

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Patrick Daly
Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain);
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

5th June 2016

Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Today's readings speak of the power of God to transform desperate situations. In the first reading, a widow with whom Elijah is staying is on the verge of losing her son; her only means of support. She blames Elijah, and Elijah pleads to God in desperation for her and for her son. Precisely at this desperate moment, the Lord hears Elijah's prayer and the child revives.

Sometimes, it is only when we experience pain and difficulty that we cry out to God and seek his help. Pain and suffering can shake us out of our complacency; it is when we are at the depths, and brought low, that we most readily cry out for assistance. The author C.S. Lewis wrote that 'God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences but shouts in our pains.' God is there in good times and bad, and we should not forget that; but often we do, and so as Lewis continues, '[Pain] is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.'

We see this in the Gospel, which is similar to the first reading. In the Gospel, Jesus brings back to life the son of another desperate widow, and this child has already died. Jesus takes pity on her in her distress and raises the man to life. Once again a situation of despair is transformed into hope, and it is only through the initial misery that a miracle can be worked which fills the onlookers with awe and praise of God – thus restoring their faith. They recognise that in Jesus, 'God has visited his people' – but they don't leave it at that. They don't keep this news to themselves; they are compelled to share it, and so this opinion of Jesus 'spread throughout Judea and all over the countryside.'

What about us? We believe in Christ, and we encounter him when we pray and especially in the Sacraments. But even if we receive the Sacraments, do we really believe? Are we really convinced that he alone has the power to transform dark and desperate situations? Are we convinced that in him lies the fulfilment of our deepest human needs? St Paul in the second reading is certainly convinced; he abandons his life as a persecutor of the Church, recognising the Gospel as no ordinary 'human message'. Our Catholic faith is not one philosophy among many, it is the key to human happiness because its founder and centre is Jesus Christ, who came that we may have life, and have it to the full. **Fr Maurice**

This weekend we welcome our Diocesan Bishop Alan Williams to our parish, as he makes a pastoral visitation. He will be celebrating the Mass of Confirmation at 3pm this Sunday and confirming 33 young people. The Confirmation candidates have been preparing for this Sacrament since last October through a number of classes and a retreat. We pray for God's blessings on them and their families on this important day.

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.

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. **At today's 12pm Mass**, a number of people from the mission team will be sent by Bishop Alan to begin visiting all the houses in the parish, knocking on doors, speaking to people, proposing Jesus Christ to them and inviting them to the Church. Jesus' mission was to gather all humanity in; that is why he founded the Church. We should not be inward looking, but should be seeking to share the treasure of faith that we have. It is not only a task for priests or select professionals, but for all of us! The power to bring souls to Christ does not come from ourselves; on our own we can do nothing; but trusting in God and asking the help of the Holy Spirit, we all have a part to play and can do it, with joy! May the light of Christ shine in our hearts and on our faces, so that many will come to believe through us.

FR KEVIN ARRIVES: Fr Kevin Lenehan, a priest of the diocese of Ballarat, Australia, will be visiting the parish, arriving on Tuesday 7th June and staying for much of the month. He will be assisting with Masses and pastoral work while he is with us. We warmly welcome him back.

RUBY JUBILEE: Next Saturday 11th July, Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi, Superior of the Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor will be celebrating the 40th anniversary of her religious profession (Ruby Jubilee). There will be a Mass for Mother Maria in the Church at 12 noon, celebrated by Bishop Alan, to which all parishioners are welcome.

ST PATRICK'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY APPEAL: Next weekend, Fr John Garry, a priest of St Patrick's Missionary Society will be coming to the parish and speaking at all Masses about the work of the society. Fr John has worked in Kenya and the Sudan. A second collection will be taken to support the work of the society. Please support this cause generously.

AFFECTED BY ABORTION? On the weekend of 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.

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

BICYCLE DONATION: Have you an old bicycle in the shed that you could donate to a refugee or destitute asylum seeker? The Jesuit Hurtado Centre in Wapping arranges repair and distribution of bicycles to refugees and asylum seekers in the London area. If you have a bike, any size or condition, that you are willing to donate to this bike project, please contact Arthur Catterall on 0208 508 9834; he can collect it from you and deliver it to the centre.

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	
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 for last week was £1245.75. Many thanks for your generosity.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate Max Cooper and Nicola Thorogood who were married here last weekend. We wish them all of God's blessings for their future happiness and wellbeing.

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

6.00pm	Evelyn Makowicz (Ints)
Sun 5 June	Tenth Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	Benito Fiordaracio (RIP)
10.00am	Hannah McCarthy
12.00pm	Parish community
Mon 6 June	Feria
7.00am	Catherine Nedeler, John and John (RIP)
9.15am	Aborted children (RIP) & Special Intentions
Tue 7 June	Feria
7.00am	Sr Josephine (Ints)
9.15am	Moses, Adore, Stella, Ekene & Families (Ints)
Wed 8 June	Feria
7.00am	Bookhan & Pulwah Kalpee (RIP)
9.15am	Jane Frances & Family & Friends (Ints)
Thu 9 June	Feria
7.00am	Elisha Abraham (Ints)
9.15am	Holy Souls & Jane Frances (Ints)
Fri 10 June	Feria
7.00am	Vivencio & Matilde Banez (Ints)
9.15am	Jane Frances (Ints)
Sat 11 June	St Barnabas, Apostle
10.00am	Beloved Family of Alma Wilcox (RIP)
12.00pm	Mother Maria Chioma Emeagi (Ints) – Ruby Jubilee
6.00pm	Sr Rozalina Ples (RIP)
Sun 12 June	Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time (C)
8.30am	George Bartolo (RIP)
10.00am	Ann Hazley (Ints)
12.00pm	Parish (Ints)

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, Mary and 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.
