



Holy Cross Catholic Church

120 YEARS IN GOD'S MISSION

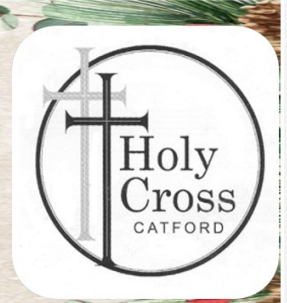
208 Sangley Road SE6 2JS

www.holycross-catford.org.uk

Caford@rcaos.org.uk; 02086983672

CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024



MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025

Dear Parishioners,

As I celebrate my seventh Christmas here at Holy Cross, I'm filled with joy to witness the growth of our spiritual community, both in God's grace and in the bonds of friendship we share.

Throughout Advent, we have prepared our hearts for the joyous arrival of our Lord. With Christmas upon us, let us celebrate His birth with hearts full of gratitude and praise.

May the love and peace of Jesus Christ remain with you and your families, not just this Christmas season, but always.

I am deeply grateful for your prayers, friendship, and unwavering support. It is a privilege to serve you and this community. Thank you also for your thoughtful greeting cards and gifts.

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a New Year filled with hope and joy!

In Christ, **Fr Antony**



CHRISTMAS AT HOLY CROSS

Advent Confessions: To prepare ourselves to celebrate Christmas in a worthy way, we shall have Advent Confessions on Monday, December 23rd at 7 PM. **Bishop Pat Lynch** and many priests will be available to hear Confessions.

Calling all children and young people! You have a special invitation to participate in the 7pm Christmas Eve Vigil Mass. You'll be invited to join a special procession, placing the Baby Jesus in our Crib.

To help things go smoothly, we'll hold a short rehearsal this Sunday after the 9am Mass in the Church, lasting about 20 minutes. Parents are requested to remain during the rehearsal. However, if you can't make it to the rehearsal, don't worry! All children present at the Vigil Mass are welcome to take part in this special Christmas Eve tradition.



Crib Characters: This Christmas, let's once again bring the Nativity scene to life! We encourage you to dress your children as their favourite crib characters – Mary, Joseph, shepherds, angels, wise men, or even an innkeeper – for our Christmas Masses. Imagine a church filled with little Marys and Josephs, tiny shepherds and angels! What a beautiful way to celebrate the birth of Jesus. As a special blessing, all children dressed as Nativity characters will be invited to gather around the crib during Mass for a special blessing.

Special Christmas Guest: Santa Claus to Visit! Let's make this Christmas truly special and memorable for our children. Get ready for a special treat this year! Santa Claus himself will be visiting us after the Christmas Masses to spread Christmas cheer to all the children. Prepare for a jolly surprise that will make this Christmas season even more magical!

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

This Christmas your offering is a gift to our parish priest, Fr Antony.



Thank you in advance for your generosity. May your kindness be returned to you many times over.



Want to receive our parish email every week? It's easy, just scan this QR code!

Begin Your Journey of Faith: Becoming Catholic or Baptism for Your Child

Are you on a journey of faith and considering becoming Catholic? Or perhaps you'd like to have your child baptized? We invite you to connect with Fr. Antony after any Mass or by email at catford@rcaos.org.uk. He will provide friendly support and guidance as you discover more about Jesus Christ and the joy of belonging to God's community.

Red Missal - page 75

I confess... : page 525

Gloria: page 531

Creed(s): pages 543 - 545

Our Father...635

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

Coffee Mornings: Join us for our next Coffee Morning on Sunday, January 12th, 2025, following the 9:00 AM Mass. We'd like to extend our sincere gratitude to everyone for their ongoing support and to all the communities involved for making these events possible.

Holy Cross school Birthday:

Join us as we celebrate Holy Cross School's 50th birthday with a special **Golden Jubilee**

Mass on Monday 13th

January at 1:30 pm! All

parishioners, past pupils, and past parents are warmly invited to attend this joyous occasion as we give thanks for the past 50 years and look forward to the future of our wonderful school community.



9 p.m. Monastery: Did you know that every day we come together as God's family virtually to pray the Night Prayer of the Church via Zoom for the past four years? It is very blissful and peaceful to pray together and receive God's blessings before going to sleep. Join us using the Zoom meeting ID: **7578777461** and Passcode: **20212021**.

Bible Verse to Remember:

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

[John 3: 16]

PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam -
Parish Priest

antonymegalan@rcaos.org.uk /
020 86983672

Josephah Flahive, Parish Office:

catford@rcaos.org.uk
020 8698 3672

(Tues & Thur from 10:00am)

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 21- Fri 27 Dec 2024

Sat 28 Dec - 3 Jan 2025

	Sat 21- Fri 27 Dec 2024	Sat 28 Dec - 3 Jan 2025
SAT 6:30pm	Brian Roshier R.I.P.	William Benzynie R.I.P.
SUN 9:00am 11:30am	Pierre Eloifin R.I.P. Marie-Catherine Kodjo - Thanksgiving	Ejoro Okor – Birthday Thanksgiving Gnanapragasam & Bernadate R.I.P.
MON 9:15am	Ellen Bernadette Maher R.I.P. [1st anniversary]	Beatrice & Philip Orodje – Marriage Blessings & Thanksgiving
TUE 9:15am 7:00pm 12:00am	Christmas Eve Matt Cleary R.I.P. People of the Parish Midnight - People of the Parish	New Year's Eve 9:15am - Thang Nguyen – Wellbeing and Thanksgiving (No 7:00pm Mass) Midnight - People of the Parish
WED 9:00am 11:30am	The Nativity Of The Lord People of the Parish People of the Parish	Mary The Holy Mother of God 10:00am (Later start) - Gracey George R.I.P.
THU 9:15am	Guild of St Stephen - Foundation Mass	Private Intention
FRI 6:00pm 7:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament John Baptiste Thomas R.I.P. (Birthday)	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Jijo Abraham – Thanksgiving for Countless Blessings Received

Advent Events & Christmas Mass Times and Services

Advent Talks via Zoom at 9 pm [username: 7578777461; ID: 20212021]

December 20: **Fr. Milton** (Italy)

Advent Confessions: Monday, December 23rd from 7:00 PM

Christmas Mass Times

December 24th (Christmas Eve):

6:30 PM: Carols by Children's Choir and Filipinos

7:00 PM: Christmas Vigil Mass

11:00 PM: Carols

Midnight: **Christmas Festive Mass**

December 25th (Christmas Day Mass): 9 AM and 11.30 AM

New Year

December 31st (New Year's Eve):

11:00 PM: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Midnight: **Midnight Mass**

January 1st, 2025 (New Year's Day Mass): 10:00 AM

