

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

13th July 2014

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Over the next several Sundays, our Gospel readings at Mass feature Jesus describing the Kingdom of God through parables. Jesus uses everyday situations to shed light on something deeper. We hear the story at one level, but then what we hear provokes us to think deeply about our interior life. Today we hear the parable of the sower (Mt 13:1-23), a story we all know, but let us reflect deeply on it and identify where we are.

The seed represents God's word, scattered freely and generously by God, the sower. God knows His seed has the power to transform lives, if it takes root in our hearts. But in order for this to happen, the soil of our hearts must accept the seed, shelter it and give of itself to make the seed grow. It won't happen automatically. Jesus warns us of three pitfalls – if our hearts resemble these grounds, there is little chance the seed will grow.

Firstly, some seed falls on the edge of the path and is eaten straight away. This represents those who hear the Gospel but do not take it seriously, or who do not really believe. The first challenge is therefore to shelter the seed within the soil, to protect it and give it a chance to grow. We can help this along by trying to understand our faith, using our intelligence to learn about it, and nourishing it through prayer.

The seed on rocky ground represents those who hear the word and receive it joyfully at first. The seed sprouts quickly but doesn't develop deep roots. The rocks represent difficulties and persecutions, and when faced with these, the growing seed withers. Our Lord explains that these seed represent timid believers who fall away to preserve human respect, following the crowd rather than taking a stand. We ask ourselves, 'have we the courage to speak up for the faith?'

The parable then speaks of seed that falls where it must compete with thorns and weeds. These are more subtle forces that can choke the seed. All our worldly concerns – work, recreation, ambition, money, comfort, personal relationships, that may be good in themselves, often eventually crowd out and displace the Kingdom of God, which Jesus tells us we ought to 'seek first' (Mt 6:33). Is the Kingdom of God our first priority?

If our prayer and sacramental life is regular and serious, the chances are that the seed of God's word has found reasonably fertile soil in our hearts, and that enables us to bear fruit. But there is no room for complacency. If we can produce a thirty-fold crop, the Lord mentions 60 and 100-fold. In cooperation with Him, we can always produce more.

The Lord says, 'listen, anyone who has ears.' Today, let us hear this parable as if for the first time, and may it penetrate the soils of our hearts, to produce a good crop.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 28th July at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

SEA SUNDAY: This week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a second collection for Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. It provides practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. Please give generously to support its important work. For more information about its work visit www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk

VISITING PRIEST: This week we welcome back Fr Richmond Amoah from Ghana (Tony Boahene's nephew) who will be staying with us over the summer and assisting with Masses and Confessions.

FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2014-15: Thank you to the parents who have already made appointments to see Fr Mark following the recent First Communion Meeting. (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). If you would like your child to make their First Communion please sign up at the back of the Church for a meeting with Fr Mark.

FIRST COMMUNION 2013-14 PHOTOGRAPHS: The CDs with photographs of each First Holy Communion child have now been produced. The majority have been delivered but there are some for which a deposit was paid, but contact details were not supplied on the day. There are also CDs of the children that only had a picture taken with Fr Mark / Fr Maurice. All children were photographed. If you are yet to collect these, please contact Vicky (07961 405 197) or Jo (07894 692 403) so we can arrange to get them to you. There is also a disc with photographs taken after the FHC Thanksgiving Mass. Please speak to Fr Mark if your child was in these photographs.

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.

JUSTICE & PEACE MEETING: The next meeting of the Justice & Peace Group will take place on Tuesday 15th July at 7.30pm in the meeting room.

FINANCE MEETING: The next Finance Committee meeting will take place on Monday 21st July at 8pm in the Presbytery. All members are requested to attend.

ORGAN AND KEYBOARD LESSONS: Instrumental tuition offered in both organ and keyboard by a qualified organist. Organ lessons can take place at the church, and piano lessons either at the church or at home if more convenient. Lessons are offered for pupils of all ages and different stages of playing experience and musical knowledge. For further information please contact Ladislav Ondercin on 07472 861 186 (please leave a message after 5pm) or email ladislav.ondercin@gmail.com.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY – ST ANTHONY OF PADUA (17th – 23rd SEPT 2014): A meeting is being held in the Parish Hall on Sunday 27th July at 3pm, for all those travelling on this pilgrimage. Please note you can book your coach travel on this day.

COMMUNITY ORGANISING AND CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: There will be a one-day conference for schools, colleges and parishes in London to explore community organizing and Catholic Social teaching. The conference takes place from 10am – 3.15pm on Wednesday 16th July, at Trinity Catholic School, Mornington Rd, Woodford Green, IG8 0TP. All welcome.

SVP ST JOHN BOSCO CAMP offers children aged 8-13 a sports and activity based holiday on a campsite in the Essex countryside. Run with a Catholic ethos, the camp is especially for children who may not have any other holiday this year. There are three weeks of the camp: For boys: 26th July to 2nd August or 2nd to 9th August; for girls: 9th to 16th August For more details speak to one of the priests.

HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE: The Marian Mission Educational and Family Support Centre is offering FREE positive summer holiday activities for young people aged 10-19 years, resident in Waltham Forest, from 24th July – 18th August, Monday-Friday 10am-3pm. Activities include digital music production, singing lessons, drama, ICT skills, pool/table football and football tournaments, fashion design, hair plaiting, fabric tie and dye, cultural dance, cookery, cinema and more. Interested parents should call at the centre at 1 Colchester Rd, Leyton E10 6HA for an application form. See flyer on the noticeboard. For further details contact 07940 143 545 or 07891 180 264.

FREEDOM IN CHRIST CONFERENCE: 17th July 1pm at St Theresa Church, Newbury Park with Frs. Eamonn & Angelus. This conference discusses how Christ sets us free from the various types of spiritual bondage we can fall into (e.g., fear, anger, lust, fortune telling, New Age spiritualities). It will be followed by a **Mass for the Healing of the Family Tree** at 3pm. Come and see how the Lord can help bring greater healing and liberation to you and your family.

STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE? – Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This programme has helped 6,000 couples who were experiencing difficulties in their marriage in the past year. For confidential information about or to register for the programme commencing with a residential weekend on 19th -21st Sept 2014, the email info@retrouvaille.org.uk ; call or text 0797 338 0443 or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

RIP:

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

James McDermott, whose funeral will take place on Wednesday 16th July at 11.10am at the City of London Crematorium.

May he rest in peace.

ROTAS – JULY

Counting	6/7 C	13/7 E	20/7 B	27/7 C
Hospital	6/7 A	13/7 B	20/7 D	27/7 A
Christian Kitchen	5/7 Nor	12/7 G	19/7 A	26/7 B

The offertory collection for 6th July was £1405.00
Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

6.00pm	Charles Gustave (RIP)
Sun 13 th July	<i>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
8.30am	Chris Colaco (Thanksgiving)
10.00am	Kajtimi and family (Ints)
12.00pm	Paur, Norberd & Aluis Maredza (RIP)
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 14 th July	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Sr Frances Moore (Ints)
9.15am	Thanksgiving
Tue 15 th July	<i>St Bonaventure</i>
7.00am	Lazaro De Souza (RIP)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Wed 16 th July	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Bill Walsh (Ints)
9.15am	Sr Anne Marie (Ints)
Thu 17 th July	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Fr Mark (Ints)
9.15am	Mary & Anthony O'Boyle (Ints)
Fri 18 th July	<i>Feria</i>
7.00am	Teachers of our schools (Ints)
9.15am	Rosie McGlynn (Ints)
Sat 19 th July	<i>Feria</i>
10.00am	John & Alice D'Arcy (Ints)
6.00pm	Patrick Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 20 th July	<i>Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
8.30am	James Bollard (RIP)
10.00am	Kathy Mynor (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
6.30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>

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

Christoper 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)