

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
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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

26th June 2016

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

The big story of this week is the referendum result, and what it will mean for the future of the UK and of Europe. There were contrasting feelings; some were very excited, and some very disappointed, but for all, there is a great deal of uncertainty. The whole issue of Britain's EU membership raised the question of our identity; who are we and how do we relate to others? What are the principles that govern our personal conduct? What is freedom, and how is it rightly exercised?

Even if we are uncertain, we must not despair. There is one stabilising influence in our lives that nothing can shake – and that is our faith in Christ. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever. As He says in St John's Gospel, 'Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.' Systems of government come and go; history shows us that, but the Lord endures. If He is at the centre of our lives, His words will guide and direct our actions, and our society will have a firm foundation.

St Paul in today's second reading speaks about the right use of freedom. We have free will, the ability to make choices, but freedom does not mean the liberty to choose whatever pleases me; rather true freedom conforms to the good, and is thus not self-indulgent. We are to love our neighbour as ourselves and to serve one another in acts of love; that is the basis of community cohesion.

Europe's history is Christian, and when these principles are put aside, there is a sense of loss. But this can be a time of renewal. We need to discover again the joy of following Christ, of giving up our own ambitions, desires and attachments to follow him.

The first reading and the Gospel speak about this. In the first reading, Elijah chooses Elisha to be his successor. Initially Elisha is unwilling to follow, but he then responds generously, slaughtering his oxen and burning his plough as a sign of abandoning his old way of life as a farmer to follow the prophet. In the Gospel, Jesus meets a man who says he will follow Him wherever He goes, but Jesus warns him that it won't be a life of easy comfort; 'foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.' The idea of making sacrifices is not very popular today; we live for comfort and convenience. But Jesus' call is to renounce self, to 'take up one's cross' and follow Him, as we heard in last week's Gospel.

All of us who follow Christ need to look to Him now more than ever, at this decisive moment in our history. We can draw strength from the words of the psalm today, 'I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel; I will keep the Lord ever in my sight, since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. He will show us the path of life.'

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course is scheduled for Monday 27th June at 7.30pm in the Church. Godparents are also very much encouraged to attend.

MARRIAGES: By appointment. Six months notice is required. Please speak to one of the priests for more information.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION): This Wednesday 29th June is the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, and is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will not be an evening vigil Mass on the 28th. Masses on the day itself will be at 7am, 9.15am and 7.30pm.

AFFECTED BY ABORTION? Next weekend, 2nd/3rd July, Bernadette Goulding from a charity called *Rachel's Vineyard* will be visiting the parish. The major work of *Rachel's Vineyard* is running weekend sessions throughout the UK and internationally, to provide an opportunity for anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion to find healing. Their events offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can deal with painful post-abortive emotions. Those attending can be helped to experience God's love and compassion, reconciliation, forgiveness and peace.

On the 2nd/3rd July, Bernadette, who has personal experience of this issue, and has personally led over 170 retreats in countries including the UK, Scotland, Malta, Faroe Islands, Korea, Lebanon, South Africa and Croatia, will speak briefly at the end of all the Masses, and on the afternoon of the 3rd, will give a short talk followed by time for Q&A. She will also be available during the course of the weekend to meet privately with anyone wishing to see her. More details will be available in due course, but we encourage as many people as possible to come along, whether directly affected or not; it is an important issue which affects many people, and in this Year of Mercy we are reminded that forgiveness and healing is possible by the grace of God. Anyone is also very welcome to approach one of the priests, at any time, in complete confidence, if you have any questions or worries.

UPCOMING PARISH MISSION: As announced last week, there will be a Parish/School Mission from the 11th – 15th July 2016. The mission will be a week of talks and prayer aimed to renew us in faith and to reflect particularly on the gift of God's mercy, during the current Year of Mercy. Keep an eye on the newsletter for more details about the mission in coming weeks. Please continue to pray the Mission Prayer in your homes.

FR KEVIN DEPARTS: Fr Kevin Lenehan, who has been staying in the parish over the past three weeks, will be returning to Australia on Monday. We thank him for his ministry while here and wish him a safe journey home.

DISABLED ACCESS RAMP: Car owners are kindly asked not to park immediately in front of the disabled access ramp to the church. A disabled parishioner has recently been unable to attend Mass due to inconsiderate parking. The area in front of the church should only be used for dropping off people and not for general parking. Thank you.

GARDENERS WANTED: We have a lovely parish garden at the back of the presbytery, which is often used for parish events. Unfortunately, it is getting a little overgrown and needs some attention. If anyone has some time to spare and has some gardening experience, please speak to Fr Maurice.

RUBY JUBILEE THANK YOU: The Marian Missionary Sisters of the poor wish to express their heartfelt gratitude to all our parishioners for their support to their community and to all those who attended the recent Ruby Jubilee celebration of the religious profession of Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi. They continue to pray that God bless and reward you all abundantly.

HOLY FAMILY SUMMER FAIR: Saturday 2nd July 2016, 12:00noon-4:00pm. 1 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow, London E17 3EA. The Friends of Holy Family Catholic School and Sixth Form are holding an afternoon of family fun. Come and join us for games, food stalls, bouncy castle, home made cakes & refreshments, football shootouts, driving school and Holy Family's Got Talent! A limited amount of outdoor selling tables will be available at £ 15.00 (£10.00 if paid before the event), to book a table email t.friends@holymfamily.waltham.sch.uk for a booking form or phone the school on 0208 520 0482. Entrance fee: 50p Adults, 20p children/concessions.

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF PALLIATIVE CARE IN THE YEAR OF MERCY

conference 30-31 July 2016 at St Mary's University Twickenham. The Catholic Medical Association is organizing this conference for all doctors, nurses, healthcare workers and chaplains and others interested in care of the dying. With a line-up of international speakers, this conference is for all who want to know more about good palliative care. Visit www.cmq.org.uk to book your place. Conference fee is £150 including lunch and dinner in the evening.

RCIA (BECOMING A CATHOLIC): The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) group meets on Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Church meeting room. This group is for people interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and exploring the possibility of entering the Church – or for adults who may have been baptised but never received First Communion or Confirmation. The group meets every Thursday at 8pm in the Church meeting room.

OLSG SCHOOL: NURSERY VACANCIES FOR SEPTEMBER 2016: OLSG Nursery is now open to children who will be three between 01.09.2013 – 31.03.2014. We can offer:

- part time places (15 hours per week free).
- full time places (cost involved - for example £90.00 per calendar month for one extra session per week)

For further information or to get an application pack either download the form from our website www.olsgweb.org or call into the school office. Alternatively you can telephone the school office on 020 8520 8500 option lower site for further information

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new sets of offertory envelopes are now available. **Please collect yours if you are registered for the scheme.** Registering to donate to the parish via the envelopes allows the parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 given, at no extra cost to the giver. This makes your generous donations go further, and supports the upkeep of the Church and its buildings, and our schools. If you would like to register for the Gift Aid scheme, or have any questions about it, please speak to Fr Maurice.

SICK CALLS TO HOSPITAL: In light of strict data protection rules it is important that on entering hospital you tell the nurses that your details or those of your relatives be passed to the Catholic chaplain, if you wish to be visited. We visit the wards during the week and also provide a 24-hour on-call service in case of emergency.

ROTAS – JUNE

Counting	5/6 D	12/6 B	19/6 C	26/6 B
Christian Kitchen	4/6 Nor	11/6 C	18/6 D	25/6 E
Hospital	5/6 B	12/6 D	19/6 A	26/6 B

The offertory collection last week was £1378.01.

Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Vivencio & Matilde Bañez (Ints)
Sun 26 June	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Doris Jarris (RIP)
10.00am	Fran Polue Reka (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
Mon 27 June	St Cyril of Jerusalem
7.00am	Elizabeth Carroll (RIP)
9.15am	Emiljana & Family (Ints)
Tue 28 June	St Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr
7.00am	Elizabeth Carroll (RIP)
9.15am	Liz Long (RIP)
Wed 29 June	Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles (Holy Day of Obligation)
7.00am	Elizabeth Carroll (RIP)
9.15am	Michael Deegan (RIP)
7.30pm	Holy Souls
Thu 30 June	Feria
7.00am	Adeline Rosario (RIP)
9.15am	Elizabeth Carroll (RIP)
Fri 1 July	Feria
7.00am	Elizabeth Carroll (RIP)
9.15am	Mr Dhoopal & Dhaljit Dhoopal (Ints)
Sat 2 July	Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
10.00am	Mike Deegan (RIP)
6.00pm	Anthony Mulvey (RIP)
Sun 3 July	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Lazaro & Carmen De Souza (RIP)
10.00am	Nancy Thompson (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish

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, 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, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave, Anthony O'Boyle, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Bill Walsh, Bridget Lyons, Kristina Klimasauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Archie, George & Issac, Luis & Lukas, Anne Hutton, Comfort Kwawu, Judith Hilton, Gloria and Tracy Joseph, Pdraig Hester, Regina Jose, Tony Keane

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. During these times the priest is in the Reconciliation Room, inside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, to the left. Confessions are also available at other times on request; please call at the house.
