

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

28 May 2017

The Ascension of the Lord (A)

Over the last several weeks our Gospel readings have been about Christ's resurrection and His appearances to the disciples in His risen body. Today's readings speak of Jesus' ascension into heaven. In the creed we profess belief that Christ 'ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.' But what does the ascension mean, and what is its significance for our lives?

Christ came to redeem us. Born in the flesh, he suffered and died and rose again. During his life, and after the resurrection He was forming the disciples and preparing to send them out to the ends of the earth to spread His word; to tell everyone that salvation comes through Him. The ascension completes Christ's earthly pilgrimage, and through His own power, He returns body and soul to the Father in heaven, promising to send His church the Holy Spirit. Christ now sits at the 'right hand' of the Father, which means his glory and power are now fully revealed, where before they were hidden in His earthly life.

So what is the significance of the ascension for us? It is that the human body has been elevated; our frail flesh has been glorified through the work of Christ. When the sin of Adam caused rupture and division, God the Son became man to reunite heaven and earth. In the incarnation He came down, and by the ascension He goes up, opening the way to heaven for each one of us. Where He, our Head has gone, we, the members of His body hope to follow.

If Christ our Head is already glorified in heaven, and we too want to be with Him, our whole outlook on life should change. We should set our hearts on the things of heaven, not on the things of earth. The Gospel tells us that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be too.

Yet heaven is not some distant future prospect; it should begin for us now. Christ reconciled heaven and earth, and so heaven can be perceived in this life where there is forgiveness, care for the poor and weak, and where people are working for peace in difficult situations. Isn't that what we pray for in the *Our Father*, 'thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven'?

Heaven and earth are connected, because Christ promised that He is with us always, until the end of time. He remains especially with us through the Eucharist, which, during these weeks, many of our children are receiving for the first time. At every Mass, heaven and earth are united in praising and glorifying God.

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required.

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

PROCESSION IN HONOUR OF OUR LADY – THANK YOU: Thank you to all those who participated in our Procession in Honour of Our Lady last Sunday. We especially thank those who helped with the logistics, at the school, along the road, and at the Church, those who led us in praying and reflecting on the rosary, the musicians, and all who helped prepare and serve food for our barbeque afterwards. We ask for Our Lady's continual intercession, especially during this month of May.

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY: This Monday 29th May we will have Masses at 7.00am and 9.15am as usual. There will be no Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Bank Holiday Monday; Adoration will resume on Wednesday at the usual times.

FR MAURICE 40TH ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY: This year, Fr Maurice celebrates 40 years of Ordination to the Priesthood. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving on **Friday 16th June at 7.30pm** in the Church, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall and garden. All parishioners are warmly welcome. The organizing committee is arranging a collection for Fr Maurice. If you wish to contribute, please take an envelope from the porch and return it to the Presbytery, or with the Offertory collection next week. For the reception we are seeking donations of finger food – a list of requested items is in the porch, along with details of the quantities we are looking for. If you are able to contribute any food or drink for the parish celebration, please write the details on the board in the porch. Thank you for your support!

CONFIRMATION 2017: The next session is this Sunday at 4pm in the parish hall. There is a practice on Monday 29th May at 6pm in the Church, and a Vigil on Saturday 3rd June at 7pm. Please pray for the young people, who are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 4th June.

OUR LADY STATUE: To celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima (the same one that featured in our Procession last week) is visiting homes of our parishioners from the month of May through to the end of October. If you would like to have the statue in your home for a day during this time, please contact Louella on 07545 625 109.

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL – WORKING GROUP MEETING: There will be a meeting for members of the SOTG Working Group on Wednesday 14th June at 7.30pm to discuss the Preliminary Observations we have received from the Diocese in response to our Parish Questionnaire. A copy of the Preliminary Observations is attached to the SOTG noticeboard and is on our website. As always, anyone who would like to be involved in Bishop Alan's initiative is welcome to attend.

BELOVED DISCIPLES: DVD SERIES FOR OVER 60s: The Parish of Christ the King, Chingford, is inviting Senior Citizens to come along to watch the 'Beloved Disciples' DVD series, which will be shown 10.30am-12 noon on Mondays 12, 19, and 26 June and 3 July. Come and see how much you are loved and cherished by God in a world that doesn't always value the contribution of senior citizens to society.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES: The new offertory envelopes are now available in the porch – **if you haven't already taken yours, please do so.** 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.

DAY PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM: This being the 100th anniversary of our diocese, there will be a Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 22nd July. Our parish will be organising a coach, and a sign-up sheet is now on the noticeboard. **If you signed up but are no longer able to go, please cross off your name as there are many others looking for a space.** The coach will depart the parish at about 8am, and there will be a Mass at 3pm in Walsingham on that day, which will fulfil the Sunday obligation. A cost of £15 per seat for transport expenses will be collected on the day. **Please note that there will be no 6pm Saturday evening Mass on Saturday 22nd July at St George's.**

DIOCESAN CENTENARY LECTURES: On the Wednesdays of June, there will be a series of Centenary Lectures covering the history of our diocese, at Brentwood Cathedral Parish Hall, Ingrave Road, CM15 8AT, beginning at 7.30pm. Details are as follows: Wed 7 June: Fr Stewart Foster – Foundation and Early Years; Wed 14 June: Canon Brian O'Shea – Bishops Beck, Wall and Casey; Wed 21 June: Fr Martin Boland – the Modern Era; Wed 28 June: Dr Paul Docherty – Patron Saints of the Diocese.

UPCOMING SEMINARS AT BRENTWOOD: **Saturday 17th June** 10.30am-12pm, Fr Martin Boland – “The beautiful will save us: beauty in the thought of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI”. **Saturday 24th June**, 10.30-12pm, Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon - ‘God has a dream for each one of us’. **Saturday 15th July**, 10.30am-12pm, Bishop Alan Williams - “Contemplative prayer – is it for me?” All seminars take place in the Conference Hall at Cathedral House, 28 Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM15 8AT.

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.

E17 ART TRAIL 2017: The E17 Art Trail will be taking place this year from June 3rd to June 18th. The Art Trail is a festival of the arts that is held in public and private spaces across Walthamstow. It is intended to showcase local talent and creativity. As part of the celebrations, Our Lady & St George Church is hosting two art exhibitions. The Holy Family school GCSE and A Level students will be displaying the work the week commencing 5th June. On Sunday 11th June from 10am to 6pm a local artist will be putting on a show of her drawings and paintings in the Church hall. All are very welcome to come and visit – see poster in the Church foyer for more information.

RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Claudiu Stefan Lecusanu, who died recently. His funeral will take place on Thursday 1st June at the City of London Crematorium.

May he rest in peace.

ROTAS – MAY

Counting	7/5 B	14/5 F	21/5 B	28/5 B
Christian Kitchen	6/5 Nor	13/5 F	20/5 G	27/5 A
Hospital	7/5 B	14/5 D	21/5 A	28/5 B

The collection last week (20/21 May) was £1426.01; the week before (13/14 May) was £1282.24. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Joel Dias (RIP)
Sun 28 May	The Ascension of the Lord (A)
8.30am	Oscar Santiano
10.00am	Jitesh Maisuria (Ints)
12.00pm	Paul Milevicius
Mon 29 May	Feria
7.00am	Parish
9.15am	Fr Jim Kennedy (50 th Ordination Anniversary)
Tue 30 May	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)
7.00am	Agnelo & Louella Rodrigues (Ints)
9.15am	James Fletcher (Ints)
Wed 31 May	Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St Mary & St Helen (Brentwood Diocesan Feast)
7.00am	David Abraham (Ints)
9.15am	Elizabeth Ramsey (Ints)
Thu 1 June	St Justin, Martyr
7.00am	James Fletcher (Ints)
9.15am	Holy Souls
Fri 2 June	Feria
7.00am	James Fletcher (Ints)
9.15am	Esther Mitchell (Ints)
Sat 3 June	St Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs
10.00am	Special Ints
6.00pm	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
Sun 4 June	Pentecost Sunday (A)
8.30am	Angelina Horeau (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Kalpee & Coeur-de-Lion Family
3.00pm	Confirmation Candidates (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 Klimauskaite, 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, Betty Ramsey.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Mon-Fri: 9.00am. Sat. 9.40am

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.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Monday-Friday 7.30-8.30am; Mondays: 10am-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-4pm; Fridays 9.45-10.45am; Saturdays 10.30-11.30am.

Bible Study:

Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room
