

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
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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

12th April 2015

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER / DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (B)

The Gospel reading today recounts the events of Easter Sunday evening, when ten of the disciples have locked themselves in the upper room. Judas was no more and Thomas was absent, but the others were huddled, frightened and despondent, after the death of their master. All of a sudden Jesus appears amongst them and says 'Peace be with you.' The locked doors could not keep Him out; He enters in and dispels the fear that keeps them turned in on themselves. Their fears immediate subside and they are filled with peace.

He gives them their mission: He tells them that He is sending them out, and breathes on them, giving them the Holy Spirit and the power and authority to forgive sins in His name. The same peace that they had experienced, they were to make available to others, through the forgiveness of sins. In saying these words, Jesus gave His Church what we now call the Sacrament of Reconciliation or confession. This is accompanied by His breathing on them. The only other time in Scripture where God breathes onto man is at the creation of Adam, when God breathed life in to him. In the same way, God breathes the Holy Spirit into us when we receive forgiveness of our sins through this wonderful sacrament.

When Jesus first appeared Thomas was not there, and when the disciples tried to fill him in later, he refused to believe. The lesson of doubting Thomas is that Christ becomes present where His church is gathered. The Lord enters on that Easter Sunday, and communicates His grace, and gives them a peace which Thomas, being absent, misses out on. While the others are at peace, Thomas is frustrated because he has missed something. We live in an individualistic society and we may think we can go it alone. But that is not how Jesus wants to relate to us primarily – he founded the Church to gather us to Him in conjunction with others. Praying on our own is very important, of course, but Thomas shows us how important it is to be with the community. In the context of the community graces are available that we need but which we cannot obtain on our own.

The First Reading describes what the Church should be, a community of believers united in heart and soul, sharing what they have with others, and helping those in need, while bearing witness to the Risen Christ.

A week later, Jesus returns and Thomas is with them – and now he sees and believes. Thomas represents all of us who may be weak in faith or struggling with it. When we come to Mass Christ comes in and stands amongst us; he is truly present in the Eucharist. We cannot see Him physically there, as Thomas did, but by faith we know He is present. Jesus' words to Thomas refer to us, 'You believe because you can see me; happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

Today let us make an act of faith, recognising the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We can say, 'Lord, I believe; help my unbelief.'

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 13th April at 7.30pm in the Church.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required.

THANK YOU: We extend our thanks to all those who helped to make the Holy Week and Easter Celebrations dignified and prayerful. It was a great team effort, and we are grateful to the altar servers, sacristans, flower arrangers, musicians and choir, RCIA team, cleaners, decorators, readers, greeters and ushers, extraordinary ministers, and the Bethel prayer group for organizing the chairs. We are very blessed to be supported by such dedicated parishioners. Thank you all.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: This Sunday is Divine Mercy Sunday, and there will be a special programme of events in the afternoon, commencing at 1.30pm with the rosary and adoration, with confessions available. Followed by Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, Mass at 4.00pm, followed by refreshments. For more information contact Louella on 07545 625 109.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7am and 9.15am daily Masses resume this week.

FIRST COMMUNION: The next session of the First Communion programme will be a practice session on Saturday 18th April at 10am in the Church. Parents and children should all attend this session.

CONFIRMATION: The next Confirmation session will take place next Sunday 19th April at 4pm in the Parish Hall.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will resume on Monday April 13th.

PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY: Our 5th Annual Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place on Sunday 17th May at 2pm, beginning at the Upper Site of OLSG School, followed by the walk along Shernhall Street to the Church, where the rosary will be prayed in a number of languages. Save the date and come along! More information in coming weeks.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: Fr Patrick will be leading a coach from the Parish on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham (Norfolk) on Saturday 23rd May. The coach will depart at 7.45am. 48 seats are available; each seat is £15. Please bring a packed lunch. Please sign up on the pink sheet on the Church noticeboard.

ROTAS: The new rotas for Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are now available in the Church porch.

POETRY & MUSIC EVENING: There will be an evening of poetry and music involving a number of parishioners, including Aisling Fahey, Young Poet Laureate for London which will take place on Saturday 16th May, 7.30pm – 8.30pm. The event is free to attend, but there will be a retiring collection for the HCPT.

HEALING MASS at Abbotswick House of Prayer, Brentwood will be celebrated by Fr Eamonn Power at 2.30pm on Wednesday 22nd April. Call 01277 373 959 for more info.

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.

PRIEST SECRETARY REQUIRED IN BASILDON: 9am – 1pm, Monday – Friday, start late April; salary £10,400. A friendly, caring and warm person with proven computer, communication and administration skills, discretion and the ability to manage busy diaries very effectively is sought. Job description and full application details are on the parish website www.basildoncatholics.org. To discuss the role please phone Fr Dominic on 01268 281 732 after 12th April. Closing date Monday 20th April.

YOUTH MINISTRY VACANCY: Assistant Manager of Walsingham House (WH) required from September. WH is the Youth Retreat Centre for our Diocese. This role involves the delivery of evangelistic day and residential retreat programmes for young people age 11-18. Salary £11,000 - £14,000 (depending on prior experience) plus live-in accommodation incl. utility bills. Please contact the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service Director, Kevin Ferros, for further details: info@bcys.net or 01277 265286. Closing date 20th April. Start date mid August.

PIANO & ORGAN RECITAL FOR PERSECUTED CHRISTIANS: There will be a piano and organ recital at Holy Trinity Church, 185 Hermon Hill, South Woodford on Easter Saturday, 4th April at 7.15pm in aid of the UK-registered charity 'Iraqi Christians in need'.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of :

Edward Nelson, whose funeral will take place at Enfield Cemetery on Tuesday 14th April at 3.00pm

Margaret Messenger, whose Requiem Mass will take place in the Chapel of St Anne's Care Home (77 Manor Road, N16 5BL) on Friday 17th April at 1.15pm, followed by burial at St Patrick's Cemetery, Leytonstone, at 3pm. Margaret was a well-known parishioner here for many years; anyone seeking to contact the family can phone her daughter Sheila Dore on 0208 531 9836.

May they rest in peace.

ROTAS – APRIL:

Hospital	5/4 A	12/4 B	19/4 D	26/4 A
Counting	5/4 B	12/4 F	19/4 D	26/4 C
Christian Kitchen	4/4 Nor1	11/4 G	18/4 Nor2	25/4 A

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

6.00pm	Bustamante Arrieta family (Ints)
Sun 12 th Apr	Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) (B)
8.30am	Tessie Kalpee (Ints)
10.00am	Cliff De Souza (Ints)
12.00pm	Andrea Okoloekwe (Ints)
6:30pm	<i>[Ordinariate Mass]</i>
Mon 13 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Protection of the Unborn Child
9.15am	Peace throughout the world
Tue 14 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Maria Theresa Kelly (Ints)
9.15am	Ramadhin Ramsey (RIP)
Wed 15 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Private Intention
9.15am	Sr Perpetua (Ints)
Thu 16 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Brendan Gillespie (RIP)
9.15am	Rita Stafford (Ints)
Fri 17 th Apr	Feria
7.00am	Hyacinth Umezuruike (RIP)
9.15am	Gerald Fitzgerald (RIP)
Sat 18 th Apr	Feria
10.00am	Andrea Okoloekwe (Ints)
6.00pm	Jaime Bustamente (RIP)
Sun 19 th Apr	Third Sunday of Easter (B)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Joan Welch (Ints)
12.00pm	Brian Louis Duggan (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, 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, Ann Hutton, Comfort Kwawu.

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)