

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

4 June 2017 **Pentecost Sunday (A)**

The readings of today's Mass focus our attention on the Holy Spirit. In the Gospel, Jesus breathes on his disciples and says 'receive the Holy Spirit', giving them the power to forgive sins. The first reading describes the events of the first Pentecost, when there was a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. They were filled with power, and were totally transformed from being fearful to becoming courageous. Pentecost is described as the birthday of the Church, because it was the day when the Church began its mission of preaching the Gospel to all nations. This is represented by the many nations and languages described in the first reading – a sign of the Church's universality. Over the centuries the Church has grown, and it is the power of the Holy Spirit which gives it life, which sustains it in persecution, works through its saints, and protects its teaching.

The Holy Spirit is powerful. Look at Peter, how confused and weak he was in the Gospels; yet in the Acts of the Apostles he is changed – he is a new man, a real rock for the first time. His first sermon after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost converts 3000 people.

The same Spirit that came upon Peter and Apostles at Pentecost is given to each one of us in Baptism and Confirmation. The Holy Spirit gives each of us the strength and power to live, spread and defend the faith by word and deed. How active is the Holy Spirit in your life, and in mine?

If we have been baptised and confirmed, we should be living a life full of the Holy Spirit. But we have to be plugged in to this power and switched on. Just like a kettle will not boil or a mobile will not charge unless plugged in and switched on, we will not have the power of God running through us unless we are connected to it. We stay connected through prayer and through the Sacraments – especially the Mass. The Holy Spirit gives us great power, not the kind of power that dominates or controls other people, but the power to determine what is good and right – to make good choices, to think, 'what would Christ want me to do in this situation?' – and have the courage to do it.

We will know whether we are living in the power of the Holy Spirit by the fruits borne in our lives. If we exhibit love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, chastity and self-control, that is evidence that the Spirit is at work in us. However, if our words and actions are causing division because of a lack of charity and truth, the evil one is at work.

The words of today's sequence are helpful, as we pray for a new outpouring of God's Spirit on us, 'heal our wounds, our strength renew. On our dryness, pour thy dew. Wash the stains of guilt away. Bend the stubborn heart and will, melt the frozen, warm the chill. Guide the steps that go astray.'

On this Pentecost day, we pray 'Come, Holy Spirit, fall afresh on us.'

Fr Maurice

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Prior attendance to Baptism Course required. The next course will take place on Monday 12th 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.

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, which will be taken up this Sunday. **For the reception we are still seeking donations of finger food – a list of key 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!

FR KEVIN: This Wednesday, Fr Kevin Lenehan from the Diocese of Ballarat, Australia, will be returning and staying for three weeks, to assist with pastoral work in the parish and the schools. We very much look forward to having him with us again.

CONFIRMATION 2017: This Pentecost Sunday at 3.00pm, 30 young people will be confirmed. We pray for them and for their families as they receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

OUR LADY STATUE: To celebrate the 100th 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 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.

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 **17th 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 13th 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 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.**

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 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 will resume in the autumn.** 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.

PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA: 1st SEPTEMBER 2017: There will be a meeting, in the Church meeting room, on Sunday 30th 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

Christian Kitchen	3/6 Nor	10/6 B	17/6 C	24/6 D
Hospital	4/6 D	11/6 A	18/6 B	25/6 D

The collection last week was £1225.75 Thank you for your generosity.

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

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)
Mon 5 June	St Boniface, Bishop, Martyr
7.00am	Sarah Rita Brady (RIP)
9.15am	Cecilia Flynn (RIP)
Tue 6 June	Feria
7.00am	Liam Attoe (Ints)
9.15am	Henry Fletcher (RIP)
Wed 7 June	Feria
7.00am	Patrick O'Sullivan (RIP)
9.15am	Beloved family of Alma Wilcox (RIP)
Thu 8 June	Feria
7.00am	Holy Souls
9.15am	Tim Campbell (RIP)
Fri 9 June	Feria
7.00am	Patrick Hester (Ints)
9.15am	Sute Kovaci (RIP)
Sat 10 June	Feria
10.00am	Kathleen Seary (Ints)
6.00pm	Fr Joe Dias (RIP)
Sun 11 June	The Most Holy Trinity (Solemnity)
8.30am	Parish
10.00am	Mr & Mrs Courtney (Ints)
12.00pm	Adelino Vaz (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
