

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

1st June 2014

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (A)

Over the last several weeks our Gospel readings have been about Christ's resurrection and His appearances to the disciples in His risen body. Today's readings speak of Jesus' ascension into heaven. In the creed we profess belief that Christ 'ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.' But what does the ascension mean, and what is its significance for our lives?

Christ came to redeem us. Born in the flesh, he suffered and died and rose again. During his life, and after the resurrection He was forming the disciples and preparing to send them out to the ends of the earth to spread His word; to tell everyone that salvation comes through Him. The ascension completes Christ's earthly pilgrimage, and through His own power, He returns body and soul to the Father in heaven, promising to send His church the Holy Spirit. Christ now sits at the 'right hand' of the Father, which means his glory and power are now fully revealed, where before they were hidden in His earthly life.

So what is the significance of the ascension for us? It is that the human body has been elevated; our frail flesh has been glorified through the work of Christ. When the sin of Adam caused rupture and division, God the Son became man to reunite heaven and earth. In the incarnation He came down, and by the ascension He goes up, opening the way to heaven for each one of us. Where He, our Head has gone, we, the members of His body hope to follow.

If Christ our Head is already glorified in heaven, and we too want to be with Him, our whole outlook on life should change. We should set our hearts on the things of heaven, not on the things of earth. The Gospel tells us that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be too.

Yet heaven is not some distant future prospect; it should begin for us now. Christ reconciled heaven and earth, and so heaven can be perceived in this life where there is forgiveness, care for the poor and weak, and where people are working for peace in difficult situations. Isn't that what we pray for in the *Our Father*; 'thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven'?

Heaven and earth are connected, because Christ promised that He is with us always, until the end of time. He remains especially with us through the Eucharist, which, during these weeks, many of our children are receiving for the first time. At every Mass, heaven and earth are united in praising and glorifying God.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: During these weeks, 80 children in our parish will receive their First Holy Communion. This week, we pray particularly for the following children, and their families: Celine Maskeni Masila, Maui Lum Lopez, Lucia Lum Lopez, James Charles Silitonga, Olawale Victor Segilola, Cameron Larocque, Euan Mafuma Diafuana Zato, Tom Barrow, Elodie Marie-Thérèse de l'Éprevier, Caitlin Elizabeth Tapley, Theo Anthony Courie, Mark Kaden Dawes, Ryan James Medina, George Paul Makia, Degole Shedrock Bremmer, Tyrell Howard, Lucas Pareja, Eamonn O'Leary, Jenny Boadi, Joshua Gerry Crane, Alexandru Fabian Fartade, Cullen Stone Macahilas, Cheznie Debbie Joseph-Samuels, Toni-Bailee Joseph-Samuels, Troy Terence Louis Smith, David Alexander Diaz Carballo, Kelvinna Ohemaa Boatenmaa Tuffour.



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 available this weekend.

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE: The next meeting for the Finance Committee has been moved to Monday 16th June at 8.00pm.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2014-15: There will be a meeting for parents who would like their children to make their First Communion next summer (2015). This will take place in the Parish Hall at 7:30pm on Monday 23rd June. The First Communion programme is open to children who are in school year 4 or older and who live in Our Lady and St George parish or whose families regularly attend Mass here.

GIFT AID: Gift Aid is a government scheme that allows the parish to reclaim tax on all donations made by UK taxpayers, at no cost to you. 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. This provides much-needed additional income for the upkeep of the Church and support of our schools.

CATHOLICISM SERIES: Many thanks to all who attended the Catholicism Series sessions over the last several weeks, and to those who prepared the food and refreshments for the last session. If you borrowed one of the DVDs, please return it to the presbytery as soon as possible.

UNUSED MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS? Do you have a musical instrument gathering dust in a drawer or cupboard, once used by you or your children, but no more? At St Teresa's, Basildon, children are working with classical musician James Rhodes to form a school orchestra. Could you donate your instrument? Please contact Fr Dominic Howarth, 01268 281732, or email frdominic@basildoncatholics.org. We will pay postage or arrange a pick up, and your instrument will be put to very good use – it could truly transform the life of one of our children, as they discover new talents. Thank you.

CONCERT AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES, WANSTEAD: June 7th at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Wanstead 8.00pm. A concert by Holst Chamber Choir of sacred (to include Purcell;

Holst, Bruckner) and secular (to include Elgar; ABBA and other light) music. Conducted by Andrew Wright Diocesan Director of Music. Ticket prices £7 for adults and £4 concessions. Family tickets available if there are 2 adults, for £14. This includes a glass of wine afterwards. The money raised will go to the upkeep of the Pastoral Centre. For more information contact Jane Smith on cjanesmith@o2.co.uk or 020 8989 3178

HEALING MASS AT ABBOTSWICK celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power on Wednesday 18th June 2014 at 2.30pm. For further information please call 01277 373959 or visit www.abbotswick.org. Please join us, all are welcome!

SCHOOL CHAPLAIN VACANCY: All Saints Catholic School, Dagenham, seeks to appoint a School Chaplain. This is a new role – 3 days a week, with the possibility of 5 days per week starting September 2014. The ideal candidate will be a practicing and committed Catholic, with proven experience in this area of work. Full details of the job specification are available on request, Tel: 020 8270 4242. Closing date for applications (with a covering letter to Mrs Hartley): Friday, 14th June 2014.

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

RIP

Your prayers are asked for the repose of the souls of:

Augustina Osei, whose body will be brought into the Church on Thursday 19th June at 7.00pm, and whose Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 20th at 12 noon.

Mary Akinkuolie whose funeral will take place in Lagos, Nigeria. A memorial Mass will be held here on Friday June 13th at 9.15am.

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – JUNE

Counting:	1/6 E	8/6 D	15/6 B		
Hospital:	1/6 B	8/6 D	15/6 A	22/6 B	29/6 D
Christian Kitchen	31/5 C	7/6 Nor	14/6 D	21/6 E	28/6 F

The offertory collection for 25th May was £1840.46
Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD (A)

6.00pm	Michael Fitzpatrick (RIP) & Hannah Gaughan (RIP)
Sun 1 st June	<i>The Ascension of the Lord</i>
8.30am	Bridie Lacon (Ints)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	James Wynn (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 2nd June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Sean Reilly (RIP)
9.15am	Eugene McKenna (RIP)
Tue 3 rd June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Tracey Rose (Ints)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Wed 4 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Thanksgiving
9.15am	Muriel Chetty (Ints)
Thu 5 th June	<i>St Boniface</i>
7.00am	Joe McGee (Ints)
9.15am	Fr Stewart Foster (Ints)
Fri 6 th June	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Thanksgiving
9.15am	Fr John Timmins (RIP)
Sat 7 th June	<i>Feria</i>
10.00am	Thanksgiving & Sr Jacinta (RIP)
6.00pm	Muriel S Turvey (RIP)
Sun 8 th June	<i>Pentecost Sunday</i>
8.30am	Ray & Marcella Finney (Ints)
10.00am	Peggy Halpenny (RIP)
12.00pm	Berlynda Mopise (Thanksgiving)
3.00pm	<i>Confirmation Mass: Confirmation Candidates (Ints)</i>
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, 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)