

**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**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Malachi 1:14-2:2, 8-10

**Response to the Psalm: Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:7-9, 13**

**Gospel: Matthew 23: 1-12**

**Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time (05/11/2023)**

**(Prisoners' Sunday)**

This is an uncomfortable Gospel reading for those who preach on a regular basis. Jesus says of the religious leaders of his day, 'you must do what they tell you and listen to what they say; but do not be guided by what they do since they do not practice what they preach'. What kind of practice is today's Gospel reading calling for? Jesus is scathing of religious leaders who place unnecessary burdens on people, without doing anything to help people carry those burdens; this is not the practice of the Gospel. The message that Jesus came to preach was never intended to be a burden. He once called on people, 'Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened, and I will give you rest'. The rest from burden the Lord offers is like those restful waters that revive our drooping spirits, in the language of the psalm, known as 'The Lord is my Shepherd'.

It is true that the Lord's message is very demanding. He calls on us to love one another with the same self emptying generous, love as he has loved us, a love that is to extend even to enemies. Yet, his message is not burdensome. The way of the Gospel is ultimately life affirming. If any

one of us lives the call of the Gospel to the full, we will become more alive, and we will bring life to others. Furthermore, the Lord who calls us to this loving way of life also gives us the strength of the Holy Spirit to live it. It is a spirit-inspired life. In the words of the second reading, the Gospel is a living power among those who believe it. One of the ways that the Lord supports us in the living of his call is through the community of faith. It is above all that the Spirit is at work on our behalf. It is through this family of faith that the Lord strengthens us to live his daily, life – affirming, call. Our calling is to keep learning from him, to be open to all he wants to teach us, about God, about ourselves, about our world.

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.

Session 2 of the parish Baptism preparation programme will be on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> of November at 6:30p.m. Session 1 will be on the following Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November.

Please note that all Mass intentions are booked until early January 2024.

**November is the month of the Holy Souls.** There are 40 Masses offered in November for the Holy Souls lists. Do come and pray at the weekday Mass for the Holy Souls.

My Day by Day Advent edition is now available in the repository £2 each.

Christmas cards are on sale in the church repository.

## **St Vincent OLSG de Paul (SVP) Annual Appeal Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 November 2023 after the Weekend Masses**

We are appealing to Parishioners, their families, and friends to support the conference to re-establish the SVP Annual Christmas Lunch for Senior Citizens in the parish after the pandemic. Enabling our lonely and socially isolated seniors to come together to share and enjoy the important celebration of the Christmas Season. Donations given will also go to Needy Families in the parish who continue to be affected by the cost-of-living crisis and other factors in their everyday lives.

Tea and Talk afternoon- please join the children of OLSG primary school for a cup of tea, cake and a chat on Friday 10th November at 1.30pm on Lower Site (Entrance behind the Church in Maynard Path off Addison Road) At the end of the afternoon please feel free to take a bag of groceries home from our Harvest collection. Everyone is welcome.

### **Red Wednesday is coming!**

Save the date: Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

Aid to the Church in Need are asking us to Break the Silence on Christian persecution. Please wear Red clothing to show your support. The church floodlights will be red in the Red Wednesday evening. More options coming soon on [www.acnuk.org/redwednesday](http://www.acnuk.org/redwednesday).

**A Big Thank you to Bethel Prayer Group** who last Saturday fasted from 8am to 5:30pm in prayer for the parish. They donated £250 to the parish funds.

Alma Willox, Rest in Peace We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Alma Willox, Rest in Peace. Funeral arrangements will be in the near future.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Ellen Harte, Rest in Peace. Our condolences to the family. The Requiem Mass for Ellen's soul will be on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 12 noon.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Kathleen 'Kahli' Cullen. Rest in Peace.

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

<b>06:00 pm</b>	Maureen D'souza Intentions (Samantha and Simon)
<b>Sun 5 November</b>	<b>Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Peter James O'Rouke (Rest in Peace) (Nigel)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Jo and Joe O'Neill (Rest in Peace) (Anne O'Neill)
<b>12noon</b>	Peggy Halpenny (Family)
<b>Mon 6 November</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	November Dead List
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Nigel's Intentions
<b>Tue 7 November</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	George and Teodora Bartolo (Rest in Peace) (Elizabeth)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	November Dead List
<b>Wed 8 November</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	November Dead List
<b>06:00 pm</b>	November Dead List
<b>Thu 9 November</b>	<b>The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	John Thomas (Rest in Peace) (Ursula)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Isabel Boniface's Intentions (Clara)
<b>Fri 10 November</b>	<b>Saint Leo the Great , Pope and Doctor of the Church</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	November Dead List
<b>06:00 pm</b>	November Dead List
<b>Sat 11 November</b>	<b>Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	Anne Marie McCann (Liam and Mary)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Ellen Fletcher (Rest in Peace)
<b>Sun 12 November</b>	<b>Thirty Second Sunday Ordinary Time (Remembrance Sunday)</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	November Dead List
<b>10:00 am</b>	Maura and Frank Robinson (Rest in Peace) (Anne O'Neill)
<b>12noon</b>	William Halpenny (Rest in Peace) (Family)

### Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Liberee, Anne (Christina), Grace, Bridie Curley, Sharon Baker, Bridgit Morris, Mavis Hacker, Marjorie Singh, Pietro and Maria Marrai, Peggy McManus, Rosie Ebreo, Kathleen Lloyd, Linda Campbell, Bridie Cronin, Baby Jimmy, Sierra Smucker-Halls (Carol), Maureen Newland (Carol), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Padraic Maloney , Damon, Bridie Curley, Jason Leonard Hamilton Barber (Tracy), Cyril and Rose Ogidi, Barry and Sheila Mayo, John Joseph (Mary), Ambrose and Felistas and family, Chris Newman, Margaret Phillips, Margaret and Norris Levine, Dr. Michael Weston, Chris Cullen