

Holy Cross Catholic Church

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11th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
15 / 16 June 2024

Dear Parishioner,

This weekend we celebrate the 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's first reading, the Lord says: "From the top of the cedar, from the highest branch I will take a shoot and plant it myself on a very high mountain. I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel. It will sprout branches and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar." We are all called to be planted, grow, and become noble cedars on the Lord's mountain. In other words, we need to grow in God through our faith.

After a short break, we resume our reflections on the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC), which helps us understand the Lord's ways and grow in our faith. This week, we continue to reflect on the CCC and our response to God's call through faith. You can find the source passage at the following link: http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM.

Catholic FAITH [Part 9] – Fr Antony

MAN'S RESPONSE TO GOD [CCC142 to 165]

Faith is our loving response to God's invitation to friendship. It is a personal and free act of trusting in God and accepting His revealed truth. Abraham and Mary exemplify this faith through their unwavering trust and obedience to God's word.

Faith is a gift from God, a supernatural virtue infused by the Holy Spirit, yet it also requires our active participation. It is not blind belief but a reasonable response to God's revelation. Our faith seeks understanding and continuously grows as we deepen our relationship with God.

Faith is a source of certainty, surpassing human knowledge because it is grounded in the unchanging truth of God. It is a free gift that we must nurture and protect, for it can be lost if neglected. Faith offers us a foretaste of eternal life, even amidst the challenges and doubts of our earthly journey.

Let us reflect on how faith shapes our daily lives, our openness to deeper understanding, our desire to imitate faithful witnesses, and our efforts to nurture and strengthen our faith.

Reflection

How does my faith influence my daily life? Am I open to deepening my understanding of God and His revelation? Do I seek to imitate the faith of Abraham, Mary, and other witnesses of faith? How can I nourish my faith and make it grow?

Questions to Discuss in your families

What does it mean to say that faith is a gift from God?

How do the examples of Abraham and Mary challenge us to trust in God's promises?

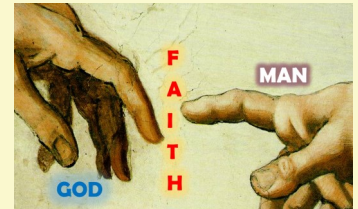
How does faith lead us to seek a deeper understanding of God and His truth?

What are some ways we can nourish and strengthen our faith in daily life?

Bible Verses to Remember

Hebrews 11:1: "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

2 Corinthians 5:7: "For we walk by faith, not by sight."



IV World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly

'Do not cast me off in my old age' (cfr. Psalm 71:9)

Join us as we honour the wisdom and legacy of our cherished grandparents and elders on the **Fourth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, Sunday, July 28th, 2024**. This year's theme, "Do not cast me off in my old age," reminds us of the importance of combating loneliness and embracing the valuable contributions our elders make to our families, our parish, and our community.

Special Mass and Anointing of the Sick

To mark this special occasion, we invite you to a **Mass for the Elderly on Saturday, July 27th, 2024, at 3:00 PM**. During this Mass, we will also offer the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, a source of strength and healing for those facing illness or advanced age.

Your Ideas Are Welcome

We are eager to celebrate the lives of our elders in a meaningful way. If you have any suggestions or ideas for activities, events, or initiatives that would honour our grandparents and older parishioners, please share them with us. Your input is invaluable

in creating a vibrant and inclusive parish community.

Mark Your Calendars

We hope you will join us for this special celebration of the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Please save the dates and let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. Together, we can build bridges between generations and ensure that no one feels alone in their journey through life.



Blue Missal Book - page 734

I confess... : page 453
Creed(s): pages 458 - 459

Gloria: page 455
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: 757877461;
 Passcode: 20212021



**Government Consultation –
 Removal of the 50% Cap on new faith schools**

As you will all be aware, HMG Department for Education is currently running a consultation on ending the 50% Cap on admissions for new free schools. This has been a longstanding objective of the Catholic Education Service since the changes were introduced in 2010.

The consultation is running until 20 June and, notwithstanding the calling of the General Election for 4 July, it is essential that the Department for Education receives more positive responses than negative ones to have any chance of the Cap being removed in the future.

There is now a section on the Bishops' Conference website which has a short form people can fill in, which will submit a positive response to the consultation.

Please participate in this campaign - <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lifting-the-faith-schools-cap/>

THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE DATE:
22nd June 2024 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall. The course dates for the remainder of 2024 are:
 * 14th September * 23rd November

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS - Sat 15 - Fri 21 June

SAT	6:30pm	<i>The Blessed Virgin Mary</i> John Organ R.I.P.
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Joseph Green – Wellbeing M F Rajendram & Philomena Rajendram R.I.P.
MON	9:15am	Tom Chia R.I.P.
TUE	9:15am	Tony and Theresa Green R.I.P.
WED	9:15am	<i>Saint John Rigby, Martyr</i> Malcolm Francis R.I.P.
THU	9:15am	<i>Saint Alban, First Martyr of Britain</i> Ashley Clement Gabriel R.I.P. (1st Anniversary)
FRI	6:00pm 7:00pm	<i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> John Baptiste Thomas R.I.P.

CAFOD APPEAL

Thank you to all our Parishioners for their generous donations to this special appeal which totalled **£1,226.**



Altar Servers' Trip

29 July - 1 August - Altar Servers' Trip for youngsters aged 11-16. This annual trip now takes place in the Westminster Diocese Youth Centre in Pinner.

A well organised, fun, educational and prayerful four days for altar servers or teenagers who regularly attend Mass at the weekend. A great opportunity to experience a packed programme, with faith-based activities plus sport and a visit to Thorpe Park. Cost £189.

For more details contact Fr Stephen Boyle: dartford@rcaos.org.uk, telephone: 01322 220075.

SVP and CAFOD - working together in the run up to the General Election

As Catholics, we know that tackling poverty and injustice are among the most important issues politicians should act on. St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD have produced a guide for Catholics for the General Election, with suggested questions to ask candidates.

Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter or svp.org.uk/encounter for more information.



Third Thursday Time is a mental health space hosting relaxing activities with the opportunity to socialise with other people. Come and join us in Hartley Hall for our next session on **20th June from 6-8pm** for massage, exercise and other activities.

Money Matters - THANK YOU

Main Collection: £575

2nd Collection this week for **DAY FOR LIFE**. The day the church dedicates to celebrating the sacredness of life. Proceeds provide core funding for the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and assist in other life related activities.

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

Windrush Celebration 2024
 29th June, 11-4pm
 St. Andrew the Apostle Church Hall
 Sandhurst Road
 Catford. SE6 1XD

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

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.