

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

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Fr Niall Harrington; Fr John Victor

Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain);

Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)

Our Lady and St George's Primary School:

Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552

Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

Charity Number: 234092



THIRD SUNDAY OF THE ADVENT

Gaudete Sunday

Dear Parishioners,


Today, as we celebrate the third Sunday in Advent, there is a shift in focus. We are invited to rejoice as the coming of Our Saviour draws near. The entrance antiphon exhorts us: 'rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.' And in the consoling words of the collect, we pray: 'enable us... to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.'

In the Gospel today, we encounter St John the Baptist in his prison cell. He is so great in the eyes of God that Jesus tells us: 'of all the children born of women, a greater than John the Baptist has never been seen.' St John asks his disciples to go to Jesus and ask him: 'are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?' These are not the words of an inquisitive John the Baptist, or of one who is panicking; rather, John is aware that his mission is drawing to a conclusion. His last act is to once more point towards Jesus. Now, he prepares his disciples to encounter Christ, and to follow him.

Jesus give us more reasons to rejoice. 'the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor.' The Kingdom of God has come and dwells amongst us. Christ, through his Church and Sacraments continues to give sight to the blind, to grant hearing to the deaf, and to raise the dead to life. This is the Good News we are tasked to bring to the poor—those who are living in the dark, distressed, anxious, lonely, overburdened, and laden down with guilt. Like St John, we are encouraged to help them meet Jesus and, as Isaiah exhorts in the first reading, to see for themselves 'the glory of the Lord, the splendour of our God.' We are invited to share the joy of those who 'will come to Zion shouting for joy, everlasting joy on their faces; joy and gladness will go with them, and sorrow and lament be ended.

St James reminds us to be patient, like a farmer, who waits for the crops to grow. We are not to lose heart. Perhaps this is especially relevant to us who live in an age of instant gratification and results. God works slowly, how and when he wills. He will come soon. The prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord are the examples to follow.

Have A Blessed Week

 (Fr. Niall)

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

On this Sunday we welcome into the Community of Faith Lois Rivera Collins and Ophelia Evelyn Hall. May God bless them and their families

Thank you to the parishioners who collected the altar servers' albs for washing.

Walk With Me for Advent – Walk with Me is printed as an A6 booklet which contains a brief reflection, either on the scripture reading of the day or on a catechetical theme. Available from the repository for £1.

Fr. John is available by appointment for confession in Tamil and Malayalam.

PARISH FILM CLUB -DECEMBER SCREENING The next screening of the film club will be on Sunday 15th December in the back room of the parish hall, Entrance to small hall will be signed and is at bottom of hall car park near OLSG school entrance gate. Doors open 3.40pm film starts promptly at 4.00pm. Entrance free. Refreshments available. The title of the film is A Wonderful Life.

Booking a Mass Intention....Please note....if you want to book a Mass Intention for a certain day, you need to give at least 6-8 weeks notice. Sunday Mass intentions get booked up very quickly. In order to avoid disappointment please book the Mass well in advance.

Carol Services : On Tuesday 17th of December we have the Holy Family School Carol Service at 7p.m. in the church.
On Wednesday 18th of December at 3:45p.m. in the church we have the Our Lady and Saint George Carol Service.
On Sunday 22nd of December at 5p.m. we have our parish readings and carols for Christmas. All welcome.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN We are planning to re-instate The Liturgy of the Word with Children at the Sunday Mass (probably the 10.00am mass) This involves the withdrawal of children to a room close to the main body of the church to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word. The purpose of adapting liturgy for children is to lead them into full, conscious and active participation in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Liturgy with children, as with adults, demands dignity, clarity, and simplicity. If you are interested and would like some more information as to what it involves please contact Bernadette on 07804611914 bernadette.wilson1@ntlworld.com

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion Thank you to the Ministers who came on Saturday 14th December to be briefed on new procedures that Fr Niall wants adopted. 27 Ministers did not attend and of which 5 gave apologies. If you did not attend or give apologies you need to speak with Jenny Richmond this Sunday after all masses. Jenny would also like to know if Ministers are available to minister on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, led by Bishop Alan Williams. 25th May 2020. £649.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with breakfast and dinner. All entertainment and excursions included. Lunches on days out. Single supp £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

A big thank you to Jenny Richmond for preparing the 7 children for the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the 5 teenagers for the Sacrament of Confirmation. A joyful celebration Eucharist was on Wednesday last.

Again thank you to Jenny Richmond for presenting the morning of reflection on Saturday last to the parish Extraordinary Lay Ministers of the Eucharist. A number of changes have been made to the procedures. Any Extraordinary Lay Ministers who wish to join the hospital pastoral care are invited to speak to Fr John. Any Extraordinary Lay Minister who wish to bring Holy Communion to the housebound in the parish are invited to speak to Fr Niall.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Michael Wesley de Souza , Rest in Peace. May God comfort his grieving family. The Requiem Mass for Michael's soul will be on Friday 3rd January 2020 at 11AM. Wesley's body will be brought to church 5:30pm Thursday 2nd of January 2020.

Mass attendance last weekend 673. Syro Malabar 87. The collection last week was £1353.51p. Average weekly standing order collection is £350. Diocese Youth Service Appeal £335.76p. Thank you.

counting Rota	15/12E	22/12B	29/12E	05/1B	12/01F	19/01F
Hospital Rota	15/12B	22/12D	29/12A	05/01B	12/01D	19/01A



Joke of the Week: So I went to the doctor. He said you've got hypochondria. I said 'not that as well'!

(Attributed to Tim Vine)

Our parish safe guarding officials are Jenny Richmond and Marina Tuddy.

Happy Birthday to Stacy's Dad.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00pm	Edward Fletcher (Rest in Peace) (Joan Carey)
Sun 15 December	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
08:30am	Benedict Gibson's Intentions (Family)
10:00am	Frank Murphy (Rest in Peace) (Family)
12:00noon	Augustine and Josephine Fadina (Rest in Peace) (Agnès)
02:30noon	Syro Malabar Mass
Mon 16 December	FERIA
9:15am	Deceased Members of the Marrai Family (Pietro)
04:00pm	Whipps Cross Hopital- Mass-(Parishioners)
06:00pm	Deceased Members of the De Angelis Family (Marria)
Tue 17 December	FERIA
09:15am	Rosemary Lawrence (Rest in Peace) (Family)
06:00pm	Con and Concepta Harrington (Rest in Peace)
Wed 18 December	FERIA
09:15am	Deceased of the Drego Family (Rest in Peace) (Family)
06:00pm	Thomas Brennan (Rest in Peace) (Rita Brennan)
Thu 19 December	FERIA
09:15am	Deceased of the Gonsalves Family (Rest in Peace) (Family)
06:00pm	Parishioners
Fri 20 December	FERIA
09:15am	Intentions of the Sylvia Yamson (Jenny and Cliff)
06:00pm	Fr. Peter Stevens (Rest in Peace) (Pact)
Sat 21 December	FERIA
10:00am	Mathew Simon (Rest in Peace) (Biju Simon)
06:00pm	Mary Bohan (Rest in Peace) (Ellen Harte)
Sun 22 December	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
08:30 am	Vincent Magee (Rest in Peace) (Mary Gilligan)
10:00 am	Ellie and John McGoldrick (Rest in Peace) (Murphy)
12:00noon	Parishioners
02:30 pm	Syro Malabar Mass

Prayer List

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 and Mrs Charles, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Archie Garrod, Martin Keane, Alix Charlery, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave,, 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 and Issac, Luis and Lukas, Comfort Kwawu, Judith Hilton, Gloria and Tracy Joseph, Regina Jose, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio, Thampirajah Baskaran, Linda Campbell, Brid O'Halloran, Hazel Belizaire, Tina Henriques, Christopher O' Neill, Alan and Ross Smith, Stefan, Monica Baugh, Eileen O Kane, Louis Marie, Grace Mecaley, Jadwiga, Matthias Fredberg, Michael White, Bernadette Wilson, Fr. Jean Laurent Marie, Fr Paul Dynan, Roy and Margaret Bandhu, Maura Stone, Alma Willox, John Walsh, Chantale Wildman, Christopher Almeda

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. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Mondays: 10am-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-4pm; Fridays 9.45-10.45am; Saturdays 10.30-11.30am.

Bible Study: Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room