

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon

Fr Mark Swires,

Fr David Waller, Ordinariate Priest in Charge (020 8554 3763)

Fr Innocent (Syro-Malabar Chaplain) Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah

Sr. Anne Marie – Pastoral Care

Our Lady & St George's Primary School:

Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552

Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

10th February 2013

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (C)

In today's readings (Isaiah 6:1-8, Corinthians 15: 1-11 and Luke 5:1-11), we see what happens when God unexpectedly breaks into people's lives. He shakes the foundations, and life is never the same again. We see this with the Prophet Isaiah in the First Reading, with Paul in the Second, and with Peter in the Gospel.

While praying in the temple, Isaiah has an overwhelming vision of the holiness of God, and the foundations of the building shake. The vision cuts him to the heart because he sees clearly his own sinfulness. He proclaims, 'What a wretched state I am in, I am lost! For I am a man of unclean lips'.

St Paul in the Second Reading reminds the Corinthians that Christ has died for their sins and rose from the dead. Like Isaiah, Paul is cut to the heart when he met the risen Christ on the road to Damascus. Christ bursts in, shaking up the foundations of Paul's life. Paul reflects on this invasion of grace, and sees himself as the 'least of the apostles' because he once persecuted the Church. Again, in the light of God, he sees his own sinfulness.

Finally, with Peter in the Gospel, Jesus violates a boundary. He steps into Peter's boat without permission, and starts to give orders. Peter obeys the command to put out the nets, even though as a professional fisherman, he has caught nothing all night. And when Peter obeys, a huge catch is made. Suddenly Peter recognises Who it is that has worked this miracle, and falling to his knees says 'Leave me Lord, I am a sinful man.'

Isaiah, Paul and Peter all have one thing in common. When faced with the light of God's goodness, they see clearly their own sinfulness. This is the experience of all the saints; the closer they get to God, the more they see their inadequacies. The bright light of the sun shows up the dirt on the windows. This is surely the experience of all of us, as we strive for holiness.

Seeing our own sinfulness should not depress us, but should shake us and bring us to repentance. As the Lord burst into the lives of Isaiah, Paul and Peter, he invades our lives in the hope that we will change and co-operate with his grace. Co-operating with the grace of God, wonderful things begin to happen. Isaiah was able to go out as a messenger for God, saying 'here I am, send me!' Paul is able to preach the Gospel with great conviction. Peter left everything to become a fisher of men.

In a sense, we are all like Isaiah, Paul and Peter. The Lord in his grace breaks into our lives, convicts us of our sins, offers us forgiveness, and gives us a mission. Our task is to co-operate with His grace, to abandon our old way of life, and to be single-minded in our service of Him.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will be tomorrow, Monday 11th February at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BILL: Following the vote on the same-sex marriage bill last Tuesday, there remains great concern that the definition of marriage is being altered and that the rights of those who cannot in conscience accept this change will be ignored. As this bill progresses, we continue to pray for the strengthening of marriage and family life and for the courage to continue speaking to those who have the grave responsibility to legislate for the common good.

ASH WEDNESDAY: This Wednesday 13th is Ash Wednesday. Masses will be celebrated at 7.00am, 9.15am and 7.30pm.

CONFIRMATION 2012-13: The next session for the Confirmation programme will be on Sunday 17th February at 4pm in the Parish Hall. Parishioners, please keep these young people in your prayers as they prepare for Confirmation in May.

RCIA: We pray for the Catechumens and Candidates who are to be fully received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. They are Stefania Graziola, Mandothery William, Priscilla Xavier Alves and Nicolas Brethenoux. Next Sunday, they will be presented to the Bishop at the Rite of Election in Brentwood Cathedral. Please continue to support them.

SR FRANCES: Sr Frances Moore, chaplain to Whipps Cross hospital, is retiring after many years service. We will be having a Mass of thanksgiving for her on Monday 11th March at 7.00pm, followed by refreshments in the meeting room. All are welcome.

ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (ESOL) CLASSES: Free English classes for adult beginners and those who want to improve their language skills take place in the Church meeting room on Tuesday evenings from 7.30 - 9.30pm. If interested, contact Timothy Campbell (Teacher) on 07981 657729.

PILGRIMAGE TO SPAIN: Follow in the footsteps of St Teresa of Avila and St John of the Cross, from Avila to Segovia to Toledo. 24th-30th September 2013 (6 nights, half board) - £699. For more information contact Stella Kearns on 0208 527 3879. Deadline date: 25th February 2013.

CAFOD FAST DAY is Friday 22nd February and envelopes will be available in the Church on 16th/17th February and 23rd/24th February.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBA is currently trying to raise funds for CAFOD. They would like people of the Parish to consider buying a goat for a poor family in the developing world. Each goat costs £28.00, and will provide the family with 12 pints of milk per week, which they can drink or sell, and will also provide free fertiliser which they can use to help grow crops. If you can help please call Chris Fitzgerald on 0208 524 1119.

PRO-LIFE RALLIES: This Tuesday 12th February there will be a Kick-off rally for the London 40 Days For Life Campaign. 40 Days for Life is a peaceful and prayerful witness offering hope and support to women considering abortion. The vigils are starting at 8pm

at 108 Whitfield Street, W1T 5EA (www.40daysforlife.com/london-whitfield) and 7pm at Bedford Square WC1B 3HP (www.40daysforlife.com/london). Please come along.

BCCS VALENTINE GALA DINNER: The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society will be holding a **Valentine Gala Dinner** on **Thursday 14th February** at the exclusive Stockbrook Golf & Country Club, Billericay. Tickets are priced at £50 per person, which will include a drinks reception, three-course meal with coffee, live entertainment and dancing. This is an event not to be missed! To reserve your tickets or for further information please call Julie Abbott 01268 784544 or email jabbott@bccs.org.uk

VOICE FOR LIFE: Are you aged 8-14? Would you like to start singing in a choir at St George's? The Ordinariate choir is looking for young people to join them and begin the Royal School of Church Music's 'Voice for Life' training scheme. This provides a first-class musical education and will help develop confidence and life skills. To find out more and try it out, please come to our special introductory workshop on **Saturday 2nd March** (8-10 year olds from 2-3pm; 11-14 year olds, 3.15-4.15pm). To register for the workshop visit www.voiceforlife.enlighten.eu, email chris.morris@enlighten.eu or call 0203 022 0022.

SILENT RETREAT at the Sion Community: From 6pm Friday 26th to Sunday 28th April 2013. Theme: 'Encountering God' with Fr Martin Boland. This **silent** retreat is an opportunity to step out of our daily routine and spend time with the Lord. Talks, Mass, prayer & quiet reflection form part of the weekend. Book early as we have limited places. For more information, please call Allegra on 01277 215011 or e-mail allegra@sioncommunity.org.uk / admin@sioncommunity.org.uk

THE URSULINE ACADEMY ILFORD: SENCO Up to £45,000 + TLR1 (£9,013) Required from Easter/September. The Governors of this high achieving Academy are seeking to appoint an experienced, creative and inspirational SENCO to lead the Special Educational Needs provision with a particular focus on teaching and learning. An excellent practitioner, preferably with the National SENCO Award or equivalent, you will lead a team of LSAs in delivering relevant, exciting and challenging lessons to our students as well as providing teaching and learning guidance to staff. For further information and to download an application form please access the Academy website: www.uai.org.uk or email hrofficer@uai.org.uk. **Please note we are unable to accept CVs.** Closing Date: 12 noon Monday 11 February 2013, Interviews: Thursday 14 February 2013

ROTAS – FEBRUARY

Christian Kitchen:	2/2 Nor	9/2 D	16/2 E	23/2 F
Hospital: N.B if you are unavailable please contact Serge (020 8527 4814)	3/2 B	10/2 D	17/2 A	24/2 B
Counting:	3/2 A	10/2 A	17/2 D	24/2 C

Parish Collection: Offertory received on 3rd February was £1512.36
Thank you very much for your generous offerings.

Times and Intentions at Our Lady and St. George
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

6.00pm	Joe McGee (Ints)
Sun 10 th Feb	<i>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
8.30am	Leonora Edmunds (RIP)
10.00am	Kathleen Tattersall (RIP)
12.00pm	Jacqueline Keavey (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 11 th Feb	<i>Our Lady of Lourdes</i>
7.00am	Phil Lyons (Ints)
9.15am	Phobe Roach (Ints)
Tue 12 th Feb	<i>Weekday</i>
7.00am	Anthony Kinghorn (RIP)
9.15am	Owen Veldon (RIP)
Wed 13 th Feb	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>
7.00am	Mark O'Grady (RIP)
9.15am	Hil Kovaci (RIP)
7.30pm	George Hila (Ints)
Thurs 14 th Feb	<i>Ss Cyril and Methodius</i>
7.00am	Joseph McManus (RIP)
9.15am	Mary Monaghan (RIP)
Fri 15 th Feb	<i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>
7.00am	Kalpee family (Thanksgiving)
9.15am	Gertrude Charles (Ints)
Sat 16 th Feb	<i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>
10.00am	Catherine Dillsworth & family (Ints)
6.00pm	Mary Callanan (RIP)
Sun 17 th Feb	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
8.30am	Margaret O'Sullivan (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Josephine & family (Thanksgiving)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>

We pray for those in our parish community who are ill:

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 & Mrs Charles, Maureen Bee, Denis Collins, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Angelina Hoareau, Archie Garrod, Gilda Baptiste, Margaret Messenger, Martin Keane, Muriel Chetty, Masangela Tardioli, Alix Charlery, Adeline Rosario, Natalie Rosario, Ronald Rolle. Ernie & Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati. Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Phoebe Roach. Mary and Anthony O'Boyle, Michael Fitzpatrick, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Joan Beirne,

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Adoration & Exposition:

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45 am

Weekdays after morning Mass

Mon – Fri: 7.30am-8.30am and at the following times:

Mon: 10.00am – 7.00pm Weds: 10.00am – 4.00pm

Fri: 9.45am – 10.45am Sat: 10.30am-11.30am

Sat. 10.30am – 11.00am. 5.00pm – 5.30pm (Or on request)