

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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**Fr Maurice Gordon, Fr Mark Swires,
Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain)
Fr David Waller (Ordinariate Priest) (020 8554 3763)
Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)
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

18th May 2014

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

The English Poet John Donne wrote that 'no man is an island'. Every one of us is connected to others – we are interdependent. Even the food we eat is mostly farmed by others and goes through a supply chain involving many people, before it reaches the supermarkets and eventually our tables. Different people at each stage have different jobs to do – there is a chain of connections between people and every link is important.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we see that as the early Church grew in size, the Apostles began to designate particular functions. The first deacons are appointed to serve the poor with food, allowing the Apostles to focus on their mission of preaching and teaching. The other members of the Church spread the message in their own circles, so the number of followers 'greatly increased'. The task of evangelisation, or telling other people about Christ, is not just for the ordained, but is part of the mission of every baptised person. No Christian is an individual – the way we carry out our own tasks affects others.

Yet the Church is not a club, nor a charitable organisation. It is, as the second reading puts it, the 'People of God'. We are called to live in communion or fellowship with God – to participate in the life and love between the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Just as stones make up a building, St Peter says we are called to be 'living stones', with Christ as the foundation, upon whom we rest. With Christ as our Head, we are the cells making up His body. You and I share in Christ's work – He has chosen us to participate in the work of redemption.

We speak of Christ as a priest, because He offered Himself in Sacrifice – a priest is one who offers sacrifice. Through our baptism, all of us have a share in Christ's priesthood, called the common priesthood of the faithful. Some of the baptised are called to the ordained ministry, whose major role is to act in the person of Christ at the altar. But all of the faithful, by their common priesthood, make their own sacrifices in union with the Sacrifice of Jesus on the cross.

Practically speaking, when the priest offers the bread and wine at Mass, all present should offer themselves, their joys and sorrows, and those they wish to pray for, through Christ to the Father. Offering our sacrifices in union with Christ unites us to the Father. As Jesus says in today's Gospel, 'to have seen Me is to have seen the Father. I and the Father are one.'

Not only the ordained priest, but also every baptised person has the duty and privilege of proclaiming Christ and drawing others into the Catholic Christian community. The Church is like an orchestra; we have different gifts, but sound best when each member plays in harmony with the others. We are not isolated individuals, but interconnected members. What is my role? What task has Christ given to me?

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place this Monday 19th May at 7.00pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Over the next three Sundays, 80 children in our parish will receive their First Holy Communion. This week, we pray particularly for the following children, and their families: Lily Peter, Grace Peter, Craig André Jules, Nigela Anaïs Dabreo-Williams, Niesha Dabreo-Williams, Caitlin Stewart Louis, Nicolás Vicente, Aragones-Pinzón, Chloe Paula Nansereko, David Mark Kowalski, Phoebe Quinton, Alfredo Troni, Dmitry Kwesi Danielovich Yevu, Miranda Gomez Velasco, Noah Bruce, Ruth Emma Drennan, Angela Louise Ting, Chloe Mariz Luz, Josh Dylan Villanueva, Jack Louis Kane, Tadgh Joseph Clark, Louis Anthony Luz, Oljedane Esdjim Mollière, Gabriele Buendia, Aniel Richard, Conor Iskandar, Seamus Drugan, Paul Jonah Alonzo.



PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY: Thank you to all those who organized and participated in last week's procession in honour of Our Lady. It was a wonderful parish event, which brought everybody together. If you took any good photos, please email them to parishoffice@olsg.co.uk.

CHARITY FUNDRAISER: On Friday 4th July from 8pm, we will be hosting a charity fundraising event in the Parish Hall, to raise money for the Naughton family, former parishioners here, who have three boys with Duchenne's muscular dystrophy. The event includes a live band, raffle, auction and licensed bar, and tickets will be on sale this weekend.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting for the Finance Committee is Monday 19th May at 8.00pm.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE: The next meeting for the Social Committee will take place on Wednesday 4th June at 7.30pm.

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes for the coming year are now available. **If you are enrolled in the gift aid scheme, please collect your envelopes from the back of the Church.** Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows the parish to reclaim tax on all donations made. If you are not currently enrolled in the Gift Aid scheme, please pick up a Gift Aid form from the back of the Church or for further information, please contact Hana on 07939 485957.

CATHOLICISM SERIES: Thanks to all who have so far attended the screenings of the Catholicism Series, a ten-part DVD presentation on the Catholic faith. **Episode 9 will be screened on Wednesday 21st May at 7.30pm, and the topic of this presentation is prayer.** All are welcome. For more information about this highly acclaimed documentary, visit www.catholicismseries.com.

CATHOLICISM

ABBOTSWICK RETREAT: 'Chill & be Filled with the Lord!' – You are welcome to join us for a day of discovery in prayer on 7th June 2014 from 10.30am-4pm at Abbotswick, the Diocesan House of Prayer, Brentwood. This guided retreat led by Sr Ann O'Sullivan (Sisters of St Gilda's), will focus on the essential and walking with the Lord. A suggested donation £18 per person includes a light lunch and all refreshments. Please call Abbotswick on 01277 373959 or Sr Ann on 07752563520 for further information. Booking is essential and all are welcome!

TEACHING VACANCY: The Ursuline Academy Ilford: Governors are seeking to appoint a creative, visionary, talented and enthusiastic Music Subject Leader and Music/Drama Teacher to join our high achieving school. Applications are welcomed from new entrants to the profession (Music/Drama Teacher) and experienced teachers (Subject Leader). Application packs are available from Louise Richardson, HR Officer: hrofficer@uai.org.uk or telephone 020 554 1995 or the school website www.uai.org.uk

VACANCY AT BRENTWOOD CATHEDRAL: With the forthcoming retirement of the present Cathedral Personal Assistant, the Cathedral Dean, Fr Martin Boland, is looking for a PA to support him in running both a large, busy parish and the many diocesan events that take place at the Cathedral. Among other qualities, this position requires someone with:

- excellent secretarial and computing skills
- good social skills and an ability to deal in a pastoral manner with a wide range of people and situations
- an understanding and commitment to the life and work of the Catholic Church

The successful candidate will be trustworthy, discreet, reliable and hardworking. For more information including a detailed job description and salary details, please contact Fr Martin Boland by June 15th at cathedralbrentwood@gmail.com or telephone: 01277 265235

CONGRATULATIONS to Thomas Kowalski and Monika Duraj, and to Daniel Cano-Connolly and Cathy Bonner who were married at our Church recently. We wish them all of God's blessings for their future happiness and well-being.

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of

Bridget Davies, whose funeral will take place on Tuesday 20th May at 3.45pm at the City of London Crematorium.

Yvette Caution, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Wednesday 28th May at 1.00pm.

Augustina Osei, whose funeral arrangements will be made later.

Agnes Okotie, whose funeral will be held soon in Nigeria.

There will be a memorial Mass for Agnes at St George's next Friday 23rd May at 7.30pm.

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – MAY

Counting:	4/5 D	11/5 B	18/5 A	25/5 C	
Hospital:	4/5 A	11/5 B	18/5 D	25/5 A	
Christian Kitchen	3/5 Nor	10/5 G	17/5 A	24/5 B	31/5 C

The offertory collection for 11th May was £1198.83

Recent standing orders were as follows:

January '14 - £1218.85, February - £1828.85,

March - £1448.85, April - £1545.85

Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

6.00pm	Ambrose Dillsworth (RIP)
Sun 18 th May	<i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>
8.30am	Russell Rodrigues (Ints)
10.00am	James Bollard (RIP)
12.00pm	Samuel Charles (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 19 th May	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Sue Conroy (RIP)
9.15am	Deceased members of the Tully family
Tue 20 th May	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Holy Souls
9.15am	Maria Stanton (RIP)
Wed 21 st May	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Bridget Davies (RIP)
9.15am	Nelly & Cezar Portalibre (Ints)
Thu 22 nd May	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Students taking exams (Ints)
9.15am	Maria Stanton (RIP)
Fri 23 rd May	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Elizabeth Molloy (RIP)
9.15am	Richard Balfe (RIP)
7.30pm	Memorial Mass: Agnes Okotie (RIP)
Sat 24 th May	<i>Feria</i>
10.00am	Augustina Osei (RIP)
6.00pm	C. Colaco (Thanksgiving)
Sun 25 th May	<i>Sixth Sunday of Easter</i>
8.30am	Adolphe & Adeline Rosario (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Guy Ambury and Patricia Galbrath (RIP)
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, Natalie Rosario, Ronald Rolle, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati. Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Mary and Anthony O'Boyle, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Joan Beirne, Bill Walsh, Margaret Perry, Bridget Lyons, Kristina Klimasauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Mary Akinkuolie, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Archie, George & Issac, Boyce Chandasingh.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Adoration & Exposition:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am

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)