



**PRAYING TOGETHER FOR THE CHURCH,
THE WORLD, THE PARISH & ONE ANOTHER**

SICK & HOUSEBOUND: PC, Yee Wing, CPO, Gillian Gibb, Phyllis Coffey, Ann Hull, Margaret O'Hanlon, Chris, RC, Theresa Mulvaney, Jodie Clarke, Kieran Maher, Rose Knights, Mary Honey, Peggy & John Cox, Diego Campigotto, Edel Rickard, Polly Thompson, Jean McGrath, Antonio Rodrigues, Julie & Lawrence Hayes, Margaret O'Brien, Michael Rynne, Mary Geaghan, Annemarie Dax, Special Intention, Terry Highland, Colleen Thomas, Joe Nemeth, Helen Faria, Margaret Callighne, Frank Hunt, Maggie Korrane, Vera Hylton, Monica Wisniewicz, Eileen Harrison, Ian Measham, David Colville, Josephine Smullen, Edward Reilly, Betty Cain, Callum Stewart-Robert, Betty Hickey, Bernie Marren, Sadie Burgess, Shayanayaki Kaithampillai, Richard Howse, Mia Harrison, RK., Special Intention, Ann Nemeth, Marjorie Hoareau, Max Perera, Nick Holmes, George McDermott, Michael Fahy, Mary E. Malone, Michael Griffin Snr., Titus Fernandes, Sean O'Connor, Alan Parnell, MTD., Breda Connellan, Marie Rego, Minneth Johns, Antonio DiLieto Snr, Maria Rosario, Yolande Dias, Paul Joseph Coughlan.

RECENTLY DEPARTED: All those killed in the recent terrorism attack in Westminster

ANNIVERSARIES OF THE DEPARTED: Michael O'Connell, Daniel Harrington, Cathy O'Connor, Patrick Hanon, Pat Haney, Terry Kaiser-Kearney

RECENTLY BAPTISED: Theo Burton.

INTENTIONS OF POPE FRANCIS FOR MARCH

Support for Persecuted Christians.

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

MAKING CONTACT AT ST. GEORGE'S

Parish Priest:	Mgr. Jeremy Fairhead	jeremyfairhead@rcdow.org.uk
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 4. Fr. Tony; 5. Pastoral Assistant. Charity No: 233699
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Gracious Lord, We thank you for all mothers and carers around the world, and for all they do for their children. We thank you for their patience when we don't get things right. We thank you for their encouragement when we find life hard. We pray that all mothers would feel really special today and that you would remind us every day to show them as much love and help as they give to us. Amen

SANCTUARY LAMP
has been sponsored this week
IN MEMORY OF
MR & MRS F IN THANKSGIVING
LAMP AT THE ALTAR OF OUR LADY OF
WALSINGHAM
has been sponsored this week
FOR THE INTENTIONS OF
CURTIN FAMILY INTENTIONS



Sunday cycle
Readings Year A
Weekday readings
Lent week 4
Divine Office
Lent week 4

**The Catholic Parish
of St George, Sudbury**



**Sunday 26th March 2017
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

Welcome to all at Mass today, especially to any visitors and particularly those who are here for the first time. Please take this sheet home with you which will tell you about this week's celebration and the activities during the week and also to remind you of our Liturgy today.

TODAY'S MASS



Today the healing of the man born blind invites us to focus on the physical and spiritual aspects of sight and light. In the first part of today's Gospel, we hear Jesus' response to a prevalent belief of his time: that misfortune and disability were the result of sin. That belief is why Jesus is asked the question of whose sin caused the man's blindness—his own or his parents'. Jesus does not answer directly, but instead gives the question

an entirely different dimension—through this man's disability, God's power will be made manifest. Jesus then heals the man.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a
The prophet Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14
The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.

Gospel Reading: John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38
Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.

SPIRITUAL QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Jesus reveals to the blind man whom he had healed that he had come into the world for judgement, to separate the blind who can be healed from those who do not allow themselves to be healed because they consider themselves healthy."
(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)

Sunday reflection

In today's gospel, when Jesus meets a man who was blind from birth, he awakened hope in him by proclaiming that he was the light of the world. Jesus then did something quite remarkable, both to identify with this man's misery and to draw faith and confidence in him as well. He touched the man's eyes with his own spittle mixed with dirt and bid him to wash in the Pool of Siloam. Jesus not only gave physical sight to the blind man, but spiritual vision as well. That is why Jesus proclaimed himself the "light of the world" (John 9:4).

So what is the significance of this miracle at the Pool of Siloam? It is certainly more than just a miraculous event. It is a "sign" that points to the source of the miraculous life-giving water and light which Jesus offers through the gift and work of the Holy Spirit (John 7:38). The Pharisees were upset with Jesus' miracle on two counts. First, he healed the blind man on the Sabbath, which they considered a

serious violation of the command to rest on the Sabbath. Second, how could a sinner and a Sabbath-breaker do such a marvellous work of God! The cured man must not have really been blind at all! This blind man was well known to many people and his parents testified under oath that he had indeed been blind since birth. Their prejudice made them blind to God's intention for the Sabbath and to Jesus' claim to be the One sent from the Father in heaven to bring freedom and light to his people. They tried to intimidate both this cured man and his parents by threatening to exclude them from membership in the synagogue. This man was shunned by the religious authorities because he believed that Jesus was the Messiah. There is no sickness, whether physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual that the Lord Jesus does not identify with. In fact there is no place of suffering the Lord has not shared with us. This is good news!!! But do we believe it?



parish representative, please contact John on 07727442510, 020 8642 8668 or you can go online www.acnuk.org.

PLANNED GIVING—envelopes for 2017/18 will be available NEXT WEEKEND (please be patient—this year they are taking longer to organise). If you are new to the scheme and wish to use these envelopes please complete an information form (orange coloured sheet) to be found at the back of the church and return it to the parish office. **If you have a current Gift Aid and ceased to pay tax in the last year you must inform the parish office.**

WOULD YOU BE LIKE TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES THIS JULY? Fr Tony will be leading a group from this parish with the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage between Sunday 23rd July and Saturday 29th July 2017. Please let Fr Tony know if you'd like to come (as rooms in our preferred hotel are at a premium, the earlier you are able to confirm your place the better).

PARISH MEN'S BREAKFAST. Our next breakfast will be on Saturday 3rd June at 9.00am. The speaker will be our very own Stephen Dunn (a parishioner at St George's) who will talk about his behind-the-scenes involvement covering Pope Benedict's visit to the UK on BBC television.

HELP WANTED. A parishioner here at St George's needs to learn some basic conversational Polish. Is there anyone in the parish who can help? If so, please contact Fr Tony.

HOLY BAPTISM: Information packs are available from the parish office. You can sign up there for the preparation evening. Parents to be, i.e. before birth, are welcome to attend. Please note that our next baptism preparation evening will be on **Friday 24th March at 7.30pm** in the Parish Centre. (NB: change of date).

FRIENDS OF JESUS - The Friends of Jesus offers Religious Education to those children of primary school age not attending a Catholic school. The Friends of Jesus meets during term-time for an hour at 5.30pm on Fridays. If you are interested in finding out more about the Friends of Jesus please pick up an Information Leaflet from the back of church. Enrolment Forms are available from the Parish Office.

CAFÉ/BAR is open on Thursdays from 9-11am. If you would be interested in volunteering to help please contact Patricia on 07939 722 198

BEFRIENDING SERVICE - If you know of anyone in the Parish who might like to be befriended please let us know as we have a small group of befrienders who would be only too happy to help.

CHURCH LAMPS: If you would like to sponsor the blessed sacrament lamp or the lamp by the altar of Our Lady of Walsingham with a particular intention, the cost is £10 for the week - Please see Toni in the Parish Office.

CARDS FOR SPONSORING OUR LAMPS. We now have cards (akin to Mass Cards) for the sponsoring of the Sacrament lamp or Walsingham Lamp if you'd like to use these if you are sponsoring a lamp in memory of someone. They can be obtained from the parish office.

CEILIDH on Friday 31st March at 8.15pm in the Parish Centre. Music by Luckpenny. All proceeds in aid of HCPT taking children and young adults with special needs to Lourdes.

ST. GEORGE'S NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH—will meet next on Wednesday 29th March at 7.30pm in the Parish Centre. Guest speaker will be present and "freebies" available.

SPUC (The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children) is having an opening meeting at All Saints, Kenton on Monday 27th March at 7.30pm to mark the passing of the Abortion Act 50 years ago. All welcome.

WHITE/YELLOW FOLDER INFORMATION FOR THE FOLLOWING: (See in church porch)

- LENTEN** Retreats.
- BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** helps separated, divorced or widowed Catholics.
- SMART LOVING SEMINAR** for married couples.
- CATHOLIC SINGLES** information
- RETROUVAILLE**—a lifeline for married couples.
- WIDOWED YOUNG**—support events.
- CALIX CENTRE**—A Catholic ministry to addicts.
- ADULT FAITH FORMATION COURSES.**—new information.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE: THE HOLY LAND 31st Oct to 7th November led by Bishop John Sherrington. Further details in the folder in porch.

JOB VACANCIES:

ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC SCIENCE COLLEGE has a vacancy for an Administration Assistant. C/date 31/3/17.

ST. RICHARD REYNOLDS CATHOLIC COLLEGE, Twickenham has 3 teacher vacancies for September. Details on their website

DIOCESAN VACANCIES:- Please see folder and website. for latest details.

FOLDERS in the church porch: look for pilgrimages & retreats, job opportunities, schools & colleges .

S	R	E	N	N	I	S	L	E	T	BLIND	SPAT	PASTE
S	E	D	E	V	O	U	T	H	S	SPITTLE	SIGHT	RESTORED
P	E	I	R	T	R	O	H	R	T	PROPHET	PARENTS	DISCIPLES
I	S	L	A	S	A	R	G	E	N	SINNERS	DEVOUT	BELIEVE
T	E	H	P	O	R	P	I	S	E			
T	A	S	P	I	A	A	S	T	R			
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E	O	U	T	I	P	S	I	R	P			
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E	D	N	I	L	B	L	H	D	I			

NEWS & VIEWS

22.03.17

Dear Fathers, Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Yesterday's attacks in Westminster have shocked us all. The kind of violence we have seen all too often in other places has again brought horror and killing to this city.

I know you will lead people in prayer, especially for those who have lost their lives and those who have lost one they love. Pray for Aysha Frade, killed by the car on Westminster Bridge. Her two children attend St Mary of the Angels Primary School. Pray for them and for their father. And please remember the young French students who have been injured.

We remember too all who have been injured, and those who care for them. We pray in particular as well for Keith Palmer, the police officer who died, and for his family, thanking God that so many show such brave dedication to keeping our society safe.

Let our voice be one of prayer, of compassionate solidarity, and of calm. All who believe in God, Creator and Father of every person, will echo this voice, for faith in God is not a problem to be solved, but a strength and a foundation on which depend.

With best wishes,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster

WELCOME to all who have come to Mass today. Please stay on if you are able, for TEA & COFFEE after the 9.45am and 11.15am Masses, in the Bar of the Parish Centre. **THE TUCK SHOP** is now closed during Lent.

NEW TO THE PARISH? if you are, please know you are very welcome. Please fill in one of the new parishioners forms at the back of church and we'll get back to you.

TODAY IS TRADITIONALLY "MOTHERING SUNDAY" - we pray for all our mothers living and departed, for our mother the Church and for the Mother of the Church, Our Blessed Lady. ALSO there is a sale of flowers, cakes, raffle, jewellery and other charity stalls in the Parish Centre after all morning Masses. Donations of cakes would be most appreciated. ALL WELCOME—please come and support your local hospice.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE MISSION—please take a thanksgiving card if you have not already received one. They can be found at the back of the church.

PLEASE TRY AND LEAVE THE PEW NEAT AND TIDY AS YOU LEAVE CHURCH TODAY.

FLOWERS AT EASTER: If you'd like to sponsor a lily in memory of a loved one(s) there are envelopes at the back of church for you to make this contribution. The names of the departed will be enrolled in a special book for the season.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Monday—Friday, 9.00-9.30am during Lent.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent every Friday after the 9.30am Mass (approx. at 10.00am).

HOLY WEEK 2017—details will be out next week.

THANK YOU to all who gave so generously to the Friars from our mission. As ever St George's was super generous and we've been able to send off to them £2500 (which doesn't include private donations). Thanks to all.

PARISH DIARY FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 26 March:
After Morning Masses—st Luke's Hospice sale
Teas/coffees after 9.45am and 11.15am Masses

Monday 27 March:
Confirmation 8.00pm

Tuesday 28 March:
Over 60's Club 1.00pm
First Holy Communion 7.30pm
Set Dancing 8.45pm

Wednesday 29 March:
Neighbourhood Watch 7.30pm

Thursday 30 March:
Church Cleaning Group A 3.00pm
Prayer Group 8.00pm

Friday 31 March:
Teas after morning Mass
Friends of Jesus 5.30pm.

AFTER THE MISSION—WHAT NEXT?? Are you hoping to deepen your spiritual life following our parish mission? Perhaps you are attracted to a life of prayer but don't know how to start? *Oremus* is an eight-week course of teaching and practical guidance about prayer which will begin in St George's over the coming weeks. There are posters and flyers at the back of church this weekend with dates and further details. As the friars have said many times during our mission, God is constantly reaching out to us inviting us into relationship with him. Attending this course might be one way in which you could respond to this invitation. Please speak to or email Fr Tony if you are interested - volunteer helpers required, too.

LENTEN SMALL GROUP - The Lenten Small Group meets on the five Mondays during Lent for 90 minute sessions in the Café Bar after the 9.30am Mass. The theme for prayer and discussion will be 'Meeting Mercy.' All are welcome!

AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED APPEAL: Next weekend we will welcome Mr John Ravi, area secretary for Aid to the Church in Need for the Archdiocese of Westminster, who will speak during all Masses.

Aid to the Church in need is a Catholic charity which works in 140 countries, helping persecuted and oppressed Christians around the world through prayer, information and action. At the moment it is involved in the frontline works in Syria and Iraq.

If you wish to find out more about the charity, which is a pontifical foundation of the Catholic Church or if you wish to be a

LITURGICAL CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS

SUNDAY MASS: 6.15pm (Saturday Vigil), 8.30am, 9.45am (Family) & 11.15am (Solemn), 5.30pm, **WEEKDAY MASS:** Monday – Saturday 9.30am, **HOLIDAYS OF OBLIGATION:** 9.30am, 8.00pm, **EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Saturday 5.15-6.00pm **RECONCILIATION/ CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 5.15pm - 6.00pm and any time by appointment, **DIVINE MERCY:** Tuesday 10.30am, **PRAYER GROUP:** Thursday 8.00pm **FRIENDS OF JESUS:** Friday 5.30pm.

V	Sun 26 Mar	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	<i>Sat. Vigil</i>	6.15pm 8.30am 9.45am 11.15am 5.30pm	PRO POPULO Attilio marcella, Irma & Rolando NARDONE RIP Cathy O'Connor RIP & Patrick Hannon RIP Michael O'Connell RIP (3rd Ann) Brain Drake RIP
V	Mon 27 Mar	Lent feria		9.30am	Fr Hayes RIP
V	Tues 28 Mar	Lent feria		9.30am	Margaret, Betty & Bill Cusock RIP
V	Wed 29 Mar	Lent feria		9.30am	Cathy O'Connor RIP
V	Thur 30 Mar	Lent feria		9.30am	Daniel Harrington RIP
V	Fri 31 Mar	Lent feria		9.30am	Marita & Robbie Ledo RIP Hermosinda Toucedo RIP
V	Sat 1 Apr	Lent feria		9.30am	Jim Mc Hugh RIP



DO YOU HUNGER FOR A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

**Would you like to pray but don't know how to begin?
Do you want to find new ways of praying?
Are you simply searching for more depth, peace and meaning in your life?**



Oremus is an eight-week series here at St George's, consisting of teaching and practical advice about prayer. It is designed to be of benefit to all, whatever your previous experience of prayer.

Wednesday lunchtimes at 1.00pm: 29th March - 5th April 12th April - 26th April 3rd May - 10th May 17th May - 24th May Beginning with refreshments	Wednesday evenings at 7.00pm 26th April - 3rd May 10th May - 17th May 24th May - 31st May 7th June - 14th June Beginning with refreshments
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**Topics include: What is prayer? - Praying with Scripture
Imaginative prayer - Discernment in prayer
Dealing with distractions**

Interested? Speak to Fr. Tony

TODAY'S MASS

Entrance Antiphon Cf. Is 66: 10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Collect

O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1.6-7.10-13

The Lord said to Samuel, Fill your horn with oil and go. I am sending you to Jesse of Bethlehem, for I have chosen myself a king among his sons. When Samuel arrived, he caught sight of Eliab and thought, Surely the Lords anointed one stands there before him, but the Lord said to Samuel, Take no notice of his appearance or his height for I have rejected him; God does not see as man sees; man looks at appearances but the Lord looks at the heart. Jesse presented his seven sons to Samuel, but Samuel said to Jesse, The Lord has not chosen these. He then asked Jesse, Are these all the sons you have? He answered, There is still one left, the youngest; he is out looking after the sheep. Then Samuel said to Jesse, Send for him; we will not sit down to eat until he comes. Jesse had him sent for, a boy of fresh complexion, with fine eyes and pleasant bearing. The Lord said Come, anoint him, for this is the one. At this, Sam-

uel took the horn of oil and anointed him where he stood with his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord seized on David and stayed with him from that day on.

Responsorial Psalm: 94

R/. The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

1. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me, to revive my drooping spirit. **R./**

2. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff; with these you give me comfort. **R./**

3. You have prepared a banquet for me in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil; my cup is overflowing. **R./**

4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me all the days of my life, in the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever. **R./**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

You were darkness once, but now you are light in the Lord; be like children of light, for the effects of the light are seen in complete goodness and right living and truth. Try to discover what the Lord wants of you, having nothing to do with the futile works of dark-

ness but exposing them by contrast. The things which are done in secret are things that people are ashamed even to speak of; but anything exposed by the light will be illuminated and anything illuminated turns into light. That is why it is said:

Wake up from your sleep,
rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel: John 9:1.6-9.13-17.34-38

As Jesus went along, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. He spat on the ground, made a paste with the spittle, put this over the eyes of the blind man and said to him, 'Go and wash in the Pool of Siloam' (a name that means 'sent'). So the blind man went off and washed himself, and came away with his sight restored.

His neighbours and people who earlier had seen him begging said, 'Isn't this the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'Yes, it is the same one.' Others said, 'No, he only looks like him.' The man himself said, 'I am the man.' They brought the man who had been blind to the Pharisees. It had been a Sabbath day when Jesus made the paste and opened the man's eyes, so when the Pharisees asked him how he had come to see, he said, 'He put a paste on my eyes, and I washed, and I can see.' Then some of the Pharisees said, 'This man cannot be from God: he does not keep the Sabbath.' Others said, 'How

could a sinner produce signs like this?' And there was disagreement among them. So they spoke to the blind man again, 'What have you to say about him yourself, now that he has opened your eyes?' 'He is a prophet' replied the man. So the Jews again sent for the man and said to him, 'Are you trying to teach us,' they replied 'and you a sinner through and through, since you were born!' And they drove him away.

Jesus heard they had driven him away, and when he found him he said to him, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' 'Sir,' the man replied 'tell me who he is so that I may believe in him.' Jesus said, 'You are looking at him; he is speaking to you.' The man said, 'Lord, I believe', and worshipped him.

Prayer over the Offerings

We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 9: 11, 38

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.