

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

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**Fr Niall Harrington; Fr John Victor**

**Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain);**

**Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)**

Our Lady and St George's Primary School:

Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552

Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

**Charity Number: 234092**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT– 21/22 MARCH 2020**

**Laetare Sunday /Mothering Sunday**

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus is a controversial figure. It's not that he courts controversy, quite the contrary, in many incidents in the Gospels, Jesus flees the limelight. Yet he is beset by controversy simply on account of who he is and who he claims to be. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus' healing of a man born blind does not settle anything in the eyes of his opponents. This miraculous cure merely increase the controversy surrounding Jesus, as his opponents struggle to find ways of dismissing Jesus even after the truth about him has been made clear.

On one level, this long Gospel passage is about the cure of a blind man. On another level, it is about the determination of Jesus' opponents to deny who he is. A man blind from birth is brought to sight; a group of men claiming to have the correct vision persist in their blindness.

Jesus is the truth, he is the Light. It is very nature to expose untruth and darkness. When his opponents are confronted with the truth of who Jesus is, they cannot argue against him by appealing to some superior truth. Their only 'arguments' are bitterness, anger and –ultimately–violence.

We are no different. Jesus offers us a choice to have our eyes opened, or to persist, wilfully, in our darkness. As disciples, our best and deepest desire is to come to sight, to see reality as Jesus sees it. Yet we can also cling to the darkness. Sometimes, it seems that we are dragged, kicking and screaming, into the light.

The Lord understands our reluctance, and for our part, the best attitude is a frank admission of our remaining attachment to the dark. In their arrogance, the Pharisees say to Jesus: 'We are not blind, surely?' Let us say, instead: 'Have mercy on our blindness, Lord!'

## Reflections

1. In what ways does the encounter with Jesus open my eyes? How does faith lead me to see more clearly?
2. The blind man knew that he had been healed. Am I aware of any particular need for healing in my life?
3. Jesus' opponents asked the man who had been healed, 'What have you to say about him?' What have we to say about Jesus?

## Have A Blessed Lent

*Fr. Niall* (Fr. Niall)

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

**Baptism Course:** Next Baptism Course will be in April.

**Sacrament of Healing** Each first Saturday of the month there is an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Healing during the 10a.m. Mass.

Stations of the Cross every Friday evening of lent at 6:45p.m. All are welcome.

Parishioners are invited to take home some altar servers albs to launder next week so that they will be in a clean state for Holy Week and Easter.

**Altar Server's Training** on Saturday 4th April from 11am to 1pm for an Altar Server's Training session in the Church. This will be to prepare for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday Easter masses.

The Wednesday Club has been cancelled Please note....in addition to the previous directives.....collection baskets will be placed in front of the altar and parishioners are invited to place their offering in the baskets. Also there will be no Procession of Gifts at Mass for the foreseeable future.

All Extraordinary Lay Ministers must wash their hands in the Sacristy with warm water and use the gel provided.

We welcome Inigo Joseph Ledda into the Community of Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism during the 10a.m. this Sunday.

**Cancellations: Due to Covid-19 Pandemic the following events has been cancelled**

- 1. The Confirmation retreat in Chigwell Convent has been cancelled**
- 2. The HCPT Bingo Night has been cancelled**
- 3. No coffee morning after the 10a.m. Mass**
- 4. The Monday Hospital Mass is now cancelled**

**LEGION OF MARY** The Sisters of Mercy re-launched the Legion of Mary in our parish on Saturday 7th March. The next Legion of Mary meeting will take place on Saturday 18th April after the 10am Mass. We pray that the re-launch is a success and that parishioners will participate.

**Pilgrimages** Bernadette Wilson is organising coaches for the following events The Confirmation candidates to Brentwood Cathedral , The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham , The Chrism Mass and Fr Niall's induction into the cathedral chapter on Monday 18th May. All the departure times and those who wish to travel will be in the upcoming newsletters . If you wish to join any of these events a list will be put on the church noticeboard.. Please make sure you put your name on the correct list.

**Walsingham News** We will be celebrating the rededicated of the Dowry of Mary on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March. The venue of the film is our parish hall. We will show a DVD of Walsingham for 1 hour and take up names of people who will come to our parish pilgrimage to Walsingham on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2020. So a great celebration for our Blessed Mother of Walsingham. Please come. Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March 3pm in the parish hall. Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May pilgrimage to Walsingham. Look out for organisers. (Joe Elwod-02085203455)

**Mother's Day** God Bless all mothers on this Mothering Sunday. Daffodils will be available for all mothers.

Samaritans 020 8520 9191.

Mass attendance last weekend. Syro Malabar 80. The collection last week was £1089.04p. Average weekly standing order collection is £350. HCPT Appeal £614.85, Spiritan Mission Appeal £576.73 Thank you.

<b><u>counting</u></b> <b><u>Rota</u></b>	16/02E	23/02B	01/03F	08/03E	15/03B	22/03F
<b><u>Hospital</u></b> <b><u>Rota</u></b>	15/02B	20/02D	01/03F	08/03E	15/03B	22/03F

 Joke of the Week! I've got a Christian mobile-it is pray as you go.

**Please continue to use the hygiene gel dispenser**

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

<b>06:00pm</b>	Bernard and Shiela Moss (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>Sun 22 March</b>	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
<b>08:30am</b>	Kathleen Murnane (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>10:00am</b>	Pat McKenna (Rest in Peace) (Elwood)
<b>12:00noon</b>	Fr. John Garrett (Rest in Peace) (Pact)
<b>02:30noon</b>	Syro Malabar Mass
<b>Mon 23 March</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>9:15am</b>	Stella's Thanksgiving (Family)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Marcellino Fernandes (Thanksgiving)
<b>Tue 24 March</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Neil Campbell (Rest in Peace) (Mary Murphy)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Shania and Mum Intentions (Family)
<b>Wed 25 March</b>	<b>THE ANNUCIATION OF THE LORD</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Sr. Annunciata's Intentions (Sr. Anne Marie)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Fr. John's Intentions (Sacristans )
<b>Thu 26 March</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Francis Palmer (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Fr. Joseph Pham (Rest in Peace) (Pact)
<b>Fri 27 March</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Patricia McKenna (Mary and Joe)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Audrey Pittock (Rest in Peace) (Maslew Family)
<b>Sat 28 March</b>	<b>FERIA</b>
<b>10:00am</b>	Betty's Intention (Jane Frances)
<b>06:00pm</b>	James Harte (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>Sun 29 March</b>	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Darren Rodrigues (Intentions) (Louella)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Natalie Rosario (Rest in Peace)(Louella)
<b>12:00noon</b>	Alan and Shannon (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>02:30 pm</b>	Syro Malabar Mass

### Prayer List

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 and Mrs Charles, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Archie Garrod, Martin Keane, Alix Charlery, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave,, 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 and Issac, Luis and Lukas, Comfort Kwawu, Judith Hilton, Gloria and Tracy Joseph, Regina Jose, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio, Thampirajah Baskaran, Linda Campbell, Brid O'Halloran, Hazel Belizaire, Tina Henriques, Neill, Alan and Ross Smith, Stefan, Monica Baugh, Eileen O Kane, Grace Mecaley, Jadwiga, Matthias Fredberg, Michael White, Fr. Jean Laurent Marie, Fr Paul Dynan, Roy and Margaret Bandhu, Alma Willox, John Walsh, Chantale Wildman, Christopher Almeda, Aileen Mensah, Sr. Helen, Ted and Pat Howland, Josephine Walsh (Paul)

Rosary: Weekdays after morning Mass Reconciliation (Confessions): 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. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Mondays: 10am-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-4pm; Fridays 9.45-10.45am; Saturdays 10.30-11.30am.

**Bible Study:** Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room

**Our parish safe guarding officials are Jenny Richmond and Marina Tuddy.**