

# 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

**11 June 2017**

## **The Most Holy Trinity (A)**

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This Sunday is sometimes called the preacher's nightmare, because it is not possible to exhaust the great depths of this reality – that the One God is Three Persons. Not three Gods, not three parts to God, but three distinct persons, all of the same essence, but one and the same God. If this sounds complicated, we should not be too surprised, because we are talking about the nature of God, and this is beyond our capacity to completely understand!

The reality of God's existence as Trinity is not something that the human mind can arrive at by its own efforts. We only know this because God has revealed it. God revealed Himself over time, beginning with the chosen people of Israel, to whom He spoke through the prophets, including Moses in today's First Reading. In time, God revealed Himself more fully through Jesus, who called God His Father and claimed to be one with and equal to the Father. And Jesus also promised to send the Holy Spirit, who will give life to the Church, the new Israel. So there is a progression during history. First God the Father is the transcendent creator, **outside** us; then God becomes man to be **beside** us, and finally the Spirit comes to dwell **inside** us. Over time God moves gradually towards greater intimacy with His people.

Indeed, intimacy is the nature of the Trinity. God Himself is an eternal exchange of love: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and He created us to share in that exchange. We know that we are made in the image of God. To be in the image of God means that we too are called to be in an exchange of love with others. This is most evidently seen in the family, where the love between husband and wife bears fruit in children. St John Paul II said that 'God in his deepest mystery is not a solitude but a family, since he has in Himself Fatherhood, Sonship and the essence of the family, which is love.'

The life of the Trinity is shared love. Having been made in the image of God, we must emulate that. We fall short of the image of God when we become individualistic, and trapped in our own ego. Love is the meaning of our lives, because God is love and we are created in His image. This is why nothing makes us as happy as love, because love is the supreme good. It is inscribed in our design – we were created to love and to receive love, and so we are happy only when we stop trying to be what we were not designed to be. Cats are not happy living like dogs, and saints are not happy living like sinners. To be cut off from the Trinitarian love of God is exactly what sin is.

The God who appears to Moses in the First Reading is the same God Jesus reveals in today's Gospel. He is a God of 'tenderness and compassion', who 'so loved the world that He sent His son to save it.' Knowing that we have this dignity, what other kind of life would we want to lead? And yet our world is so confused today – people literally have no idea why they are here, what life is about. Pope Francis has criticised our 'comfort culture', which seeks after world travel, summer homes and pets rather than the generosity of faithfulness in marriage and accepting children. But when we forget that we are made in the image of God, we forget our real identity.

On this Trinity Sunday, let us allow ourselves to be drawn into the life of the Trinity again. May we come to a deeper appreciation of who we really are, made in the image of God.

**Fr Maurice**

**BAPTISMS:** By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm in the Church. Prospective Godparents are also strongly encouraged to attend.

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

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**FR MAURICE 40<sup>TH</sup> ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY:** This year Fr Maurice is celebrating 40 years of Ordination to the Priesthood. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving this coming **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm** in the Church, followed by a reception in the Parish Hall and garden. All parishioners are warmly welcome – it is a celebration for the whole parish. If you would like to donate some items of **finger food** or **drinks** for the reception, please refer to the board in the porch. On the day, please bring food/drink donations to the Parish Hall between 5-7pm, to enable food to be laid out in advance. Please note that parking space in the Church car park will be **very limited** and ushers will be in place to oversee parking. Parishioners are encouraged to park in local side roads or walk to the Church to avoid congestion.

**FIRST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING MASS:** There will be a Thanksgiving Mass for all First Communion children and their families next Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 10am. Children are asked to wear their First Communion attire. After Mass there will be a group photograph in the parish garden, followed by light refreshments in the parish hall.

**OUR LADY STATUE:** To celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima, a statue of Our Lady of Fatima 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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.

**LOURDES PILGRIMAGE – SUMMER 2017:** Thanks to all who attended the meeting last Saturday in preparation for the Summer 2017 parish pilgrimage to Lourdes. As discussed at the meeting, the outstanding payments must be paid to the parish by **17<sup>th</sup> June**. We will call a final meeting in early July to finalize the programme.

**SPECIAL HOLY HOUR:** In response to Mother Mary's invitation to the children of Fatima, we will have an extra hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 12-1pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel on the 13<sup>th</sup> June. The rosary will be recited, as well as the prayers given to the children at Fatima during the apparitions.

**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](mailto: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 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our diocese, there will be a Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 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 22<sup>nd</sup> July at St George's.**

**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.

**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 17<sup>th</sup> June** 10.30am-12pm, Fr Martin Boland – "The beautiful will save us: beauty in the thought of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI". **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June**, 10.30-12pm, Bishop Emeritus Thomas McMahon - 'God has a dream for each one of us'. **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> 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. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 18<sup>th</sup>. 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 5<sup>th</sup> June. On Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> 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.

**PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA: 1<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017:** There will be a meeting, in the Church meeting room, on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 3pm for all those travelling on the pilgrimage to Fatima. This meeting will finalise travel details and any questions you may have. This will be the only opportunity to book your coach for travelling to the airport. The cost will be £30 return fare and collected (cash only) at the meeting. If you cannot attend this meeting please contact Stella on 0208 527 3879.

### **ROTAS – JUNE**

Counting	4/6 <b>B</b>	11/6 <b>E</b>	18/6 <b>F</b>	26/6 <b>E</b>
Christian Kitchen	3/6 <b>Nor</b>	10/6 <b>B</b>	17/6 <b>C</b>	24/6 <b>D</b>
Hospital	4/6 <b>D</b>	11/6 <b>A</b>	18/6 <b>B</b>	25/6 <b>D</b>

The collection last week was £1383.61 Thank you for your generosity.

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

6.00pm	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
Sun 11 June	<b>The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)</b>
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Mr & Mrs Courtney (Ints)
12.00pm	Adelino Vaz (Ints)
Mon 12 June	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Kevin O'Reilly (RIP)
9.15am	Fr Maurice Gordon (Ints)
Tue 13 June	<b>St Anthony of Padua (Priest, Doctor of the Church)</b>
7.00am	Jason & Kristina Coeur-de-Lion (Ints)
9.15am	Patrick O'Sullivan (RIP)
Wed 14 June	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Patrick O'Sullivan (RIP)
9.15am	Elisha Abraham (Ints)
Thu 15 June	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Betty Ramsey (Ints)
9.15am	Special Ints
Fri 16 June	<b>Feria</b>
7.00am	Fr Maurice Gordon (Ints)
9.15am	Young people doing exams
7.30pm	Fr Maurice Gordon (Ints)
Sat 17 June	<b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>
10.00am	Tim Campbell (RIP)
6.00pm	Deceased members of the Dias family
Sun 18 June	<b>The Body &amp; Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) (A)</b>
8.30am	Members of St George's Blessed Sacrament Confraternity
10.00am	Parish
12.00pm	Krishna Kalpee (Ints) & Fr Maurice Gordon (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):**

**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

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