

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: Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Response to the Psalm: Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 9 16-19, 22-23

Gospel: Mark 1: 29-39

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (04/02/2024)

Everyone loves it when Jesu shows up. His presence makes a difference. Things happen. The sick are cured. Demons are cast out. Lives are changed. This is true not only for the people of Capernaum in Jesus' time but also for us here and now. He comes to our house as surely as he went to the house of Simon and Andrew.

I know an alcoholic who says that one day he prayed and Jesus removed from him the compulsion to drink. He has been sober ever since. I remember a man who had a vision of Jesus reaching out and taking him by the hand. I have heard men and women tell the story of how Jesus called them into the priesthood and religious life. Some have told me about experiences of calmness and peace that came from Jesus' presence. Others tell how his strength and grace carried them through days they were sure they could not survive. I was called one night to the hospital where a man was waiting and watching for his wife to die. It was a holy death; nothing short of miraculous. I know people who have wept for joy and gratitude in the presence of Christ. There are lots of people

who get together in a group each week and tell about their 'moment closest to Christ.'

What happen, though, when we awaken to find ourselves in the nighttime of life? You know as well as I that there are times when life is just plain hard. We don't get our way. Things happen that we never wanted to have happen. Faith is difficult and its result are not so tangible. In those times it seems as if there is only darkness and Jesus is nowhere to be seen.

Regardless of how dark it may seem Jesus never leaves us. He may withdraw but that does not mean he is absent. His withdrawing is in reality an invitation for us to move to a new place, to the deserted place. He calls us out of the comfort of the house into the vulnerability of the wilderness. It is a deserted and desolate place; a place where there is only prayer.

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 Baptism preparation course** will be on Monday 5th of February at 6:30p.m. in the church for Session 2. Session 1 will be on the Monday 26th of February for the next full course.

Cycle of Prayer : During Ordinary Time (Winter) i.e. up to the Season of Lent, we are asked to pray for these intentions: Peace on Earth, Openness to the Word of God; Christian Unity; The Sick and Those Who Care for Them,; Victims of Trafficking and Those Who Work to Combat it: The Unemployed and those searching for work.

Please return your blessed palms in the basket provided so that they can be burned and the ash can be used for Ash Wednesday.

On Sunday 11th of February, we welcome into the Community of Faith through the Sacrament of Baptism Kenzo Sango. Blessings to his family.

HCPT group 161 - Family Bingo Night We are holding the first of this years fundraising events to support the HCPT pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter. A Family Bingo night! Friday 9th February 2024 At Our Lady and St George's School - upper site Shernhall Street E17 3EA Doors open at 7pm for eyes down at 7.30. Entry is free3 books for £66 books for £10. There will be our usual super raffle and every first line and house wins a PRIZE! Bring your own drinks, nibbles, and as many family and friends as you can muster!

As you know Caritas Diocese of Brentwood now has three focus groups meeting online throughout the year to create a space for shared prayer, solidarity and fraternity, a sharing of 'quick win' good ideas, that can be easily replicated in other parishes and ways to directly connect with others working/volunteering in each focus area.

The Environment: 12th February on zoom 7-8:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81020066514?pwd=TW9zUnVEZW1TVkVPZURTQjk0ZlFRZz09>

Meeting ID: 810 2006 6514

Passcode: 587502

Homeless / Cost of Living: 15th February on zoom 7-8:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85791065213?pwd=MHVrTERQszJDbU5wWTR5bUpCenkzdz09>

Meeting ID: 857 9106 5213

Passcode: 756400

Refugees & Migrants: 27th February on zoom 7-8:30pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88587722959?pwd=MTlaVS9uWG9XWlBpdzc2YjlkSUK3dz09>

Meeting ID: 885 8772 2959

Passcode: 388233

Fr. Michael is travelling to Lourdes on Thursday 8th February to plan the diocesan summer pilgrimage in July. If you have any prayer intentions please place them in an envelope marked "Prayer Intentions" by Wednesday 7th February. Fr. Michael will place them at Grotto.

We pray for the happy repose of the soul of Peggy McManus. May she Rest in Peace. The Requiem Mass for Peggy McManus will be on Friday 16th February 10:15am at Our Lady and St. George Church.

The funeral arrangements for Fr. John McKeon Rest in Peace as follows. The Requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 13th February at 11:30am at Holy Family Catholic Church, Oxlow Lane, Dagenham.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00 pm	Bernard Carey (Rest in Peace) (Joan)
Sun 4 February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
08:30 am	Deceased of Fouhy and Fletcher Family (Jeff)
10:00 am	Paddy, Roseanne and Family (Mary O'Connor)
12noon	Thanksgiving (Agnelo)
Mon 5 February	Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyrs
09:15 am	Geraldine Motha (Rest in Peace) (Gowri)
06:00 pm	Peter and Eileen Webster's Intentions
Tue 6 February	Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs
09:15am	Tina Horn (Rest in Peace)
06:00 pm	Elizabeth Halton (Rest in Peace) (Carmel Gillings)
Wed 7 February	FERIA
09:15 am	John Barry (Rest in Peace) (Pat Moss)
06:00 pm	Thanksgiving (Dr. Paul Doherty)
Thu 8 February	FERIA
09:15 am	Parishioners
06:00 pm	Thanksgiving (Brid O'Halloran)
Fri 9 February	FERIA
09:15 am	Jeya Rani Motha (Rest in Peace) (Gowri)
06:00 pm	Andrea (Gibson Family)
Sat 10 February	Saint Scholastica
10:00 am	Thanksgiving (Gowri)
06:00 pm	Ellie and James Harte (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Sun 11 February	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
08:30 am	Agnelo, Louella and Family Intention (Stella)
10:00 am	Alan Kennedy (Angela)
12noon	Jacqeline Keavney (Rest in Peace) (Catherine)

Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris) Brid O Halloran, Josephine Walsh (Paul), Liberee, Anne (Christina), Bridie Curley, Sharon Baker, Bridgit Morris, Mavis Hacker, Marjorie Singh, Pietro and Maria Marrai, Rosie Ebreo, Kathleen Lloyd, Linda Campbell, Bridie Cronin, Baby Jimmy, Sierra Smucker-Halls (Carol), Maureen Newland (Carol), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Pdraic Maloney, Damon, 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, Dr. Michael Weston, Chris Cullen, Kim Ahn and family