: Readers are asked to check their noticeboard in the church porch; if you are on the rota for Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday), please tick to confirm you will be able to read. We also ask you to please attend a brief rehearsal on Saturday 8th April, 1-2pm in the Church.

ALTAR SERVERS PRACTICE: There will be a practice for all altar servers on Saturday 8th April, 3.00pm-4.30pm, which will include rehearsals for Holy Week and Easter. All servers are asked to attend.

OLSG SCHOOL BINGO NIGHT: OLSG school is holding a bingo night on Friday 24th March, 7-10pm at the Upper Site. Tickets cost £10, which includes a bingo book and a fish meal. The event is for adults only; alcohol will be on sale. Tickets are available after Masses this weekend, or contact the school on 0208 520 8500.

FIRST COMMUNION CARDS: A good range of First Communion greeting cards and gifts are now available on sale in the repository.

LENTEN RETREAT, PARISH OF CHRIST THE KING: There will be a Lenten Retreat at the Parish of Christ the King, 455 Chingford Road E4 8SP on 2 April from 1-4pm, starting with soup and roll.

DIOCESAN CENTENARY: As this is the 100th anniversary of our Diocese, prayer cards have been produced, and we will be saying the prayer after Masses during the year. We now have more cards available; do take one home and say the prayer with your family.

FORMED FOR LOVE: An International Theology of the Body Symposium for Young Adults, at St Patrick's Soho Square, London W1D4NR, 19-22 April 2017. The event spreads the joy of St John Paul II's teaching on God's plan for human love. This year we are hosting two distinct events in an effort to bring these teachings to not only young adults but to enable teachers to bring the message into their classrooms.

Formed for Love - Educator's Day – New Approaches to Teaching on Human Sexuality: On 19 April 2017 there will be a one-day **seminar for Catholic Educators** with keynote lectures from Professor William Newton (Franciscan University of Steubenville, USA). This day will enable educators to understand the Catholic vision of the human person, drawing particularly, but not exclusively, from St. John Paul II's Theology of the Body. We then will explore how this understanding of the human person can be applied to 'hot topics' such as same-sex marriage, gender theory, and euthanasia, before moving on to explore different ways to tackle these topics with young people living in our current culture.

Formed for Love - International Symposium for Young Adults: The International Symposium for Young Adults (aged 18-35 years) will be held from 19 April (evening) - 22 April 2017. The symposium will offer an opportunity to explore the teachings of St. John Paul II. Participants can attend workshops, Mass, and participate in discussions around the key themes of Theology of the Body. **Full details of both events along with the registration forms can be found at www.formedforlove.com**

OLSG SCHOOL PLACES: For Children born between 01.09.2013 and 31.08.2014. Parents wishing to apply for a nursery place for September 2017 can download the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) from the school website www.olsgweb.org or collect it from the Lower Site Office (140 Shernhall St, E17 9HU). There will be a choice of full-time or part-time places, term time only. Part time hours are 1) Mornings 8.45am – 11.45am; 2) Afternoons 12.15pm – 3.15pm; 3) Fulltime 8.45am – 3.15pm, part funded. Information packs are available from the Lower Site school office. If you have any queries, please phone Mrs. Moloney on 0208 520 8500.

Our primary school also currently has two spaces in reception and four spaces in Year 2. For more information please contact Mrs. Moloney.

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.

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.

ROTAS – MARCH

Counting	5/3 E	12/3 F	19/3 D	26/3 E
Christian Kitchen	4/3 Nor	11/3 F	18/3 G	25/3 A
Hospital	5/3 B	12/3 D	19/3 A	26/2 B

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of John Arthur Reed. His funeral will take place on 3rd April at 2.45pm at the City of London Crematorium.

May he rest in peace.

The offertory collection last week was £1538.38

Thank you very much for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Joel Dias (RIP)
Sun 19 Mar	Third Sunday of Lent (A)
8.30am	Catherine Murnane (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Stephanie Yamson (Ints)
Mon 20 Mar	St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Solemnity)
7.00am	John Paul Ramsey (Ints)
9.15am	Special Ints
Tue 21 Mar	Feria
7.00am	Hampstead Heath group (Ints)
9.15am	Christine Fleming (Ints)
Wed 22 Mar	Feria
7.00am	Linda Campbell (Ints)
9.15am	Peter and Amal Raffo (Ints)
Thu 23 Mar	Feria
7.00am	Maria & Claud Green (Ints)
9.15am	Decreased members of the Green family
Fri 24 Mar	Feria
7.00am	Besar (Ints)
9.15am	Bridget Murphy (RIP)
Sat 25 Mar	The Annunciation of the Lord (Solemnity)
10.00am	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
6.00pm	Sheila and Bernard Moss (RIP)
Sun 26 Mar	Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)
8.30am	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
10.00am	Judy Flynn (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, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio, Thampirajah Baskaran, Linda Campbell, Brid O'Halloran.

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
