

## **Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George**

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**Canon Niall Harrington; Fr Shajin Jose Antony**

**Fr. Dominic Savio (Syro- Malabar)**

**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**

### **Year of Saint Francis of Assisi**

**1 Reading Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7**

**Psalm – Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.**

**2 Reading Romans 5:12-19**

**Gospel Matthew 4:1-11**

#### **First Sunday of Lent**

Temptation for Jesus meant the same as it meant for Adam and Eve and as it also means for us. It meant choosing between good and evil, between doing God's will or one's own will. Jesus was tempted right through his whole life. His victory in the desert was not the winning of the war, but merely the winning of a battle. We can't hope to escape temptation; temptation is the struggle between the passions of the flesh and the longings of the spirit. It is not something to be ashamed of – our destiny isn't simply never to fall, but having fallen, to rise again. Temptation is not necessarily a bad thing, but by forcing us to choose good over evil it makes us strong. Virtue would become meaningless if there was no evil, no struggle. The battle against evil is never over as long as we are alive. However, each right choice makes the next right choice that much easier. Jesus victory wasn't easy. It was achieved through prayer, fasting and reflection on the will of the heavenly Father with the help of the Holy Spirit. He is with us also in our struggles. It is a great consolation this Lent to consider in our hearts that God is not outside our struggles but is with us during them. There

is one aspect of gardening that most gardeners find difficult – the job of pruning fruit trees. And yet if pruning is neglected the results can be very disappointing. Pruning time is a painful time for a fruit tree. The pruner rids it of all those suckers which use up a lot of energy but produce no fruit. However, the aim of this surgery is not to inflict pain, but to help the tree to produce more and better fruit. Lent is a kind of spiritual pruning time. There is much that is useless and perhaps harmful in our lives which saps our energy and diminishes our spiritual fruitfulness. We ask the question...’of what shall we proud ourselves this Lent so that we may become more fruitful branches of Christ, the true Vine?’

Have a Blessed Week

*Canon Miall*

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**MARRIAGES:** By appointment. At least six months’ notice is required. Please speak to one of the priests.

**Next Baptism Preparation Course** will be on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2026 at 6:30p.m. for Session One. Session 2 will be the following Monday 2nd March at 6:30p.m. in the church.

**THE BOOK OF GENESIS – LENTEN TALK** On Thursday 12th March at 7 p.m. in the hall at Christ the Eternal High Priest Catholic Church, 410 Brentwood Road, in Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) Fr Adrian Graffy will be giving a talk on the Book of Genesis, a book which in different ways figures prominently during Lent. The talk will be preceded by light refreshments from 6.30 p.m. This free, in-person event is also available via live stream at [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org)

**The HCPT Easter Pilgrimage appeal** will be the weekend of 7th and 8th March. The parish HCPT group 161 aka ‘The purple pilgrims’ work to enable Children with additional needs to Go on Pilgrimage to Lourdes - Thank you for your support.

We will be having **40 hours Adoration** following the 6:00pm Holy Mass on Thursday 12th March to Saturday 14th March 9:45am followed by Holy Mass at 10am. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time with Our Blessed Lord as we journey through Lent.

**Stations of the Cross after 6pm Mass on Friday’s of Lent.**

The Missio team are appealing for donations of unwanted Christmas gifts towards their Mission hamper prize which will be drawn on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.

**Friends of the Holy Land.** On Saturday 28th February /Sunday 1st March, Edmund Adamus of Friends of the Holy Land, will visit our parish and speak about the work of the charity and the difference it makes to the small Christian population in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza (Palestine) and Jordan. There will be a retiring collection and he will bring some leaflets/newsletters about the work of FHL. There will also be an opportunity to make a donation by card for your convenience. For more, visit <https://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk>

### **Mass Times and Intentions at Our Lady and St. George**

<b>06:00 pm</b>	Tim Keenan (Rest in Peace) (Keane)
<b>Sun 22 February</b>	<b>First Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Maureen and Richard Newland (Rest in Peace) (Carol)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Phillip Passey (Rest in Peace) (Halls Family)
<b>12noon</b>	Alice Isaac (Rest in Peace) (Roy Family)
<b>Mon 23 February</b>	<b>Monday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Thanksgiving (Christopher)
<b>Tue 24 February</b>	<b>Tuesday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	John Elms (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>Wed 25 February</b>	<b>Wednesday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15pm</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>Thu 26 February</b>	<b>Thursday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Ryan McLoughlin (Rest in Peace) (Mary Arthur)
<b>Fri 27 February</b>	<b>Friday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	Paul Wootton (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Intentions (S and A)
<b>Sat 28 February</b>	<b>Saturday of the First Week of Lent</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	Paul Wootton (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	John Elms (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>Sun 1 March</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Glenn, Eleanor and Gabby's Intention (Agnes)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Vincent Joseph (Rest in Peace) (Victor)
<b>12noon</b>	Simon Uzice (Rest in Peace) (Family)

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<b>Sun 1 March</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Glenn Eleanor and Gabby's Intention (Agnes)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Vincent Joseph (Rest in Peace) (Victor)
<b>12noon</b>	Simon Uzice (Rest in Peace) (Family)
<b>Mon 2 March</b>	<b>Monday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	Micheal Hanly (Rest in Peace) (Keane)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Intentions (Leone Abegunde)
<b>Tue 3 March</b>	<b>Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Thanksgiving (Leone Abegunde)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Intentions (Leone Abegunde)
<b>Wed 4 March</b>	<b>Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15pm</b>	Thanksgiving (Leone Abegunde)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Intentions (Leone Abegunde)
<b>Thu 5 March</b>	<b>Thursday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15am</b>	Paul Sakal's Intentions (Charles Reade)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Maria Fantoni (Rest in Peace) (Sandra and Anne)
<b>Fri 6 March</b>	<b>Friday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>09:15 am</b>	Tina Horn (Rest in Peace) (Margaret)
<b>06:00pm</b>	Thanksgiving (Mathew)
<b>Sat 7 March</b>	<b>Saturday of the Second Week of Lent</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	Noreen Disa (Rest in Peace) (Conrad and Carol)
<b>06:00 pm</b>	Richard and Nora Keane) (Rest In Peace) (Family)
<b>Sun 8 March</b>	<b>Third Sunday of Lent</b>
<b>08:30 am</b>	Thanksgiving (Agnes and Shania)
<b>10:00 am</b>	Anton Joseph (Rest in Peace) (Victor)
<b>12noon</b>	Billy Halpenny (Rest in Peace) (Maureen)

### Prayer List

Richard and Christine Martin, Michael Gaffney, Hilda Collett (Chris), 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), Anna (Gawlik), Theresa (Curley), Terry Wheeler, Padraic Maloney, Damon, Bridie Curley, Rose Ogidi, Sheila Mayo, John Joseph (Mary), Margaret Phillips, Margaret and Norris Levine, Dr. Michael Weston, Bruce Pereira, Nigel Smith, Mary Murphy, Phyllis Beer, Chris Cullen, Mrs Best, Michael Brown, Albert Callanan, Anne Close, Robinson, Frieda, Melissa Isaac and Mum, Moreena Blackwood, Mick Curley (Christina), William Nkyi-Acheampong. Marie Rachelle Bell Bower, Ermin Elizabeth Bryce, Doreen Palmer, Peter Wiltshire, Vittorio Pollame