

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

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**Canon Niall Harrington; Fr Michael Barwick**

**Deacon Joseph Baffour-Awuah**

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**

**Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (19/02/2023)**

**(Day of prayer for the unemployed)**

Dear Parishioners,

In today's Gospel Jesus quotes the ancient law which says: 'You will love your neighbour and hate your enemy'. This text is not found like this in the Old Testament. It is more a question of the mentality of the time, according to which there was no problem if a person hated his enemy. Jesus was not in agreement and says: But I tell you: if you love those who love you, what reward will you get? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, you are not doing anything exceptional? Do not even the gentiles do as much? You must, therefore, set no bounds to your love, just as your heavenly father sets none to His. And Jesus gives us the proof. At the hour of His death, He observed that which He preached.

'Father, forgive them, they do not know what they are doing'. A soldier takes the wrist of Jesus and places it on the arm of the cross, places a nail and begins to hammer it in several times. The blood was flowing down. The body of Jesus contorted with pain. The soldier, a mercenary, ignorant, far from knowing what he was doing, and of what was happening around him, continued to hammer as if it were a piece of the wall of his house and he had to put up a picture. At that moment Jesus prays for the soldier who tortures Him and addresses His prayer

to the Father: 'Father, forgive them! They know not what they are doing'! He loved the soldier who killed Him.

The notion which He constructs comes from the new experience He has from God the Father, full of tenderness and who accepts all! Jesus orders that we have a contrary attitude: Love your enemies! True love cannot depend on what one receives from others. Love should want the good of others independently of what they do for me. This is the way God's love is for us. Am I capable to love my enemies?

Contemplate Jesus, in silence, who at the hour of His death, loved the enemy who killed Him.

Have a Blessed Week

*Canon Miall*

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

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available after every parish Mass. Simply ask a priest.

The next **Parish Baptism Preparation programme** will be on Monday 27th of February in the church at 6:30p.m. for Session one and the following Monday 6th of March again at 6:30p.m. for Session 2.

**My Day by Day Booklet for the Season of Lent** is now available in the Repository. It is a most helpful companion for Lent. The cost is £2. If you buy the Lenten and the Easter My day by Day booklet the cost is £3.

Please remember that if you need a Mass booked for a particular day and time you need to give at least 12 weeks notice. In fact, there are Masses already being booked for 2024.

A spokesperson from Aid to the Church in Need will visit the parish on the weekend 25th and 26th of February and make an appeal to support this great charity in their work.

**Dates for your Diary:** Ash Wednesday will be 22<sup>nd</sup> of February. Ash will be blessed and distributed at both the 9:15a.m. and 6p.m. Masses. Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday of Lent immediately after the 6p.m. Mass.

Syro Malabar Ash Monday on 20<sup>th</sup> February at 7:00 p.m. and Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday at 5:00pm.

We pray for the children who will make their first Reconciliation on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> of February at 11.15a.m.

### **Petition to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth**

In 2021, abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to a Government Bill that would have introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion). This amendment did not go to a vote and pass, but the abortion lobby is expected to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would introduce one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world. Right To Life UK is running a petition to ask the Prime Minister to do everything in his power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. Please add your name to the petition here: <https://righttolife.org.uk/signthepetitiontorishi>

### **Film event hosted by St Patrick's and Christ the King on behalf of the deanery.**

Join us for an event to watch *The Letter*, a documentary film about how our spiritual values call us to take action on the planetary emergency. We are called to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor and on March 4<sup>th</sup> at Christ the King Church Hall, the doors open at 2p.m. for refreshments and we finish at 5 p.m. We'll watch, and have a lively discussion and look at how we can take action in our own communities and unite together as a deanery. It's about thinking globally and acting locally. For more information: contact Christ the King office on 020 8527 3087

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Maureen Hollebrand a former parishioner who died at Waltham Abbey. Maureen's Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 11:30am at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Joseph Church, Waltham Cross.

A memorial Mass will be celebrated in Our Lady and Saint George Church for Ezinne Geraldine, Rest in Peace on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> of March at 12 noon.

## Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

<b>06:00pm</b>	Tim Keenan (Rest in Peace) (Keane)
<b>Sun 19 February</b>	<b>Seventh Sunday in ordinary Time</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Caroline Sherry-King (Rest in Peace) (Seamus and Evelyn)
<b>10:00am</b>	Thanksgiving (Peter and Eileen)
<b>12noon</b>	Fawzia Tobia (Amal)
<b>Mon 20 February</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Special Intention (Peter and Eileen)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Roy Walker (Rest in Peace) (Kristina)
<b>Tue 21 February</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Bridie Reilly's Intentions (Keane)
<b>6:00pm</b>	Special Intentions (Dermot and John)
<b>Wed 22 February</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Special Intentions (Dermot and John)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Alice Isaac (Rest in Peace) (Roy)
<b>Thu 23 February</b>	<b>THURSDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Fr. Jim McCormack (Rest in Peace) (Diggins)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Canon Pat Sammon (Rest in Peace) (Kristina)
<b>Fri 24 February</b>	<b>FRIDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	Intentions (Diggins)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Thanksgiving (Diggins)
<b>Sat 25 February</b>	<b>SATURDAY AFTER ASH WEDNESDAY</b>
<b>10:00am</b>	Intentions (Diggins)
<b>06:00pm</b>	John Elms (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>Sun 26 February</b>	<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Caroline Sherry-King (Rest in Peace) (Seamus and Evelyn)
<b>10:00am</b>	Marie Hodge (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>12noon</b>	Emeel Raouf Tobia (Amal)

### Prayer List

**Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Alma Willox, Liberee, Maria Green, Anne (Christina), Grace, Bridie Curley, Sharon Baker, Bridgit Morris, Mavis Hacker, Marjorie Singh, Pietro and Maria Marrai, Peggy McManus, Rosie Ebreo, Kathleen Lloyd, Johanna Whitley, Linda Campbell, Bridie Cronin, Baby Jimmy, Sierra Smucker-Halls (Carol), Maureen Newland (Carol), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Pdraic Maloney , Pauline Brookman, Damon, Fatimata, Sherry Family, Bridie Curley**