

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

1st Reading: Eccles (Sir) 27:30-28:7

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy

2nd Reading: Rm 14:7-9

Gospel: Mt 18:21-35

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (17/09/2023)

Consistently, Jesus called for conversion. He wanted people to change from their otherwise destructive behaviour, as individuals and members of society. He knew that people would hurt each other. He wanted them to realise their wrongdoing and to stop. He wanted them to relate on the basis of love. Surprisingly, however, the word 'sorry' is rarely, if ever, used in the Gospels. Yet, over and over again, Jesus urged disciples to forgive.

Why forgive? Unforgiveness destroys open communication and undermines respect, care and love. But so, too, does the unwillingness to be sorry. Yet Jesus insists on the priority of forgiving. Careful reflection confirms the priority given to it by Jesus.

God is always ready to forgive. Forgiveness is a consequence of freedom and condition for freedom. Unforgiving persons are not free, but remain emotionally under the influence of those who have wronged them. Those suffering wrong are open to grace – and so are open to respond to God's empowerment. Those doing wrong have closed off from grace. Theologically, it is easier to forgive than to be sorry.

Unforgiveness can easily descend into resentment and ultimately into bitterness – and destroy peace of mind. It can easily escalate into revenge.

Those who have been hurt can view their forgiveness as a generous concession. They can feel morally superior. The truth is that everyone in the community is in a constant situation of needing to receive forgiveness as well as to give it. Forgiveness is a constituent element of the Christian community's flow of life. In an imperfect world, each disciple is, at the same time, saint and sinner. The Lord's prayer serves as a regular reminder.

In some ways, forgiveness is like a powerful river flowing from the heart of God that sweeps up everyone and everything in its path. God's unconditional, forgiving love washes over sinners, gathers them up and carries them along in the same flow of forgiveness. For a sinner to refuse forgiveness to another requires that sinner to withdraw from the flow of forgiving love, to swim to the bank, as it were, and to stay there alone, cold and self-absorbed - out of reach of God's love.

Have a Blessed Week

Canon Miall

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

Session 1 of the parish Baptism preparation programme will be on Monday 25th of September at 6:30p.m.

The Knights of Saint Columba Cake Sale rescheduled to Sunday 8th of October after all Masses. All the money raised will be used for church maintenance and the training of students for the priesthood. Please support this endeavour.

Gift Aid - parishioner with gift aid No: 3176 your envelope was found on ground outside church entrance thank you for your donation.

Prayer Circle: A group of 30 or so parishioners and friends from Suffolk, Essex and Ireland have joined the Prayer Circle. From time to time a request is sent for prayers. If you wish to join the Prayer Circle then please write your name and email address to one of the clergy.

Parish Holy Communion Preparation Programme: Application forms are now available in the repository after weekend Masses.

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament will resume on Mondays. The hours for Adoration are Monday and Wednesday, after morning Mass to 5:00 pm. Please commit to spending an hour or more with Jesus, if you are available and can commit to a hour or more on Friday please let Louella know. If we have enough people to cover the hours it will be a blessing to have Adoration on Fridays, too.

The 2024 Mass Intention book has arrived. If you wish to book a particular date and time for an anniversary Mass in 2024 then fill in the Mass request envelope together with your donation and hand it to one of the clergy

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is hosting a Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Knock, Co Mayo from November 9 to 14 to Pray for the Holy Souls. It will be led by the Marian Fathers. Package includes: Return flights by Aer Lingus from Heathrow Airport, half board, 5 nights, accommodation in en suite twin rooms, hand-luggage (10 kgs), all transfers and Airport Development fee. The Retreat will include daily Mass and Hour of Mercy and retreats at Glendalough and Kylemore Abbey. Cost £800. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information

Incident with Christians in Pakistan Jarranwalla Region It was nice to talk to you after prayer today as we discussed the Jarranwalka incident that due to misleading blame on one Christian person the majority of Muslim people burned more than 30 churches/prayer places and so many houses are burnt and it is terrifying experience for the Christian's living there and even whole of Pakistan please keep these innocent God's people in prayers. Imran Khiljee and Kiran Imran

Requiem Mass for Milly Fairy, Rest in Peace Monday 18th September 10:30am in Our Lady and Saint George. Condolences to the family.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00 pm	Pat and Josie Maloney (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Sun 17 Sept	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
08:30 am	Kryisia Bullivant (Rest in Peace) (Marta)
10:00 am	Theodora D'Souza (Rest in Peace) (Norah)
12noon	Choi-Yee Kwan (Ping)
Mon 18 Sept	FERIA
09:15 am	Jack Guinan (Rest in Peace) (Joan)
10:30am	Requiem Mass- Milly Fairy (Rest in Peace)
06:00 pm	Intentions (Harte)
Tue 19 Sept	FERIA
09:15am	Swan Kwok (Rest in Peace) (Nelly and Cesar)
06:00 pm	Families of the Parish
Wed 20 Sept	Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Paul Chong Ha-Sang
09:15 am	Deceased of the Harte Family (Barbara)
06:00 pm	Wesley De Souza (Rest in Peace) (Bridget)
Thu 21 Sept	Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist
09:15 am	Mark Leach (Rest in Peace) (Geraldine)
06:00 pm	Intentions (Harte)
Fri 22 Sept	FERIA
09:15 am	Wesley De Souza (Rest in Peace) (Bridget)
06:00 pm	Thanksgiving (Divya)
Sat 23 Sept	Saint Pius of Pietre icina, Priest
10:00 am	Ellen Harte's Intentions (Family)
06:00 pm	Jean Dwyer (Rest in Peace) (Joan)
Sun 24 Sept	Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
08:30 am	Intentions of Betty Bradel (Doreen)
10:00 am	Swan Kwok (Rest in Peace) (Elizabeth)
12noon	Agnes and Augustine Fadina (Rest in Peace) (Family)

Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Alma Willox, Liberee, 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, Padraic Maloney, Pauline Brookman, Damon, Fatimata, Sherry Family, Bridie Curley, Jason Leonard Hamilton Barber (Tracy), Cyril and Rose Ogidi, Barry and Sheila Mayo, John Joseph (Mary), Ambrose and Felistas and family, Chris Newman, Margaret Phillips