

Holy Cross Catholic Church

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam
Parish Priest
antonymegalan@rcaos.org.uk
02086983672
www.holycross-catford.org.uk

208 Sangley Road SE6 2JS
www.holycross-catford.org.uk



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
4 / 5 May 2024

Catholic FAITH [part 8] – Fr Antony

Sacred Scripture – God's Love Letter to Us [CCC – 101 to 133]

God wants to talk to us! Because he loves us, he speaks to us in a way we can understand, using human words. This is what the Bible is – God's carefully crafted message for us. It's one long story about God's love, with Jesus at the very centre. The Bible isn't just any book. The Church helps us understand it because its authors were inspired by God himself through the Holy Spirit. But it's not JUST about the past! It speaks to us today, too.

Reading the Bible is tricky sometimes. There are different ways to understand it:

Literal: What actually happened (like the story of Noah); **Spiritual:** Deeper meanings that point to Jesus or our lives with God. There are a few types: **Allegorical:** Events in the Bible can foreshadow Jesus (like the lamb sacrificed at Passover pointing towards Jesus as the Lamb of God), **Moral:** How we should act, inspired by Scripture, **Anagogical:** How Scripture points us toward Heaven

The awesome thing is, even with this depth, God STILL makes the Bible personal and speaks directly to each of us.

Reflection:

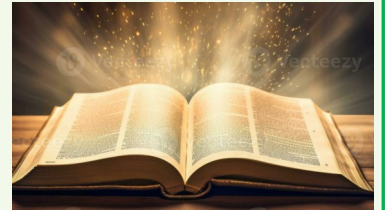
- Do you have a favourite Bible verse or story? Why?
- Has the Bible ever helped you in a tough situation?

Questions to Discuss at Home:

- Why would God choose to speak to us through a book instead of, say, appearing in the sky?
- How is the Bible different from other "religious" books?
- Are you more drawn to the Old or New Testament? Why?

Verses to Remember:

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness."



Dear Parishioners,

This message finds us celebrating the Sixth Sunday of Easter. The readings of the Holy Mass this week invite us to share God's salvation with the nations. May the Lord grant us the wisdom and courage to be His missionaries in the world.

First Holy Communion: This weekend, on Saturday **May 4th, 2024**, we celebrate the First Holy Communion for our first group of children. The second group will receive the Sacrament next weekend, on Saturday **May 11th, 2024**. Please keep all the children in your prayers as they take this important step in their faith journey. A huge thank you to Anne Mellis, Zdenka Jerkovic, Edel Fallon and Chuz Eberendu & Ibidun Eberendu for their dedication in catechising these children.

Confirmation: We are also blessed to have 26 young people receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this coming Sunday, Sunday **May 5th, 2024**. Bishop Philip Moger will be the Minister of this sacrament. We pray that these young people are inspired to take on leadership roles in their families and within our parish community. Our gratitude goes to Leon Jackson, Rwanda Jackson, and Florence Avwunu for their service as Confirmation catechists.

Altar Servers' Rally will be held on May Day Bank Holiday Monday **May 6th, 2024**, at The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent. This rally provides a wonderful opportunity for our servers to celebrate their ministry, socialize with other servers, and renew their faith. We will arrange a coach from our parish. Please contact us immediately if you and your servers would like to attend and have not yet registered. **Please note:** Morning Mass at Holy Cross on Monday [Bank Holiday] at 10 am.

On a different note, **Father Nathaniel Ewusi** will be inducted as the new parish priest of St. Mary Magdalen Parish, Brockley, on Friday, **May 10th, 2024, at 7:30 pm**. As Dean of the Lewisham Deanery, I will be attending this ceremony. Therefore, Father Clive Ross will celebrate the evening Mass here at our parish on that day.

This Thursday, **May 9th 2024**, we will celebrate the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord**. Let us remember the significance of this event as Christ completed the work of our redemption by ascending to His glory in Heaven. Let us celebrate this special celebration in a worthy way in our parish. It is a Holy day of Obligation and we shall have an additional Mass in the evening at 7pm.

Wishing you and your family a Happy Sunday and a Blessed month of May!



Blue Missal Book - page 349

I confess... : page 453 **Gloria:** page 455
Creed(s): pages 458 - 459 **Our Father...**485

Prayer Time at Holy Cross
Holy Mass: Mon to Thurs - 9.15am; Fri - 7pm;
 Sat - 6.30pm; Sun - 9am & 11.30am
Rosary – Mon, Tue, Thu @ 9.45am;
Divine Mercy Chaplet – Wed @ 9.45am and
 Fri 7.30pm
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions: Fri 6.00pm

Night Prayer at 9pm
[Zoom]
 Meeting ID: 7578777461;
 Passcode: 20212021

HOLY CROSS PARISH - FOOD COLLECTION

The next food collection will be on the first Sunday in May which is Saturday/Sunday 4th/5th May. All food donated will be taken to the Whitefoot and Downham Food Project.

If you are able to donate please bring an item of food to any Mass this weekend, and leave it in the bags at the back of the Church. Non-perishable goods only please. All donations - no matter how small - make a difference to help support those who are struggling.

IMPORTANT DAYS TO REMEMBER

04 May 2024 at 11am	First Holy Communion Mass (Group 1)
05 May 2024 at 3pm	Confirmation Ceremony
11 May 2024 at 11am	First Holy Communion Mass (Group 2)
11 May at 4:30pm	RCIA: Certificates & Celebratory Meal
12 May 2024 at 9am Mass followed by	Confirmation – Bring and Share celebration & certificates
19 May 2024 at 4pm Mass followed by	Final Session and Bring and Share celebration & certificates in the Hall



There will be a special retiring collection after each Mass this weekend for CAFOD. Families in Sudan are facing extreme hunger. 25 million people need urgent help. CAFOD are there ready to assist and a special appeal has been made for your help. Please donate after Mass, or online at CAFOD Sudan Crisis Appeal 2024. *Thank you.*

Baptism (on Saturday 4th May)

This week we welcome into the Church
Cree Jesse Leonidas Canelle
 Please keep Cree and his parents
Donella and Scott in your prayers.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS - Sat 4 May - Fri 10 May

SAT	6:30pm	<i>The English Martyrs</i> The Caruana Family Members – Living & Deceased
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Tony and Theresa Green R.I.P. Mitchelle Mbaeri – Birthday Thanksgiving
MON	10:00am	<i>Available for your Intention</i>
TUE	9:15am	Mary-Ann Egbudom—Thanksgiving
WED	9:15am	<i>Available for your Intention</i>
THU	9:15am 7:00pm	<i>Ascension of the Lord</i> People of the Parish <i>Available for your Intention</i>
FRI	6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Thierry Christian-Gnanakumar R.I.P.

Please Pray for the Sick:

Mary Rand, Pat Doyle, Albert Young, Ivor Lewis, Sherine Sukhram, Vivianne Owens, Norma Jones, Myra Hannon, Colin Maton, Melanie Thomas, Joe Green, Katie Bournier, Florence Nosegbe, Aboa Claudine, Jo Rocca Smith, Susan Murphy, Eileen Embury, Kitty Wilkinson, Theresa Butler, Ann Whittington, Elfrida Wacholz, Pat Gallagher, Lydia Joseph, Elaine Williams, Abosede Titi Balogun, Elizabeth Goba, Baby Gwen Williams, Trish Keaveney, Leonie Nwawudu, Meesh Gemmill, Rachael Pereira Wibberley & Jessica O’Hara

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL? - Contact Lewisham Hospital Catholic Chaplain directly on 07436051067. In an emergency, please say to the staff that you would like to see a Catholic priest.

SCAN AND JOIN OUR PARISH MISSIONS



YOUTH GROUP
 If you are 18 and above

UK & Ireland Basic
 Christian Community



Ivorian & French
 Speaking BCC

Nigerian Basic Christian
 Community



Information about other Basic Christian Communities to follow.

THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE DATE IS

11 May 2024 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall
 The course dates for the remainder of 2024 are:
 * 22nd June * 14th September * 23rd November

Fr Barry Hughes R.I.P.: It is with deep sadness that we share the news of Father Barry Hughes' passing on March 28th, 2024, at the Princess Royal University Hospital. Father Hughes served as the parish priest of Our Lady of Lourdes in Lee and also celebrated Masses at our church. His funeral Mass will be on Monday, 13th May 2024, at 12 noon, in St Michael and All Angels church, Farnborough.
May he rest in peace.

Money Matters - THANK YOU

Main Collection: £595
 St George’s Cathedral: £144

2nd Collection next weekend - World Communications Day.

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) which seeks to be of service both to the church and the world in offering professional channels of communication and helping to promote Gospel through the media.

PARISH CONTACTS

Office: 020 8698 3672 (Tues & Thur from 10:00am)
Josepha Flahive: catford@rcaos.org.uk
Lisa O’Hara: catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk
Holy Cross School: [Mary Collins: 020 8698 2675]
Holy Cross Book Shop: 020 3441 8240
Safeguarding: Pat Barber & Lisa O’Hara 07598 524024