

# CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF FAITH AND COMMUNITY AT HOLY CROSS [1904 TO 2024]

## AT CATFORD

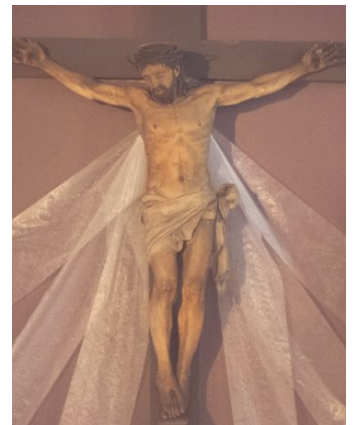
14/15 SEPTEMBER 2024

Dear Parishioners,

As we gather to celebrate the 120th anniversary of Holy Cross Catholic Church, we reflect on the rich history and vibrant spirit that define our community. Our church stands as a testament to the dedication and faith of those who came before us, and to the diverse cultures and languages that enrich our congregation today.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who have worked tirelessly to build and sustain this sacred space. Your unwavering commitment and hard work have created a sanctuary where we can all come together in worship and fellowship. May God bless each and every one of you who enter these doors, and may He continue to support and guide us as we serve His people in various ways. Let us cherish this milestone and look forward to celebrating our 125th anniversary in 2029 in a meaningful way, filled with faith, love, and community.

Blessings,  
Fr. Antony



### 120th Parish Feast Celebration details (2 weeks)

**14 Sep 2024 at 6.30 pm: Holy Mass: The Exaltation of The Holy Cross, Feast**

**15 Sep 2024 at 9.00 am: Holy Mass**

**15 Sep 2024 at 11.30 am : Parish Feast Day Mass - Week 1**

*Please come in your Cultural Dress*

**In this Mass...**

We sing the praises of the Lord in different languages

Bidding Prayers offered in the vernaculars of the people

Join in the Offertory Procession to thank God for every blessing



**22 SEP 2024 [Sunday]: Parish Feast Celebration - Week 2**

After the 11.30am Mass, we gather in the Car park to celebrate the unity of our spiritual community by sharing our cultural food. Nations/Languages/Cultures will be given a place with their national flag to set up their food stall.

**Let us celebrate the triumph of the Holy Cross and our faith & unity!**



## **Five-Year Plan for Holy Cross Parish, Catford** **[2024 to the Jubilee Year 2029]**

This first-year plan sets the stage for a fruitful journey towards our 125th Jubilee. By focusing on shared leadership, spiritual formation, and effective communication, we will strengthen the foundation of our parish and ensure that Holy Cross continues to be a beacon of God's love in Catford for generations to come.

Here is my personal plan for the parish for this year. I pray that we can achieve much more than what is mentioned here. I will not accomplish these missions alone. We have many committed and talented people in our parish. With God's help and the support and cooperation of our community, we can joyfully begin the works of salvation that will bring blessings to our parish and the wider community.

### **Year 1 [2024-2025]: Laying the Foundation for our 125th Jubilee**

This year marks the beginning of our journey towards celebrating the 125th Jubilee of Holy Cross Parish in 2029.  
Councils: Empowering Shared Leadership

#### **Three Councils and Parish Council**

We will prioritize the strengthening and training of the three councils: **St. Mary's Council** for Liturgy and Worship, **St. Joseph's Council** for Evangelisation and Outreach, and **St. Paul's Council** for Catechesis and Formation. Along with the existing Finance and Building & Hartley Hall Committees, these councils will play a vital role in fostering a synodal approach, encouraging active participation, and listening to all voices within our community.

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Post-pandemic, we will form the first team of a vibrant Parish Pastoral Council, comprising representatives from each of the three councils, Holy Cross Primary School, and the leaders of all weekend Masses. This council will serve as a central body for discerning and implementing our shared vision for the parish. A second team will be added in due time.

#### **Spiritual Formation: Nurturing Faith at Every Age**

**Sunday Bible Classes:** We will introduce Sunday Bible classes for children, young people, and parents after the 9AM Mass, providing a space for faith formation and fellowship.

**Youth Groups:** We will launch dynamic youth groups to form young people in Catholic values and empower them to become leaders in their families, the Church, and the world.

**Catechist Training:** We will invest in comprehensive training for our catechists, equipping them to effectively share the faith with others. 'Away days' and pilgrimages will be organized for the catechists.

**Pilgrimages:** In light of the Holy Father's announcement that 2025 will be a Jubilee Year with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope," we will organize both local and larger pilgrimages, fostering spiritual growth and deepening our connection to God and one another.

**New Website:** We will develop a new website that serves not only as a source of information but also as a platform for catechesis and evangelization.

**Use of Social Media:** We will actively utilize social media to keep parishioners catechized, informed, and connected to the life of the parish. We will also start sending Morning Blessings audio recordings periodically, as we did during the pandemic.

**Vocations:** Cultivating a Culture of Discernment

**Deacon Formation:** This year, we will particularly focus on inspiring married men to consider the vocation of the diaconate. We will also encourage young people to aspire to join the priestly or religious life.

**Food Bank:** We will continue to encourage generosity towards the poor and support for the Food Banks.

**Bereavement Counselling Team:** We will form a team to comfort and counsel those in distress or who have lost loved ones.

**Financial Health: Ensuring Sustainability**

**Culture of Generosity Campaign:** We will launch a campaign encouraging diverse giving methods and emphasizing the importance of online giving.

**Church Enhancements:** After consultation, we will replace the noticeboards with inspiring catechetical canvas paintings on the walls, creating a more visually appealing and spiritually enriching environment. We will also replace the carpet on the church floors, ensuring a welcoming and comfortable space for worship.

**Sponsorship Opportunities:** A new Lectionary is set to be introduced in England and Wales starting with Advent 2024. This means that the scripture readings used during Mass and other sacraments will be updated. Consequently, we will have to replace our Blue Missals used during the Mass and also to buy 4 new big Lectionaries for the Altar. We will invite parishioners to sponsor the new Lectionaries (4 volumes for the Sanctuary) and People's Missals (200 copies) before November 2024, fostering a sense of shared ownership and participation.

**Please Note:** The above are my personal visions for the parish in this first year leading up towards the Post Centenary Silver Jubilee of our parish in 2029.

The Parish pastoral Council will also create a Five-Year plan based on the recent Parish Consultation.

**Fr Antony**

## 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS [UCM] IN CATFORD [1944—2024]



**Pauline Maton**

**40 years member - UCM Catford**



**President—Eunice Conroy**

**55 years member - UCM Catford**



**Philomena [Phyllis] Cahill**

**50 years member - UCM Catford**



Dear members of UCM, we congratulate you on this year of blessing as you celebrate your 80th anniversary.

**- Holy Cross Family**

We thank you for your prayers and support throughout these years. We pray that the Lord God bless you and your families abundantly.

**Blue Missal Book - page 787**

**I confess...** : page 453      **Gloria:** page 455

**Creed(s):** pages 458 - 459      **Our Father...**485

**Money Matters - THANK YOU**

Mass Collection: £380  
Second Collection: CES £170

**THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE**

**14th Sept 2024 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall**

**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 07598 524024

**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**

ID: 7578777461  
Password: 20212021

**Next Sunday Bible Readings**

**1st Reading:** **Wisdom 2:12. 17-20**    **Psalm: 53**  
**2nd Reading:** **James 3:16-4:3**    **Gospel: Mark 9:30-37**

**ST JOSEPH'S COUNCIL MEETING** will be held on Monday, 16 September 2024 at 7.30pm. Please join.

St. Joseph's Council focuses on Evangelization and Outreach. Their missions include elderly care, food bank support, coordinating the parish's diverse cultural and linguistic groups, sick visits, counseling, and bereavement support.

**Preparation for the Sacramental Programs:** In September, we will begin preparations for the celebrations of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Please refer to the parish noticeboard for detailed information.

**SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS:** We hope to begin Sunday Bible classes for children, young people, and parents on the **third Sunday of October**. Thereafter, they will be held every first and third Sunday after the 9 a.m. Mass in Hartley Hall. More information to follow.



**SECOND COLLECTION**

**Evangelii Gaudium (Home Mission) Sunday.** This weekend's second collection provides the bishops of England and Wales with resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelization.

**Rest in Peace**

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of **Sabrina Bernadette Townsend** whose funeral took place on Monday 9th September.

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

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

	Sat 14 - Fri 20 Sep	Sat 21 - Fri 27 Sep
SAT 6:30pm	People of the Parish	Brian Roshier R.I.P.
9:00am	People of the Parish	Maria Conroy - Thanksgiving
SUN 11:30am	People of the Parish	Peter & Maureen Obichukwu & Family - Thanksgiving
MON 9:15am	Tony & Theresa Green R.I.P.	Benedict & Rita Sanderson - Wedding Anniversary
TUE 9:15am	Rosary Selvaratnam R.I.P. (1st Anniversary)	All members of the Diamond Club - Wellbeing
WED 9:15am	Emmanul Oluwapelumi Williams R.I.P.	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Wellbeing
THU 9:15am	Luke & Marian Sanderson - Wedding Anniversary	Intentions of Pauline Maton
FRI 7:00pm	Dona Jijo - Thanksgiving for Countless Blessings	Maria & Anthony Zammit R.I.P.