

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY AND ST GEORGE

132 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU

Tel: 020 8520 5877 Fax: 020 8520 4805

E-mail: parishoffice@olsg.co.uk

Website: www.olsg.co.uk

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

30 April 2017

Third Sunday of Easter (A)

At some points in our lives, all of us can relate to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. Things haven't worked out as we thought they would and we are left disappointed and frustrated. This is how those disciples felt; their expectations of Christ were apparently not fulfilled. They wander away downcast following their own path aimlessly. Although they discuss the events of the recent days, they failed to perceive the meaning of it all, and are without any passion. Is the same true for us? Are we enthusiastic for our faith, or do we see it as just a set of cold obligations? Do we perceive what is happening at Mass and engage with it, or is it just a routine?

As they wander along in confusion, Jesus joins them, though they do not recognise Him. The disciples tell their story and articulate their disappointment. Jesus then confronts them and explains the message of the prophets, correcting their deficient understanding. The disciples invite Him to stay with them, because they want to learn more. A good spiritual life will always lead us to want to know more about our faith, to appreciate and understand more the gift that God has given us, so we should take advantage of opportunities to learn more about and deepen our faith.

We do not all need degrees in theology, but should know the basics – the kernel which St Peter proclaims in the First Reading. On the day of Pentecost, Peter declared that Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, was put to death for our sins and raised to life. Through this power He has redeemed us. The sacrifice of the cross becomes present before our very eyes at every Mass.

The disciples at Emmaus recognised Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Can we recognise Our Lord in the Eucharist? The Emmaus story offers us an explanation of the Mass. Firstly, the Word of God is opened and explained to us – we see how it points to Christ, and when we listen attentively to it, it has the power to change us. We move then from Word to Sacrament. On the Altar Christ becomes truly present and we offer ourselves in union with Christ to the Father. All our joys and sorrows we can offer up with Him. We also receive Christ in the Eucharist, which should change us into becoming more like Him in our love and our attitudes.

Once the disciples recognise Jesus, they knew they had to turn around. They had gone off their own way, not understanding the power of the cross to save and redeem, but now they do, and they return to Jerusalem to preach it.

Like those disciples, we may be stopped in our tracks and made to open our hearts to Him again. When we do, He will make clear to us the right direction to go.

Fr Maurice

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

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: This weekend 47 children will be receiving their First Communion. We congratulate them and their parents, and thank their catechists who supported them. Please continue to keep them in your prayers. 31 will receive First Communion next weekend; parents are asked to check their child's confirmed slot and to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of Mass, and to assemble in the Blessed Sacrament in Advance.

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

CONFIRMATION 2017: The next session for the Confirmation programme will take place this Sunday 30th April at 4pm in the parish hall. Next weekend the young people will be going to meet the Bishop in Brentwood; the coach will depart at 12.30pm sharp from outside the Church. Please be on time. Parishioners are asked to keep our confirmation candidates in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament on the 4th June.

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

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 – there are still a number of boxes requiring collection.** 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 and more details will be available soon. There will be a Mass at 3pm in Walsingham on that day, which will fulfil the Sunday obligation. Please note that there will be no 6pm Saturday evening Mass on Saturday 22nd July at St George's.

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.

NATURAL FERTILITY REGULATION HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL STUDY DAY: A study day which provides an understanding of how charting the symptoms of fertility can identify the variants of ovarian activity throughout a woman’s fertile life. Recommended for all healthcare professionals who work with women, student midwives, student nurses and medical students. To register and for further information contact Dr Raheal Gabrasadig (dr.rvgab@gmail.com / 07590 311 998).

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.

INTERNATIONAL CHOIRS CONCERT: As part of the Diocesan Centenary programme of events, there will be an international choirs concert next Saturday 29th April at 5pm at St Antony’s Church, E7 9QA, followed by Mass at 6.30pm.

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: Wednesday 7 June: Fr Stewart Foster – Foundation and Early Years; Wednesday 14 June: Canon Brian O’Shea – Bishops Beck, Wall and Casey; Wednesday 21 June: Fr Martin Boland – the Modern Era; Wednesday 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.

BRENTWOOD DIOCESAN CENTENARY CELEBRATION MASS: On Sunday 18th June at 11.30am at Brentwood Cathedral (Ingrave Road CM15 8AT) there will be a Solemn Choral Mass celebrated Bishop Alan, at which will be premiered the Missa Brevis composed by Diana Burrell, specially commissioned by the Brentwood Cathedral Choir for the Diocesan Centenary.

SPIRIT IN THE CITY FESTIVAL: You are warmly invited to Spirit in the City, the annual evangelization festival in the West End of London. From 9-10 June, the festival will feature times of prayer, teaching, celebration and outreach. It aims to bring Catholics together and reach out to the general public at the same time. For more information visit www.spiritinthecity.org.

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

The offertory collection for last week was £1799.82. Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Eleanor Fletcher (RIP)
Sun 30 Apr	Third Sunday of Easter (A)
8.30am	Delmira Rodrigues (RIP)
10.00am	John Joseph Cullen (RIP)
12.00pm	Parish
Mon 1 May	Feria (Day of Prayer for Human Work)
7.00am	Parish
9.15am	Jason Coeur-De-Lion (Thanksgiving)
Tue 2 May	St Athanasius, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
7.00am	Babs & Len Finney (Ints)
9.15am	Angelina Hoareau (RIP)
Wed 3 May	Ss Philip and James, Apostles
7.00am	Fr Martin Debale (RIP)
9.15am	Eva Santiano (Intrs)
Thu 4 May	The English Martyrs (National Feast)
7.00am	Tony Keane (RIP)
9.15am	Ron Hacker (RIP)
Fri 5 May	Feria
7.00am	James Fletcher (Ints)
9.15am	Florendo Viado (Anniversary, RIP)
Sat 6 May	St John Payne, Priest, Martyr
10.00am	Betty Ramsey (Ints)
6.00pm	Romeo Rodrigues (RIP)
Sun 7 May	Fourth Sunday of Easter (World Day of Prayer for Vocations)
8.30am	Sr Jacinta (RIP)
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Domingo Villaroel (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, Betty Ramsey.

Morning Prayer:

Rosary:

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Bible Study:

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.

Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room
