

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

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Fr Maurice Gordon; Fr Nixon Gomes
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 February 2017

Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time (A)

Last week, Jesus gave us the Beatitudes, the prescription for happiness. Today He develops that teaching, telling us that by living each one of the Beatitudes out, we bring light into a world that is very dark and confused. 'You are the light of the world', he says. The challenge for us today is to ask ourselves, 'how can I be a light to other people?'

The first reading from the prophet Isaiah gives many practical examples, such as 'doing away with the clenched fist, the wicked word', and instead 'giving your bread to the hungry and relief to the oppressed.' Doing these things makes us light in the darkness.

The psalm is very similar; it tells us that the man who lives in the light is 'generous, merciful and just, he takes pity and lends, and conducts his affairs with honour.' In other words, it's the doing that is important. Jesus cautions us not to hide away the light, but to confidently be the light, in whatever situation we are in. Each one of you is the best person to shed light on those you meet. What we say and do allows the light of Jesus to shine, or hides it away.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 20th February 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.

SUMMER 2017 PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: BOOKING INFORMATION: For anyone wishing to join the Parish Lourdes pilgrimage (Saturday 22nd – Friday 28th July 2017), we have simplified the application process. Please collect an application form from the presbytery, and return it with a deposit of £150 per place as soon as possible, but no later than **Friday 17th March**. Deposits should be paid by cheque, made payable to 'Our Lady & St George's Catholic Church'. If you have already submitted an application form, a place will be held for you, but please speak to Fr Maurice as soon as possible, as there is an updated form that needs to be completed. Please note there are only 49 places in total and they will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

FR THOMAS BYLES – A HERO OF THE TITANIC: Come to St George's Hall this **Sunday 5th February, 3-5pm** to learn the true story of Fr Thomas Byles, a priest of the Brentwood Diocese, and his heroic efforts on the night of April 15, 1912, when the Titanic sank. Tea and coffee will be available, with a 1hr DVD screening of a film, plus time for social and discussion. Come along and be inspired by Fr Thomas' concern for others.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: There will be a meeting of the finance committee on Monday 13th March at 8pm in the presbytery. All members are requested to attend.

DIOCESAN CENTENERY: SPECIAL DAY OF EXPOSITION AND ADORATION NEXT SATURDAY: There will be Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament next Saturday 11th February, from 10.30am-5.30pm in the Church. As this is the Centenary year of the foundation of the Diocese, the Bishop has encouraged us all to mark the opening with prayer, and every parish in the Diocese is holding a similar day of prayer on the 11th with the Blessed Sacrament. There is a full programme of activities, including talks and exhibitions taking place over the coming year; details will be on the noticeboard in due course, but the spiritual fruits and benefits that our diocese needs will flow from prayer – so I encourage everyone to come along, and spend some time with the Lord on the 11th.

CONFIRMATION 2017: The next session for the Confirmation programme is next Sunday, 12th February, starting at 4pm sharp in the parish hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2016/17: The next session for the First Communion Programme will be on Saturday 11th March with children in the parish hall and parents in the school as usual. Kindly be present by 9.45am.

FIRST COMMUNION CARDS: A good range of First Communion greeting cards are now available on sale in the repository.

OLSG SCHOOL NURSERY: For Children born between 01.09.2013 and 31.08.2014. Parents wishing to apply for a nursery place for September 2017 can download the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) from the school website www.olsgweb.org or collect it from the Lower Site Office (140 Shernhall St, E17 9HU). There will be a choice of full-time or part-time places, term time only. Part time hours are 1) Mornings 8.45am – 11.45am; 2) Afternoons 12.15pm – 3.15pm; 3) Fulltime 8.45am – 3.15pm, part funded. Information packs are available from the Lower Site school office. If you have any queries, please phone Mrs. Moloney on 0208 520 8500.

CAFOD SPEAKER: On Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30pm in the Church hall, Sr Yvonne Mwalula Mwila will be coming to speak about 'Households in Distress', her project

in Zambia to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on affected families, by providing quality care and support and livelihood initiatives. Her talk will be followed by a reflection on the refugee crisis and prayer with the Lampedusa cross. This event at St George's is also open to parishioners in the neighboring dioceses of Westminster and Southwark, and is part of a tour Sr Yvonne is making of England and Wales to promote her work, which is supported by CAFOD.

HCPT UPCOMING EVENTS: On Saturday 18th March there will be an HCPT St Patrick's Gala family night – more details soon.

CHILDCARE VOLUNTEERS AND FUNDRAISING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Marian Missionary Sisters of the Poor are looking for:

- Anyone with love for children to support their childcare services at the centre for 1 hr. in the morning Breakfast club and 1 -3 hours after school for After School Club Monday to Friday during term time.
- Anyone with fundraising skills to join their **Volunteer Fundraising Committee** to support the Marian Mission Disadvantaged Children Centre. If you can help, contact Mother Maria Chioma on **07940143545/ 02085187499**

SATs TUTORING: Icilda Stewart is running English Classes for Year 5 & 6 children in the parish hall, focussed on preparation for SATs Assessments in May 2017 and 2018. Please note that Maths Classes will also be offered shortly. To find out more please call Icilda on 07949 528 873.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: Registering to donate to the parish via the offertory 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 call Armie on 07962 501 555.

RCIA (BECOMING A CATHOLIC): The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) 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. Sessions take place on **Thursday evenings at 8pm in the Church meeting room**. If you would like more information about the RCIA process please speak to one of the priests or contact Bernadette Wilson on 07804 611 914.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

Mary Kelly, whose Requiem Mass will take place in the Church on Thursday 9th February at 12 noon.

May she rest in peace

ROTAS – FEBRUARY

Counting	5/2 D	12/2 E	19/2 F	26/2 D
Christian Kitchen	4/2 Nor	11/2 C	18/2 D	25/2 E
Hospital	5/2 A	12/2 B	19/2 D	26/2 A

The offertory collection last week was £1588.41

Thank you very much for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Tessie & Krishna Kalpee (Ints)
Sun 5 Feb	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
8.30am	Len & Babs Finney (Ints)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Theresa Kalpee (Ints)
Mon 6 Feb	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs
7.00am	Selma Ada Nowling (RIP)
9.15am	Peter McGarry (RIP)
Tue 7 Feb	Feria
7.00am	Fletcher family (RIP)
9.15am	Very Rev. Canon P. Prendergast (RIP)
Wed 8 Feb	Feria (Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking)
7.00am	Sandra & Derek Lobo (Ints)
9.15am	The family of Phil Mitchell
Thu 9 Feb	Feria
7.00am	Fr Charlie Flaherty
9.15am	Mair Cullen (RIP)
Fri 10 Feb	St Scholastica, Virgin
7.00am	Somsri-Thonga Eng (RIP)
9.15am	Danilo Fusco (Ints)
Sat 11 Feb	Our Lady of Lourdes, Principal Patron of the Diocese (Diocesan Feast)
10.00am	Swan Kwok (Ints)
6.00pm	Bernard Carey (RIP)
Sun 12 Feb	Sixth Sunday of the Year (A)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Sean McKenna (RIP)
12.00pm	Jacqueline Keavey (RIP)

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, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio, Thampirajah Baskaran.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.45am

Weekdays after morning Mass

Sat. 10.30am – 11.30am. 5.00pm – 5.45pm. 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.

Bible Study:

Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room
