

# CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

132 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU

Tel: 020 8520 5877 Fax: 020 8520 4805

E-mail: [parishoffice@olsg.co.uk](mailto:parishoffice@olsg.co.uk)

Website: [www.olsg.co.uk](http://www.olsg.co.uk)

**Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly**  
**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

*15<sup>th</sup> March 2015*

## **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

We are now over half way through Lent and the readings summarise the major themes of the season – confronting evil and moving from darkness into light; striving by the grace of God to be more faithful to Him.

The first reading describes the destruction of Jerusalem and the enslavement of the Israelite people by pagan rulers. They were taken away to exile in Babylon. The writer of Chronicles sees this destruction as a consequence of Israel's infidelity to God and sin. God had chosen this people and called them into a relationship with Him, forming covenants such as the Ten Commandments we heard last Sunday. But the people rejected God's law, and lived no differently to anyone else, ignoring the prophets and messengers God sent to call them back. Eventually God allows them to be overtaken and plundered by their enemies. It was a period of suffering for them, but it also became a time of purification. The suffering was medicinal because it shook them out of their complacency and caused them to turn back. It purified them, and God would later use the King of Persia to rebuild the Temple, showing He is merciful to the repentant and seeks their return to Him. Our sufferings, inconveniences, trials and tribulations can likewise help us recognise our need for God, and can have a healing effect on us, enabling us to grow in virtue.

God permits tragedy not because He is callous, but always in order for greater good to emerge from it. It is a common misconception that God in the Old Testament is angry, stern, unforgiving, whilst Jesus is gentle, loving and merciful. The Church condemned this notion centuries ago. God is love, and St John says in today's Gospel, 'God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but might have eternal life.' This text makes clear that the Father initiates the coming of the Son, out of love for the world. Jesus told His disciples that He is one with the Father, and that to have seen Him is to have seen the Father. He truly came and lived among us, not to condemn the world, but that through Him the world might be saved.

He came as the light in order to expose the darkness in our hearts. Like the Israelites in today's first reading, we can become comfortable in the darkness of sin, and be afraid of the light for fear our actions be exposed. But God sent His son to pursue us, going after the lost sheep as it were, to catch us and bring us back. We have no need to hide from the light; in fact we should step into it. When we do that, and cast off the darkness, especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we experience God's generous and rich mercy, which St Paul describes in the second reading. We go from being dead in sin to being restored to life in Christ.

Lent is an invitation to cast off all darkness and come into the light, so we can glorify the Lord by our lives, which attracts others to Him. Fr Maurice

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next Course will take place on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March at 7.30pm in the Church.

**MARRIAGES:** By appointment. Six months notice is required. There will be talks on marriage during Lent; details below.

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**LENTEN TALKS AT OLSG:** Our Lenten talks this year are around the theme of marriage. The talks take place on Thursday evenings in Lent in the Parish hall. Details of the remaining talks are as follows. All are welcome, especially those who are married, or who are preparing for marriage.

19 March 2015, 8pm: **Marriage and Family life** led by Father Graham Smith. Fr Graham is Co-ordinator for Marriage and Family life, Brentwood diocese.

26 March 2015, 2015, 8pm: **Proclaiming the ideal of Christian Marriage** led by Father Patrick Daly.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** The Stations of the Cross take place every Friday during Lent at 7.15pm in the Church.

**LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE:** The Lenten Reconciliation service will take place on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 8pm. A number of visiting priests will be available to hear individual confessions. All are strongly encouraged to avail of the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Easter.

**CONFIRMATION:** The next Confirmation session will take place on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 4pm in the Parish hall.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** The next session of the First Communion programme is Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at 10.00am. As usual, the parents will meet in the lower site of OLSG School, while the children will be in the parish hall. The talk for the parents this time will include the role and dignity of women – this session is not to be missed.

**HALF-DAY RETREAT FOR EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS:** There will be a half-day retreat for all the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion in the parish on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March from 9am – 12.30pm. Tea / coffee will be provided.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** Please note that Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will cease from Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March and resume after Easter on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

**SOUP LUNCH:** Next Sunday there will be a Lenten soup lunch available in the Parish Hall after the 10am and 12noon Masses, in aid of CAFOD.

**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. Thank you to all those who completed the Gift Aid forms last week; they will be distributed again this week for those who did not have a chance to complete them. This will help us to update our database. The Gift Aid Scheme provides much-needed additional income for the upkeep of the Church and support of our schools. For more information please contact Hana on 07939 485957.

**DIVINE MERCY HEALING SERVICE:** Fr Angelus Houle will lead us in the Divine Mercy Healing Service on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, from 7.30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel. All are welcome.

**GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK:** On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, the Vigil of the Annunciation, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. **Pray especially that 'bubble zones' will not be introduced around abortion 'clinics'.** Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. [www.goodcounselnetwork.com](http://www.goodcounselnetwork.com)

**HCPT DINNER & DANCE** takes place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, tickets costs £25pp. Book your table early and avoid missing out! Speak to Anita, Peter or Em on 07976419680.

**HOLY FAMILY COLLEGE SPRING TABLE TOP SALE:** Saturday 28th March 2015 - 10am-1pm. The Friends of Holy Family Catholic School & Sixth Form are holding their Spring Indoor Table Top Sale on their Walthamstow Site, 1 Shernhall Street, (Next to Thorpe Coombe Hospital), London E17 3EA on Saturday 28th March 2014, with doors open to the public from 10:00am - 13:00pm. A chance to get rid of that clutter, buy a treat or gift or enjoy our delicious refreshments and take a home-made cake for later! To book a table, email the Friends for a booking form at [t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk](mailto:t.friends@holyfamily.waltham.sch.uk) or phone the school office on 020 8520 0482. Tables £10.00 in advance, £15 on the day subject to availability. Admission 50p adults, children free. Book early to avoid disappointment.

**HEALING MASS** at Abbotswick House of Prayer, Brentwood, to be celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power at 2.30pm Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Call 01277 373 959 for more info.

**PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITIES:**

8-day pilgrimage to Lourdes, Nevers, Lisieux & Paris from 23<sup>rd</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> May, including all excursions and full board in Lourdes. Travelling by luxury coach for £629.

9-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land, following in the footsteps of our Lord Jesus Christ, from 14<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015, including all excursions for £1159, flying from Heathrow.

For more information contact Mrs Mozzi on 0208 472 0843 or 07859 027 301.

**RIP**

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of:**

Guy Ng Yu Tin, whose Requiem Mass will take place on  
Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon.

John Edgar Palmer, whose Requiem Mass will take place on  
Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am.

Cecilia Mary Burnett, whose Requiem Mass will take place on  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 12 noon.

May they rest in peace.

**ROTAS – MARCH:**

Hospital	1/3 B	8/3 D	15/3 A	22/3 B	29/3 D
Counting	1/3 F	8/3 B	15/3 E	22/3 D	29/3 C
Christian Kitchen	7/3 Nor1	14/3 E	21/3 Nor2	28/3 F	

**Last week's collection was £1403.14. Thank you very much for your generosity.**

## Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George this week

6.00pm	Natalie Rosario (Ints)
Sun 15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B) (Laetare Sunday)</b>
8.30am	Private Intention
10.00am	Jim Sullivan (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
6:30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>
7.00am	Special Ints
9.15am	Maria Garcia (Ints)
Tue 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>St Patrick, Bp, Patron of Ireland</b>
7.00am	Elizabeth McGann (RIP)
9.15am	Ruby Almeida (RIP)
Wed 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>
7.00am	Raja (RIP)
9.15am	Thanksgiving to St Anthony
Thu 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>St Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
7.00am	J & K Coeur-de-Lion (Thanksgiving)
9.15am	Larry Duffy (RIP)
Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>
7.00am	Seamus McFadden (RIP)
9.15am	Margaret O'Meara (Ints)
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup> Mar	<b>Lenten Weekday</b>
10.00am	Evelyn (Ints)
6.00pm	James Harte (RIP)
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)</b>
8.30am	Catherine Murnane (RIP)
10.00am	Famyle Kujtim Reka (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
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, Margaret Messenger, Martin Keane, 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, 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, Luis & Lukas.

**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)**