

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

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Canon Niall Harrington; Fr Michael Barwick

Fr. Shinto Varghese Vaalimalayil CRM (Syro-Malabar)

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

1st Reading Micah 5:1-4

Response to the Psalm: God of Hosts bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

2nd Reading: Hebrew 10: 5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-44

Fourth Sunday of Advent (22/12/2024)

This Gospel shows Elizabeth and her unborn son, John, reacting to the nearness of the unborn Christ. We know that Elizabeth immediately understood that Mary was pregnant with the Lord. The Gospel tells us that she was filled with the Holy Spirit. But how could John, who was still inside the womb, somehow comprehend what was going on, to the point that he would leap for joy? Maybe this teaches us that we don't need to see God working in the world or solving our personal problems before we can leap for joy. We don't have to understand what God is doing, or even know his plans. The joy that we receive, which comes from recognising the presence of Christ, is God's Christmas gift to us. It is a joy that comes from a faith that appreciates God for working mercifully in our lives in ways that we can see and ways that we cannot see. No matter if we are suffering or feeling elated, we can learn to recognize Christ's presence and feel joy.



This is the time of year when we tend to frequently contemplate what it means to possess joy. We reflect in our level of, 'Christmas Spirit', or the lack of it. For decades, it's made for the central story line of many of our favourite Christmas stories. We find ourselves asking, how, or where, can we find real joy? At some point in our maturation process, we've come to realize that the receiving end of the gifting process doesn't bring with the excitement that we had as children.

But where does real joy come from? Well, the Scriptures tell us that it comes from a true conversion to faith through the Holy Spirit. Once we become immersed in Jesus' presence in our lives, everything changes. We find a peace in knowing that he is in control of our circumstances.

Joy is the settled assurance that God is in control of all the details of my life, the quiet confidence that ultimately everything is going to be alright, and the determined choice to praise God in every situation.

Christmas Peace and Joy

Canon Miall

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

The **next parish Baptism preparation programme** will be at 6:30pm in the church. Session 1: Monday 27 January 2025 .Session 2 Monday 6th February 2025.

The **Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage**, led by Bishop Alan, will be from Friday 18 July – Friday 25 July 2025. The flights will be Southend to Lourdes. Details, including how to book, will follow. We hope you will join us.

Syro-Malabar Mass Christmas Eve 2:30p.m. to 4:00 pm.

There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament starting from Monday 16th December. Adoration will resume on Wednesday 8th January 2025.

Your Christmas offerings by tradition goes to your priests in appreciation of all they do in their ministry.

Please note that there will be no midnight Mass on New Year's Eve.

Mass Times and Intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00 pm	Alexandra Keith (Rest in Peace) (Gowri)
Sun 22 December	Fourth Sunday of Advent
08:30 am	Intentions of James Dias (Shania)
10:00 am	Beloved Departed (Uzice and Candell Family)
12noon	Giuseppe (Natascia)
Mon 23 December	Advent Weekday
09:15 am	Parishioners
06:00 pm	Roy's Intentions
Tue 24 December	Advent Weekday
06:00pm***	Kim Chi Henry and Maria Maria Kim Anh Tran (Rest in Peace) (Thuyet and Hoa)
08:00pm***	Colonel Thomas Francis Ryan (Rest in Peace) (Roselene)
Midnight ***	Emma Musa (Rest in Peace) (Turay)
Wed 25 December	The Nativity of the Lord
08:30 am	Special Intention (Nestor)
10:00	Kim Chi and Kim Anh (Rest in Peace) (Thuyet and Hoa)
12noon	Betty and Ram (Rest in Peace) (Patrick)
Thu 26 December	Saint Stephen
09:15 am	Kathy Breslin (Rest in Peace) (Anne Murphy)
06:00 pm	John and Teresa and Family (Family)
Fri 27 December	Saint John, Apostle
09:15 am	Fr. Christopher Hogan (Rest in Peace) (PACT)
06:00pm	Betty and Ram (Rest in Peace)
Sat 28 December	The Holy Innocents
10:00 am	Jorja Maria Cabugao's Intention (Francis and Hong)
06:00 pm	George and Madonna (Thanksgiving) (Family) (35 Years of Marriage)
Sun 29 December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
08:30 am	Intentions of James Dias (Shania)
10:00 am	Thanksgiving (Ursula)
12noon	Peggy Halpenny (Maureen)

Mass Times and Intentions at Our Lady and St. George

Mon 30 December	Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity
10:0 am	Parishioners
06:00 pm	Intentions of the Family (Roy)
Tue 31 December	Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity
10:00am	Holy Souls
06:00 pm	Deceased Family (Rest in Peace) (Stephen Masawe)
Wed 1 January	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
10:00 am	Olindo Cramaro (Rest in peace) (PACT)
6:00:00	Madge Maume (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Thu 2 January	Ss Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
10:00 am	Peace in the World
06:00 pm	Joan Chase-Currier (Rest in Peace) (Christopher)
Fri 3 January	Feria of Christmas Time
09:15 am	Parishioners
06:00pm	Jayarani Motha (Rest in Peace) (Gowri)
Sat 4 January	Feria of Christmas Time
10:00 am	NHS Staff
06:00 pm	Kelly Moss (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Sun 5 January	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
08:30 am	Joan Chase-Currier (Rest in Peace) (Christopher)
10:00 am	Betty and Ram (Rest in Peace) (Patrick)
12noon	Michael McCarthy (Rest in Peace) (Peggy)

Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Liberee, Anne (Christina), Bridie Curley, Sharon Baker, Bridgit Morris, Mavis Hacker, Marjorie Singh, Pietro and Maria Marrai, 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, Cyril and Rose Ogidi, Barry and Sheila Mayo, John Joseph (Mary), Margaret Phillips, Margaret and Norris Levine, Dr. Michael Weston, Bruce Pereira, Nigel Smith, Mary Murphy, Phyllis Beer, Chirs Cullen. Kim Parkins, Mrs Best, Ashish, Michael Brown, Albert Callanan, Anne Close, Robinson, Teresa (Farrugia)



**Wishing You all and Your Family
The Peace and Joy of the Saviour's Birth**

Canon Niall, Fr. Michael, Fr. Shinto, Deacon Joseph, Jonathan