

Holy Cross Catholic Church

120 YEARS IN GOD'S MISSION

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam
Parish Priest
antonymegalan@rcaos.org.uk
02086983672

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

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
16/17 November 2024



Dear Parishioners,

This weekend's Responsorial Psalm says: "Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you," which resonates deeply with themes of trust and divine protection. The psalmist's declaration of God as their portion and cup signifies a deep reliance on the Lord for sustenance and fulfilment. Keeping the Lord ever in sight symbolizes unwavering faith, providing strength and stability. This trust leads to a heart filled with joy and a soul at peace. The psalm beautifully encapsulates the journey of faith, where seeking refuge in God brings not only safety but also the fullness of joy and eternal happiness in His presence. It is a reminder of the enduring hope and comfort found in God's unwavering love.

As we reflect on the readings of this 33rd Sunday, let us embrace the profound message of trust and refuge in God. May we find strength and joy in keeping the Lord ever in our sight, knowing that His presence brings us eternal happiness and peace. Let us stand firm in our faith, rejoicing in the promise of His protection and the fullness of life He offers.

Annual Retreat: Every priest is to make at least a week of retreat each year. This year, I will be attending the retreat with the Archbishop and the priests of our diocese from Monday to Friday in Merville, France. Please keep us all in your prayers, and be assured of my prayers for you and our parish.

Meeting Time: I am generally available at the parish, except when visiting the sick or attending meetings in the diocese or Deanery. The best time to meet with me is after the weekday Masses, including the Friday evening Mass.

Jubilee Year at Holy Cross: 2024-25 is indeed a blessed year for our parish, Holy Cross, as we celebrate the 120th anniversary of our parish and the Jubilee Year of the Universal Church. Special events and pilgrimages will be organized throughout this year of God's grace.

Archbishop John Wilson will offer a Jubilee Mass for us on Sunday, 25 May 2025, at 11:30 am. We welcome your suggestions on how to celebrate this Jubilee Year in a worthy way in our parish.

Sunday Bible Class this Week: Join us after the 9 am Mass. Please participate and receive God's blessings and wisdom!

RETREATS AND FORMATION

St. Paul's Council members and their families will be making their retreat in Aylesford on Saturday, 16 November 2024. Please keep them in your prayers. May our catechists and the formators of the Holy Cross be guided by the Holy Spirit to bring Jesus Christ into the lives of our people.

Altar Servers and their parents are also making a coach trip to Aylesford on the same day for their retreat and training. Our parish is blessed with a good number of altar servers. May they not only serve and glorify the Lord as children and young people at the altar but also throughout their whole life by their way of life.

Join Us for the Holy Cross Parish Christmas Fayre!

Get ready for a festive celebration! Join us for the Holy Cross Parish Christmas Fayre on Sunday, December 8th, after the 9 am and 11.30 am Masses in the Hartley Hall.

We're seeking talented crafters, bakers, and entertainers to make this event extra special. Whether you have handcrafted treasures, delicious treats, or captivating performances, your contribution will make a difference.

Spread the holiday cheer to your communities and friends and sign up today!
[Please contact **St Joseph's Council** or the parish office]

Urgent: Catholic Response to the Assisted Dying Bill in the UK

As Catholics, we uphold the **sanctity of life from conception to natural death**. The proposed Assisted Dying Bill raises serious ethical and moral concerns. Our faith teaches that every life is a precious gift from God, deserving protection and care, especially in its most vulnerable stages.

While we empathise with the suffering of terminal illness, we believe that intentionally ending a life is morally wrong. We advocate for palliative care that respects human dignity and alleviates suffering without hastening death.

Hospice UK reports that over 100,000 people die annually without needing palliative care, and the NHS is facing an unprecedented crisis. Now is not the time to legalize assisted suicide.

Please collect a postcard from the Welcome Ministers on your way out to learn how to oppose this Bill. **Be Christian and oppose this Bill.**

READERS' DAY: As we prepare to introduce the new Lectionaries, which we will start to use from the first week of Advent, we will be holding a training session for all readers. This important training will take place on **Tuesday, 26 November, at 7:00 PM in Hartley Hall.**

We are honoured to have Piero Finaldi, the publisher of these Lectionaries for England and Wales, leading the session. Please make sure to attend this valuable training. We look forward to seeing you there! Children who are participating must be accompanied by their parents. **With every blessing, Fr Antony.**

Blue Missal Book - page 823

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
ID: 7578777461
Password: 20212021

Next Sunday Bible Readings

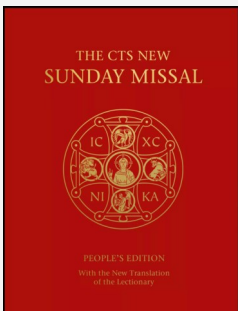
1st Reading: Daniel 7:13-14 **Psalm:** 92(93):1-2,5
2nd Reading: Apocalypse 1:5-8 **Gospel:** John 18:33-37

Next weekend is **Youth Sunday**, when we especially keep our young people in our prayers. All young people will receive a special blessing at all Masses next weekend.

The New Lectionaries/Missals

The Bishops of England and Wales have adopted a new translation of the Scriptures for use at Mass and other liturgical celebrations. These new texts will be introduced from the first Sunday of Advent this year.

We have received 200 new Missals for the congregation to use during Mass. These red Missals will replace the existing blue Missals. The new red Missals will be blessed and dedicated for parish use this weekend. A short training session will be provided to parishioners on how to use it before each Mass on the weekend of the First Sunday of Advent.



Personal Copy: If you would like to purchase your personal copy of this Missal, please contact the repository (church shop) and pay £30. It will be a White Presentation Edition with Mass texts in side-by-side Latin and English. Attractively presented in a slipcase, this gilt-edged white leather edition with two ribbons is also a perfect First Holy Communion gift.

Please remember that our **Church Shop** (repository) is open after all weekend Masses.

PARISH DIARY

- 16 Nov:** Retreat for the members and family members of St Paul's Council. Also for the Altar Servers.
 - 17 Nov:** Sunday Bible Class
 - 23 Nov:** First Holy Communion & Confirmation Classes
 - 26 Nov:** 19:00 - Readers' Training
 - 30 Nov:** First Holy Communion & Confirmation Classes
 - 01 Dec:** Sunday Bible Class
18:00 - Ecumenical Carol Service at St Laurence
 - 07 Dec:** First Reconciliation for the Children
 - 08 Dec:** Parish Christmas Fayre
 - 12 Dec:** Setting up Christmas Tree in the church
 - 14 Dec:** 10:00 - Volunteer Christmas Celebration
 - 23 Dec:** Advent Confessions
- [more info about the Advent programmes to follow]

Third Thursday Time is a mental health space hosting relaxing activities with the opportunity to socialise with new people.

Come and join us in Hartley Hall for our next session on **21st Nov from 6-8 p.m.**

This will be a 'Crafting Event'.



Children's Choir rehearsal this Sunday

The children's choir will be singing at the **9am Mass on 15th December.**

There will be a rehearsal for the children after the Sunday 9am Mass on Sunday - **24th Nov.**

Rehearsal will be in the Hartley Hall Upper Room.

Please encourage them to attend the rehearsal.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	Sat 16 - Fri 22 Nov	Sat 23 - Fri 28 Nov
SAT 6:30pm	UCM INTENTION: Deceased UCM Members and their families	Chrissy Dollard R.I.P.
SUN 9:00am	Emmanuel Oluwapelumi Williams R.I.P.	Beatrice & Philip Orodje – Thanksgiving for their 30th Wedding Anniversary & Philip's 60th Birthday
11:30am	Brendan & Tom Kilcoyne R.I.P.	Cornelius Bonner R.I.P.
MON 9:15am	Roberto Joanes R.I.P.	People of the Parish
TUE 9:15am	Repose of the souls of the Nguyen Family and Friends	Mrs Margaret Ndeley-Barton – 70 th Birthday Thanksgiving
WED 9:15am	Eucharistic Service today	Tony and Theresa Green R.I.P
THU 9:15am	Brian Roshier R.I.P.	Tony Green R.I.P.
FRI 6:00pm 7:00pm	<i>Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Jerison Paul R.I.P.	<i>Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Aaron Rodger Lean R.I.P.

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

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.

Money Matters - THANK YOU

2nd Collection next weekend for the **Catholic Youth Services**

PARISH CONTACTS

- Office:** 020 8698 3672 (Tues & Thur from 10:00am)
- Josepha Flahive, Parish Office:** 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