

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

132 Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU

Tel: 020 8520 5877

E-mail: parishoffice@olsg.co.uk Website: www.olsg.co.uk

Canon Niall Harrington; Fr Michael Barwick

Deacon Joseph Baffour-Awuah

Our Lady and St George's Primary School:

Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552

Holy Family Catholic School: 8520 0482/8520 3587

Charity Number: 234092

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (22/01/2023)

(Sunday of the Word of God)

Dear Parishioners,

Two Gospel narratives, those of Matthew and Mark, link the beginning of Jesus' public life to the arrest of John the Baptist. On hearing of the arrest of his cousin, Jesus decides to return to Galilee. In doing so, he is walking into danger. Perhaps he intends to continue the mission of his cousin, John. We are told that Jesus begins his preaching with the message, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand'. This is also the message with which John began his preaching. It is a strong anti-imperial message destined to provoke the wrath of imperial powers. For Jesus as for John, God reigns, not Caesar.

Jesus makes his home, not in Nazareth, his native town, but in Capernaum, a small fishing village on the North-Eastern shores of the Sea of Galilee. Situated on the Via Maris, or 'Way of the Sea', Capernaum had the benefit of being located on a busy trading route with, perhaps, a more receptive audience than might be expected in Nazareth (see Mt 13: 53-58). This choice of location is seen as fulfilment of the prophecy of Isaiah (first reading today), where people living in darkness have seen a great light. Capernaum is destined to become base for a different kind of fishing, as Jesus will soon announce.

Jesus calls his first collaborators, two sets of brothers – Peter, Andrew, James and John, seemingly on the same day, and in quick succession. Immediately they leave their fishing nets and boats to follow him. The evangelist, in this stylised account, is keen to show some of the characteristics of discipleship. There is an urgency about responding when Jesus invites. It will involve ‘leaving’ of one kind or another, symbolised here by fishing – nets and boats. It is a call to active and collaborative mission.

In this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Paul’s message to Christians in Corinth deserves mention. It is unequivocal: ‘Make up the differences between you ... be united in belief and practice’. During this special Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, we are invited to play our part, especially by praying for unity among and between Christian communities. Prayer matters, because Christian Unity is ultimately gift of the Spirit. But reconciliation involves action too. This week may be the week when we make efforts to mend fences.

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Canon Miall

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

The **next parish Baptism preparation programme** will be on Monday 30th January at 6:30p.m. Session 1 and Session 2 on the first Monday 6th of February. 6:30p.m.

Session 9 of the parish Holy Communion preparation programme will be on Saturday 28th of January 11:30 in the parish hall

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available after every parish Mass. Simply ask a priest.

Could your New Year's resolution be to help build a better world through volunteering?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help develop our work in parishes or Catholic schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice throughout the diocese? Training and support are provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with cdriscoll@cafod.org.uk

Blessed Palms If you wish to return your blessed palms please place them in the basket in the church porch. These will be burned to create the ash for Ash Wednesday 22nd February.

Dates for your Dairy

Thursday 2nd February is the Feast of The Presentation of the Lord.

Friday 3rd February is the Feast of Saint Blaise. Throats will be blessed at both Masses.

We pray for the happy repose of Betty Ramsey a long-time parishioner here in Saint George's. A devout and charitable lady. Our condolences to Patrick and the family. May she Rest in Peace Amen. The funeral arrangements for Betty Ramsey, Rest in Peace are as follows. Requiem Mass at Our Lady and Saint George on Wednesday 25th of January at 11a.m.

Prayer for Nurses

My dear Lord, you are the Divine Healer. May great strength and power flow through me, and lend skill to my hands and vision. Also judgment to my mind and compassion to my heart. Grant me the strength to minister to my Patients in their hour of suffering and travail. Make me worthy, Oh Lord, of this saintly task. Amen.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00pm	Carmel McLnerney (Rest in Peace) (O'Halloran)
Sun 22 January	Third Sunday in the Ordinary Time
08:30 am	Brijit Varkey (Rest in Peace) (Roy)
10:00am	Rose Cusack (Rest in Peace) (Heneghan)
12noon	Eileen Raffo (Amal)
Mon 23 January	FERIA
09:15am	Finola Finn (Rest in Peace) (Dave Moss)
06:00pm	Ross Cusack (Rest in Peace) (Ryan)
Tue 24 January	Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
09:15am	Finola Finn (Rest in Peace) (O'Gorman)
6:00pm	Christine Walton (Rest in Peace) (Coeur-de-Lion)
Wed 25 January	The Conversion of Saint Paul, Apostle
09:15am	Joe Monaghan (Rest in Peace) (Carmody)
06:00 pm	Marie Gleeson's Intention (Josephine)
Thu 26 January	Saint Timothy and Saint Titus, Bishops
09:15am	Moyra Whelan (Rest in Peace) (Carmody)
06:00pm	Finola Finn (Rest in Peace) (Pat and Tracie Moss)
Fri 27 January	FERIA
09:15 am	Finola Finn (Rest in Peace) (Carmody)
06:00pm	Intentions (Betty)
Sat 28 January	Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
10:00am	Johnny Maloney's Intentions (Mary O'Connor)
06:00pm	Fr. Cathal O'Gallachoir (Rest in Peace) (Bernadette)
Sun 29 January	Fourth Sunday in ordinary Time
08:30 am	Antonio Terenzio and Josephine Tonti (Rest in Peace) (Elizabeth)
10:00am	Carmel McLnerney (Rest in Peace) (Bond)
12noon	Margaret Raffo (Amal)

Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Alma Willox, Liberee, Maria Green, Anne (Christina), Grace, Bridie Curley, Sharon Baker, Bridgit Morris, Mavis Hacker, Marjorie Singh, Pietro and Maria Marrai, Peggy McManus, Rosie Ebreo, Kathleen Lloyd, Johanna Whitley, Linda Campbell, Fr. Francis Coveney, Bridie Cronin, Baby Jimmy, Sierra Smucker-Halls (Carol), Maureen Newland (Carol), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Pdraig Maloney , Pauline Brookman, Damon, Fatimata, Peter Norman.