

## **Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George**

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**Rev. Canon 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 School: 8520 0482/8520 3587

**Charity Number: 234092**

### **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)**

Dear Parishioners,

The slogan 'take the waiting out of wanting' was very popular a few decades ago at the height of economic prosperity. We would all like to have things when we decide we want them. The slogan still governs a great deal of the way that we behave. Waiting seems negative, passive and boring.

Advent is a time of waiting. We remember the time of waiting in the Bible when people were longing for something that would change everything. We read how people longed for an end to slavery, longed to return home, longed to feel close to God, and longed to be spoken to and reconciled. The prophets used the language of imagery and metaphor about the desert blooming, rain falling and a new day dawning after the long night of darkness.

Advent has the same purpose. It calls us to be alert, aware and attentive. Today's second reading from St. Paul alerts us that *God is faithful; by him we were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

David Jones (1895 – 1974) an Anglo-Welsh poet wrote poignantly in one of his late poem about his relationship with God: *'it is easy to miss him at the turn of a civilization.'* Advent awareness is trying to develop the attitude that values the gently spoken word, the kind gesture, the presence of forgiveness, so as not to miss God and Jesus at the turn of our changing civilization and not to miss God by mooring the boat of the Church in safe waters, instead of launching out into murky mayhem of people's lives.

Awareness leads to a waiting in joyful hope for *'the master of the house to return unexpectedly'* as the gospel tells us today. Advent alertness is to know that there will always is an unexpected breakthrough of God in our lives. Advent attentiveness alerts us that someone will dispel our darkness and uncover a new light on the landscape of our lives. An Advent attitude gives us *'the resolve to run forth to meet Christ'* (today's collect in the Mass) as *'the loving kindness of God's heart visits us'* with promises of presence and peace.

**Have a Blessed Week**

**Canon 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.

**Reopening of the Church:** As the lockdown is ending, from Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December we will have public participatory mass and from the same day there will be no live-streaming of Mass.

### **Guidelines on reopening of the Church**

- Please follow one way system, social distancing and the guidance by the volunteers.
- If you have an illness/feeling unwell, please remain at home until you are fully recovered.
- Entrance only through the front door and exit only through the farther right side door near the sanctuary.
- You will be signed into Mass – Name and Telephone.
- Use Sanitizers, gloves and face coverings/masks.
- Please observe all the signs of social distancing regarding where to sit/kneel in the church.
- Keep social distancing.
- No Altar-servers, readers and deacon for the liturgy.
- Very brief homily.
- There will be no offertory procession of gifts and collection during Holy Mass; instead you may drop your contribution at the basket kept at the entrance and exit as well.
- There is no exchange of the sign of peace.
- After the prayer "*Behold the Lamb of God . . . Lord I am not worthy,*" when the priest holds up the host and says "*The Body of Christ*" the congregation respond "*Amen*". In the same way, when the priest elevates the chalice and says "*The Blood of Christ*" the congregation respond "*Amen*". The communion will be distributed in silence.
- Communicants may receive Holy Communion, in their hands, palms upwards, one on the top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible.
- No Extra ordinary Lay ministers of Holy Communion.
- Come to receive Holy Communion only under the guidance of the stewards.
- Come early for weekend Masses - church capacity is only 150.
- It is not a known fact on how many people will attend mass. Consequently one way of managing this is for people to come to the weekday masses in the church.
- Offertory collection and donations to be placed in the baskets as you exit after Holy Mass.
- Priests are told to go directly to the sacristy after Mass.

**Mass times:**           **Weekday Mass:** 9.15 am and 6.00 pm  
**Saturday:** 10.00 am and 6.00 pm  
**Sunday:** 10.00 am and 12.00 pm

- There will be no hand outs (Mass sheets, News Letters, hymn books etc.,) for the masses for the foreseeable future.
- Choir returns in September.
- Families or individuals please sit and kneel at the places assigned.
- Neither holy water nor votive candles are available at present.
- Please refrain from touching statues.
- No access to the toilets, but only in emergency.  
Please leave the church promptly.

**Prayers and Blessings:** Congratulations to Rob and Fiona on the birth of baby Niamh.

On Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December Brendan (Aged 6 years) will have a bone marrow transplant. God bless the family, medical staff and bone marrow donor and of course Brendan.

**Christmas:** For Christmas we have five masses: Christmas Eve on (24<sup>th</sup> December) 6.00pm and 8.00pm and on Christmas Day (25<sup>th</sup> December) 8.30am, 10.00am and 12.00pm noon. There will be no usual reconciliation service for Christmas. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO MIDNIGHT MASS for Christmas this year. From now until Christmas, priests will be available after every mass for confession.

**Advent Carol Service:** Advent Carol Service will take place on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm, it will be live-streamed.

**Sacrament of Confirmation** - Two Masses have been arranged for the Sacrament of Confirmation for all the candidates on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 7pm and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2.30pm.

**Diocesan Directory:** is on sale now for £02.80, limited copies available; those who would like get please approach one of the priests

**To the Catholic Universe and Catholic Times readers in the parish:-** at the moment you are unable to collect your paper at Mass, but you can get it delivered direct to your home every week, POST FREE. Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com) or call them on 0161 820 5722 and they will arrange for you. Special offer 3 months :-£22.00. or 12 Months:- £80.00. Also we have available Church Plan offers for Parishes direct, should you be interested in taking a small supply:- 5 Copies to be sent each week @ £111.15 a quarter.

**Holy Family Virtual Sixth Form Open Evening:** Information for year 11 students need to apply to our outstanding Sixth Form, you will find in the link below. From Loom videos on how to apply to short videos from each subject to help the students choose the right subjects for them. Follow the link: <https://www.holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk/sixth-form/admissions/>

**Vacancies:** Trinity Catholic High School has the following vacancies:

- \* Careers Leader
- \* Attendance Officer
- \* Clerical Assistant

Below is the web address of our vacancies on our website

<https://www.tchs.org.uk/about-us/employment/> 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.

*The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2021 is planned for Sunday 25 – Friday 30 July. However, because of Covid-19 it is not possible to know yet whether a pilgrimage will be practical or in what form. Therefore, any decisions and announcements regarding the Diocesan Pilgrimage will be made in January.*

**OLSG School Admissions Open - Reception Intake 2021. Virtual Open Days** on Wednesday's at 5.30pm and Friday's at 9.30am. Call 02085208500 or email [office@olsgschool.org](mailto:office@olsgschool.org) to book your place.

### **New Pilgrim Path Website of the Week**

Entering Advent is an appropriate time to reflect on the Messiah's forerunner. Who was John the Baptist and why has he been so important to artists and patrons over the centuries? 10 films, each about eight minutes in length, explore the life of this pivotal figure through masterpieces in London's National Gallery and beyond. Access this wonderful resource at: [www.newpilgrimpath.ie](http://www.newpilgrimpath.ie).

***St. John Henry Newman and the First Vatican Council:*** 2020 marks 150 years since the First Vatican Council and the solemn definition of papal primacy and infallibility. In this live streamed event Professor John Morrill, emeritus professor of history at the University of Cambridge, will explore the reaction to the Council in the writings of Newman and set it in today's context on Saturday 21st November from 11 am. To access go to [www.sppilford.org.uk](http://www.sppilford.org.uk) and click on live stream remote services.

***John Thomas, Rest in Peace:*** We pray for the happy repose of the soul of John Thomas. Rest in Peace. Our condolences to Ursula and family. Funeral details are as follows: Requiem Mass on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30 a. m in Our Lady and St. George Church.

**Visiting the Priests:** In this lockdown - 2, please come to visit the priests in the presbytery having made an appointment only.

Those who hold the following envelope numbers on gift-aid please report to either one of the priests. **3015, 3030, 3118, 3221, & 3242.**

## Mass Times and Intentions at Our Lady and St. George

<b>Sun 29 Nov</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b>
<b>10.00 am</b>	Deceased Family of R & S B Rodrigues ( Family)
	Shun Choi & Choi Yee (Rest in Peace) (Ping)
<b>Mon 30 Nov</b>	<b>St. Andrew, Ap. Patron of Scotland – Feast</b>
<b>9.15 am</b>	Holy Souls
	Holy Souls
<b>Tue 01 Dec</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>9.15 am</b>	Intentions (Cheshire)
	Annie Neelon (Rest in Peace) (Carnedy)
<b>Wed 02 Dec</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>9.15 am</b>	Rose Keenan (Rest in Peace) (Maloney)
	Intentions (Cheshire)
<b>Thu 03 Dec</b>	<b>St. Francis Xavier, Pr (Migrant’s Day) – Memorial</b>
<b>9.15 am</b>	Annie Neelon (Rest in Peace) (Keane)
	Annie Neelon (Rest in Peace) (O Gorman)
<b>Fri 04 Dec</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>9.15 am</b>	Wesley D’Souza (Rest in Peace) (Family)
	Fr. Tom (Intentions) (Pauline)
<b>Sat 05 Nov</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>10.00 am</b>	Annie Neelon (Rest in Peace) (Dave Moss)
	Madonna (Thanksgiving)
<b>Sun 06 Dec</b>	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) (BIBLE SUNDAY)</b>
<b>10.00 am</b>	Evangeline (Rest in Peace) (Kristina)
	Olivia Mugabi Magara (Rest in Peace) (Family)

### 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 McCaley, Jadwiga, Matthias Fredberg, Michael White, Fr. Jean Laurent Marie, Roy and Margaret Bandhu, Alma Willox, John Walsh, Chantale Wildman, Christopher Almeida, Aileen Mensah, Sr. Helen, Sebastian, Pat Howland, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Jennie Richmond, Terry Coe, Stephen Donnelly, Daniel Donnelly. Brendan Mc Donagh (aged 6), Liberee Uwimana, Violet Alahendran, Benedette Doherty.

**Our parish safe guarding officials are  
Jenny Richmond and Marina Tudda.  
Samaritans 020 8520 9191.**