

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – 29 MARCH 2020

Dear Parishioners,

At the heart of this Sunday's Gospel is a double reproach. When Jesus finally arrives at the home of his deceased friend Lazarus, the dead man's sisters, Martha and Mary, each chide him in the same words: 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died.' In Martha's case, the reproach is followed by an expression of great confidence: 'I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.'

It is the gentleness of Jesus that allows Martha to speak so freely; it is his power that allows her to speak with such confidence. These two aspects of Martha's conversation with the Lord capture something of the pattern of Christian prayer: addressing the Lord with frankness, and with confident expectation.

Jesus responds by raising Lazarus from the dead. This miracle is a partial one, as Lazarus will die again. But it points to, and promises, the future resurrection of all the dead; it invites us to be confident in this promise.

Here again, something of the pattern of discipleship is captured: our faith invites us to turn to God for help with life's challenges, but we also know that death, for each and every one of us, is inevitable. Lazarus emerged from the tomb bound in burial cloths, but on the day of his resurrection, Jesus left his burial cloth behind in the tomb. Yes our discipleship offers us on going guidance; it rolls stones away from tomb; it offers hope and consolation. But not until we share in the resurrection of Christ himself will we know the fullness of what our faith promises.

Reflections

1. Let us allow Jesus himself to ask the first question, as we savour his words to Martha: 'Do you believe this?'
2. Do I bring my full self to the Lord in prayer, or do I sometimes hold back, out of a false sense of decorum?
3. In what way can we make our own the words of Jesus: 'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer'

Have A Blessed Lent

Fr. John

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

Closing of the Church: Respecting the directions from our Honourable Prime Minister, the Bishops' Council of England and Wales on 20th March 2020 we have closed our church showing our solidarity with the officials in order to fight against the corona virus. Very kindly we request you to cooperate with the government and the church officials to fight against this danger. In case of any pastoral care for those in danger please contact in our parish.

A word of gratitude and request for prayer: Dear parishioners, I am very grateful to you all for all your prayers for the speedy recovery of Fr. Niall, our parish priest, Though he was very critical with regard to his health, he was in the ventilator for three days. Now God has had mercy upon him; his health condition is miraculously improving. All your prayers were really helpful for him. Now he has overcome the dangerous situation. On his behalf I express my hearty gratitude for all your prayers; let's pray more for him. Let's spend our time more in prayer for the mercy of God on the whole universe and in isolation respecting the guidance by the government officials for our well-being and the good of our fellow brothers and sisters as well.

Suspension of the courses: On the light of the danger of Corona virus, all the courses for First Holy Communion and Confirmation have been suspended until we receive further directions from the higher officials.

Vacancy

Teacher in Charge of Spanish Plus TLR2b £4,536 , MPS/UPS– Outer London Teachers' pay scales - Trinity Catholic High School seeks to appoint talented and dynamic Teacher's to work within our hugely successful subject Department's. Trinity Catholic High School is committed to safeguarding children; successful candidates will be subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

Please visit the school's website for more details.

Mass Intentions

(These Mass intentions will be offered on the above mentioned dates privately)

Sun 29 March	Darren Rodrigues (Intentions) (Louella)
Mon 20 March	Kiaren Haley's Intention (Haiver)
Tue 31 March	Fr. Eamonn O'Horn (Rest in Peace)
Wed 01 April	John Ellery (Rest in Peace)
Thu 02 April	Baby Arthur Martin (Rest in Peace) (long)
Fri 03 April	Mark July (Rest in Peace) (Gunnon)
Sat 04 April	Teresa Judy (Rest in Peace) (Keane)

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, Neill, Alan and Ross Smith, Stefan, Monica Baugh, Eileen O Kane, Grace Mecaley, Jadwiga, Matthias Fredberg, Michael White, Fr. Jean Laurent Marie, Fr Paul Dynan, Roy and Margaret Bandhu, Alma Willox, John Walsh, Chantale Wildman, Christopher Almeda, Aileen Mensah, Sr. Helen, Ted and Pat Howland, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Fr. Niall Harrington, Cliff, Jenni Richmond, Shiny.

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

Samaritans 020 8520 9191.