

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

16 April 2017

Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)

Today we join with the Church throughout the world in celebrating Easter Sunday. Christ is risen from the dead. Most of us can imagine the suffering and death of Jesus on the cross, but picturing the resurrection is more difficult. What does resurrection mean for Jesus, and what does it mean for us?

At death, the body is separated from the soul – and the soul lives on. On the first Easter morning, Christ overcame the power of physical death. His body was transformed in glory, and His soul dwelt within it again. He was truly raised from the dead. It is sometimes claimed by sceptics that the resurrection of Jesus was a myth. But the Gospel writers testify to its truth, giving names of the places where the events occurred, and naming the people who witnessed them. Many people saw Jesus after His resurrection, and almost all of the first apostles and their followers went to their deaths proclaiming that He had died and risen.

In today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles, we see how the resurrection transformed the apostles. Where before they were cowardly, confused and deserted Jesus, now they are courageous and not afraid to tell everyone what has happened to them. Peter preaches the risen Christ, not as a vague concept, but as someone they have met, spoken with and eaten with. Peter says, 'To Him all the prophets bear witness' – in other words, Jesus is the long-awaited saviour, and 'everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His name', that is, Jesus redeems the sin of Adam and all his descendants, including us. Jesus had commanded Peter and all the apostles to proclaim Him to the world, to teach and to baptise. This is what the Church exists for, to gather all people to Christ.

Our baptism also contains the mystery of death and resurrection. When we were baptised, we died to sin and rose to new life in Christ. Baptism changes us, giving us the power to be children of God. Often we do not live as children of God, but as slaves to addiction and sin. But the resurrection of Our Lord reminds us of our dignity and calls us to much more. We are called to live as children of God, to trust Him, to honour and obey Him and to live lives pleasing to Him.

Christ's resurrection means everything to us. He has transformed death into life, transformed despair into hope, transformed sorrow into joy. Transformation in Christ is not just one event, but is the work of a lifetime. We can only become what Christ calls us to be if we remain close to Him, especially through the Sacraments, which He gave the Church. We cannot do it on our own.

Today we renew our baptismal promises. Once again we draw on the power of the Risen Christ to renew us and send us out again. We are all members of His Body, the Church, and like the apostles, we have a job to do – to make Him known. In this age of scepticism, the world needs to know that this life is not all there is; that Christ's resurrection promises much more.

Easter is a source of joy, because Christ has broken the chains of sin and death forever. Let us embrace this new life.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 24th April at **7.30pm** in the Church.

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

HAPPY EASTER: We wish all our parishioners a very happy and blessed Easter. We welcome all those visiting family and friends, or who are back from university, and all those who are coming back to the Church. We wish you the peace and the joy of the Risen Lord this Easter.

CONGRATULATIONS: We congratulate all those who received the Sacraments of initiation at the Easter vigil: Suzette, Gayani, Lakna and Lisa, Carinna, Ruth, Jorge, Stephen and Alex. We wish them all of God's blessings and welcome them into our community.

MASSES THIS WEEK: Please note that there will only be one Mass each day during the coming week, at 10.00am. The 7.00am and 9.15am Masses resume on Monday 24th April.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA AND FEAST: The Divine Mercy Novena began on Good Friday, and continues every evening at 7.00pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel until next Saturday 22nd. Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated on the 23rd April, beginning at 1.30pm with adoration, rosary, recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet and opportunity for confession, and concluding with Mass at 4pm. Please see poster in foyer for details.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: There will be no Eucharistic Adoration from 10th April until 23rd April. Adoration will resume on 24th April.

CONFIRMATION 2017: The next session for the Confirmation programme will take place on Sunday 30th April at 4pm in the parish hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: There will be 78 children receiving First Holy Communion at Masses on the 29th/30th April and the 6th/7th May. Parents are reminded to check their child's allocated slot, and to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass, and to assemble in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel

PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY – SAVE THE DATE: This year, being the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal, and the 100th anniversary of our diocese, we hope to make our annual procession in honour of Our Lady the best yet, in thanksgiving to God. The procession will take place on Sunday May 21st, starting at 2pm at the Upper Site of Our Lady & St George School, and proceed along Shernhall Street to the Church where the rosary will be prayed in several languages, including Portuguese. Refreshments will follow the procession. Please save the date.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes are now available in the porch – **please collect them if you haven't already**. The small boxes are for standing order donors; the larger boxes are for weekly donors. Please collect your envelopes as soon as possible. If you cannot find your box, or you wish to join the Gift Aid Scheme, please email finance@olsg.co.uk or call Armie on 07962 501 555. The scheme allows the parish to reclaim 25p for every £1 given by UK taxpayers 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 are part of the scheme and your tax situation changes in the future, please let us know.

SUMMER 2017 PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES: Thanks to those who have returned forms and deposits for the Lourdes trip. We will hold a meeting for all attendees

to discuss logistics, schedules and next steps. This will take place on **Friday 21st April** at **7.30pm** in the Parish Hall.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA – 1st-6th SEPTEMBER 2017: Our Holy Father, Pope Francis will be making a pilgrimage to Fatima to celebrate the centenary of the Fatima apparition, in May. If you would like to experience the same unique journey, we have spaces available on our forthcoming pilgrimage in September. Please see Church notice board for details, or www.paxtravel.co.uk or call Stella 0208 527 3879.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS: The annual Mass for Migrants, in honour of St Joseph the Worker, will take place at St Anthony of Padua Church, Forest Gate, E7 9QB on Saturday 20th May, beginning with a banner procession at 10.30am, followed by Mass at 11am.

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

OLSG SCHOOL PLACES: 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. Our primary school also currently has two spaces in reception and four spaces in Year 2. For more information please contact Mrs. Moloney.

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.

ROTAS – APRIL

Counting	2/4 F	9/4 D	16/4 E	23/4 F	30/4 E
Christian Kitchen	1/4 Nor	8/4 B	15/4 C	22/4 D	29/4 E
Hospital	2/4 D	9/4 A	16/4 B	23/4 D	30/4 A

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Ronald Hacker, whose Requiem Mass will take place on 19th April at 12 noon.

Angelina Horeau, whose Requiem Mass will take place on Thursday 20th April at 12pm, followed by burial at Chingford Mount Cemetery.

May they rest in peace.

The offertory collection last week was £1584.12

Thank you very much for your generosity.

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

8.00pm	Celebration of the Easter Vigil Parish (Ints)
Sun 16 Apr	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord (A)
8.30am	Mary Darby (Ints)
10.00am	Hugh Higgins (RIP)
12.00pm	Liam Driver (Ints)
Mon 17 Apr	Monday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Jason & Kristina Coeur-de-Lion (Ints)
Tue 18 Apr	Tuesday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Eilee-Mary Glarvin (RIP)
Wed 19 Apr	Wednesday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Angelina Hoareau (RIP)
Thu 20 Apr	Thursday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Tim, Simone and Anjès Clear (Ints)
Fri 21 Apr	Friday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Delmira Rodrigues (RIP)
Sat 22 Apr	Saturday within the Octave of Easter
10.00am	Shauna & Anthony Tooley (Ints)
6.00pm	Shania Rodrigues (Thanksgiving)
Sun 23 Apr	Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)
8.30am	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Liam Driver (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, 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, Linda Campbell, Brid O'Halloran.

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
