

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: Isaiah 55: 6-9

Response to the Psalm: The Lord is close to all who call him.

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24

Gospel: Mathew 20:1-16

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (24/09/2023)

The parable of Mt 20:1-16 originally ended at v 15 and the key to it is the last phrase of that verse: 'because I am generous.' It is this generosity that explains the apparently capricious conduct of the householder. For, indeed, at first sight, it does seem unfair that all the workers were to receive the same wage. But when we understand his motive we judge his conduct very differently. A denarius represented a day's wage, just enough to support a family; anything less, and especially payment for a single hour, would be inadequate. It is because he had pity on them that the owner called them to the vineyard in the first place, and it is because he had pity on them that he pays them all, the full wage. There is nothing arbitrary in his conduct – it is the action of a man who is full of compassion. So, too, does God act, for God is all goodness and mercy. This is the message of the parable. But if we look again we see that it is two-tiered, that it is made up of two episodes. First we have the hiring of labourers and instruction about their payment (vv 1-8), and then follows the indignation of the recipients who feel themselves cheated (vv 9-15). It is characteristic of such parables that the emphasis falls on the second part.

Because that is so here, we should realise the parable is aimed at people who resemble murmurers. The fact is: God is not 'fair'! The parable shows what God is like, full of compassion for the poor – and for sinners, poorest of the poor. It points out how wrong-headed it is to be scandalised by his great goodness. Matthew is hitting at some 'begrudgers' within his community. God's prodigal goodness is an affront to human level – headedness. God's love of sinners is an insult to the pious.

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 the worthwhile endeavour.

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.

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.

Our Lady and Saint George catholic Primary and Nursery School Opening Morning 2023/2024

If you would like to find out more about our school and what it offers, come along and visit. We would especially welcome parents /carers of children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020. Who are due to start school in September 2024. We are holding open morning on the dates listed below which will take place at 140 Shernhall Street, E17 9HU. Entrance is via Maynard Path.

Dates: 12th and 26th September 2023, 10th and 17th October 2023, 7th and 21st November 2023, 5th and 12th December 2023 and 9th January 2024.

Time: 9:30am to 10:30am.

If you are unable to visit during the day, we can offer Saturdays between 9:30am and 10:30am by appointment. Closing date for Reception applications for children starting in September 2024 is 15th January 2024.

Please contact the school on 02085208500 or email office@olsgschool.org to book an appointment.

Michael Hurley, Rest in Peace. We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Michael Hurley, Rest in Peace.

Alma Willox, Rest in Peace We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Alma Willox, Rest in Peace.

Ivan Bruno Gaston, Rest in Peace We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Diane's brother Ivan Bruno Gaston, Rest in Peace. The requiem Mass for Ivan soul will be on Thursday 5th of October at 11:45 at Our Lady and Saint George.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

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)
Mon 25 Sept	FERIA
09:15 am	Eileen Stow (Rest in Peace) (Carmody)
06:00 pm	Special Intention (Divya)
Tue 26 Sept	FERIA
09:15am	Rose Ramsey (Rest in Peace) (O’Gorman)
06:00 pm	Margaret Staken (Rest in Peace) (Neville)
Wed 27 Sept	Saint Vincent de Paul, Priest
09:15 am	Joe and Annie Murtagh (Rest in Peace) (Anne O’Donovan)
06:00 pm	Intention (Conrad and Carol)
Thu 28 Sept	FERIA
09:15 am	Thanksgiving (Barbara)
06:00 pm	Peter Raffo (Rest in Peace) (Amal)
Fri 29 Sept	Saint Michael, Gabriel and Raphael
09:15 am	Rose Ramsey (Rest in peace) (Carmody)
06:00 pm	Eileen Raffo (Rest in Peace) (Amal)
Sat 30 Sept	Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
10:00 am	Eileen Stow (Rest in Peace) (O’Gorman)
06:00 pm	Tommy Cooney (Rest in Peace) (Gerry)
Sun 01 Oct	Twenty Sixth Sunday in ordinary Time
08:30 am	Hamilton Motha (Rest in Peace) (Gowri)
10:00 am	Denny Cronin (Rest in Peace) (Maria)
12noon	Georgina Koduah (Rest in Peace) (Family)

Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), 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, Margaret and Norris Levine