

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

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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

Mother's Day

Reading 1 Sm 16:1, 6-7, 10-13

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd there is nothing I shall Want.

2nd Reading Eph 5: 8-14

Gospel: Saint John: 9: 1-41

Fourth Sunday of Lent (19/03/2023)

Key phrases to focus on: inner blindness: Jesus the light, faith is seeing the light, faith is relationship, faith is discipleship. Jesus criticised the Jewish leaders for their blindness. 'Surely we are not blind' they asked. They rejected him despite all their knowledge of the Old Testament. Religious knowledge about Jesus is of little value. It's more important to know the teacher than his teaching. This presents the listener with a challenge to hear Christ- a relationship with him. This will bear fruit in discipleship-the ultimate goal of listening. The early listener leaders too were blind, asking, 'Who sinned, this man or his parents?' They believed that sickness was punishment for sinning. Many still believe this today and live in fear of God. Jesus took the initiative healing the blind man. He, not us, took the initiative loving us. The major point today is inner healing, insight, conversion, awakening, enlightenment, coming to faith, coming to a relationship with Jesus, and coming to discipleship. Relationship, not knowledge, precedes discipleship. John presents faith as a relationship, not knowledge. Phrases like 'coming to Jesus,' 'putting one's faith in Jesus' is to believe in Jesus. Faith in different expressions,

Is mentioned ninety-nine times in his Gospel; always as a verb, never as a noun. Faith is movement, on a journey with Christ as his companion, in a growing relationship that is never complete. Faith that does not lead to discipleship is not faith. A disciple never fully answers Jesus' question: 'Who do you say that I am?' 'All relationships,' writes Karl Rahner, 'are unending symphonies.' Enlightened by an encounter with Jesus, the blind man became his disciple. A paradigm shift from knowledge to discipleship is urgently needed. Nobody describes faith as relationship and discipleship better than Pope Benedict XVI:

Being a Christian is not the result of an ethical choice or a lofty idea, but the encounter with an event, a person, which gives life a new horizon and a decisive direction.

'I never tire of repeating those words of Benedict XVI,' says Pope Francis.

Have a Blessed Week

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 27th of March in the church at 6:30p.m. for Session 1. Session 2 is on the following Monday 3rd April.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed each Friday of Lent immediately after the 6p.m. Mass.

We welcome Kobi and Kaesi who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this Sunday. Every Blessing to the family

40 hours Adoration Commencing with the Holy Mass at 6:00pm on Thursday 23rd March and finishing with Holy Mass on Saturday 25th March at 10:00am. It is a blessing to spend an hour before the Blessed Sacrament. If you wish to be part of the 40 Hours and sign up for an hour or more then please print your name (not signature) on the list provided in the church porch

Mass in Tamil will be this Sunday afternoon at 5p.m.

The new Gift Aid boxes are available with your name on them. Only take a gift aid box with your name on it. If your box is not there then speak to one of the priests and fill in the form.

The next preparation session (15) for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be on Saturday 25 of March 11.30 to 12.30. Please be punctual.

A pre marriage course for couples planning to marry in the next 12 months will take place on Wednesday 29th March and Thursday 30th March. The course will begin at 7:30pm in the parish hall.

HCPT Group 161 - The return! I am very pleased to announce that our very own HCPT group 161 will be returning to Lourdes this coming Easter. After 3 years absence due to the pandemic we finally get to return to the Shrine of Our Lady, on Pilgrimage, with children from our own and the wider Catholic community.

Our Lady and St George SVP Conference-Walthamstow - SVP Listening Hub commenced on Tuesday 7 March 2023, thereafter the first Tuesday of every month. Parishioners and the wider community can drop-in for friendly chats and coffee, find out about volunteering with the SVP. Needy Families can access information and support with every-day issues. Also, collect donated food and other items managed by Br Paul Dowling. Please contact the Secretary Joan Nicholson for more information mobile 07436 583 288.

Bible Study: We have restarted "reflecting" on the Sunday Scripture readings each Monday in the day Chapel at 8pm. The purpose of the group is to look, discern and pray on scripture reading then go out and live it! To prepare space and resources we would like to know if you will be interested you do not have to come regularly just when you are able. Please talk to Cliff in church porch after Sunday Masses.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Loretta Antonietta Emelinda Camporese. The Requiem Mass for Loretta 's soul will be on Thursday 30th of March at Our Lady and Saint George at 10:30a.m.

Vacancy for permanent/Bank cleaner at Our Lady and St George's Catholic Primary School, Shernhall Street, Walthamstow. Closing date Monday 27th March 2023. For more information, please visit www.olsgschool.org/vacancies or contact the school office on 020 8520 8500*

**Blessing to Christopher for his birthday
We pray for all Mothers living and dead.**

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00pm	Bernard and Sheila Moss (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Sun 19 March	Fourth Sunday of Lent
08:30 am	Catherine Murnane (Rest in Peace) (Family)
10:00am	Madeleine Melling (Rest in Peace) (Joe and Mary Bond)
12noon	Stephanie Yamson's Intentions (Family)
Mon 20 March	Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
09:15am	Aklilu Merhasion (Rest in Peace) (Zeudi)
06:00pm	Ram and Betty Ramsey (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Tue 21 March	Lenten Weekday
09:15am	Deceased Family (Thelma)
6:00pm	Special Intention (Mathew)
Wed 22 March	Lenten Weekday
09:15am	Jonathan (Rest in Peace) (Martin Woodrow)
06:00 pm	Special Intention (Mathew)
Thu 23 March	Lenten Weekday
09:15am	Joe and Annie (Rest in Peace) (Anne O'Donovan)
06:00pm	Antonio Terenzio and Josephine Toutin (Rest in Peace) (Elizabeth)
Fri 24 March	Lenten Weekday
09:15 am	Rose Allen (Rest in Peace) (Family)
06:00pm	Judith Hilton (Rest in Peace)
Sat 25 March	The Annunciation of the Lord
10:00am	Peggy Breslin (Rest in Peace) (Redmond)
06:00pm	Pamela Woods (Rest in Peace) (Keane)
Sun 26 March	Fifth Sunday of Lent
08:30 am	Francis Palmer (Doreen)
10:00am	Moyra Whelan (Rest in Peace) (Joe and Mary Bond)
12noon	Thanksgiving (Theresa)

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, Bridie Cronin, Baby Jimmy, Sierra Smucker-Halls (Carol), Maureen Newland (Carol), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Pdraic Maloney , Pauline Brookman, Damon, Fatimata, Sherry Family, Bridie Curley, Jason Leonard Hamilton Barber (Tracy), Cyril and Rose Ogidi, Barry and Sheila Mayo