

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

# Holy Cross Catholic Church

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



2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)  
18/19 Jan 2025



## Dear Parishioners,

In this week, we reflect on the miracle at the wedding at Cana. This event isn't just a story about a miracle; it's a blueprint for how we should live as a parish family. Imagine the scene: a celebration, joy, and then suddenly, a problem – the wine runs out. What happens next is crucial. Mary notices the need, and she doesn't hesitate to act. She brings the problem to Jesus.

This is what we're called to do for each other, **to be attentive to the needs around us**. The quiet struggles, the unspoken anxieties, maybe it's a family facing financial hardship, someone battling loneliness, or a parishioner overwhelmed by illness. Just like Mary, we can be the ones who notice, who care, who bring those needs to Christ – and to each other.

We have the power to turn ordinary moments into extraordinary ones, to transform lack into abundance, not with miraculous wine, but with the gifts God has given us: compassion, generosity, and a willingness to serve. A helping hand, a listening ear, a warm meal – these are the ways we turn water into wine in our own community.

This week, let's be inspired by the wedding at Cana. Let's be attentive to the needs of our fellow parishioners, offering support and love in practical ways. By doing so, we become channels of Christ's grace, transforming our parish into a place where everyone feels truly welcomed and cared for.

## Six Dimensions of the Jubilee Year 2025

Based on his pronouncements of Pope Francis and the historical context of the Jubilee years, we can identify six interconnected dimensions:

- Spiritual Renewal:** At its core, the Jubilee is a time for profound spiritual renewal, a return to God's mercy and a deepening of our relationship with him. This involves pilgrimage, prayer, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a renewed commitment to living the Gospel.
- Hope:** Pope Francis has designated 2025 as the "Jubilee of Hope," emphasizing the need to foster hope in a world marked by challenges and uncertainty. This involves recognizing God's presence in our lives, trusting in his promises, and working to build a more just and compassionate world.
- Reconciliation:** Jubilee years have traditionally been associated with forgiveness and reconciliation. This dimension calls us to seek forgiveness for our sins, to extend forgiveness to others, and to work for healing and reconciliation in our families, communities, and the world.
- Solidarity with the marginalized:** A key aspect of Jubilee years is a focus on justice and care for the poor and marginalized. This involves actively reaching out to those in need, advocating for their rights, and working to create a more inclusive and equitable society.
- Care for Creation:** Pope Francis has repeatedly emphasized the importance of caring for our common home. This dimension of the Jubilee calls us to recognize the interconnectedness of all creation, to live sustainably, and to protect the environment for future generations.
- Pilgrimage:** Journeying to Rome or other holy sites is a traditional practice during Jubilee years. This physical pilgrimage symbolizes our spiritual journey towards God and our commitment to living out the values of the Gospel.



## Coach Pilgrimage to Diocesan Holy Places

Did you know that over 100 saints are from our diocese alone. We are organising pilgrimages to visit some of these holy places; the first trip will be on Saturday 22nd February 2025.

And we will be visiting Aylesford, Rochester, Faversham, Canterbury and Ramsgate. If you would like to attend, please email your name/s to [catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk).

At Aylesford we will see the Shrine of our Lady of Mount Carmel and Saint Simon Stock. Rochester has always been associated with the early Saints: - Paulinus, Ithamar and William of Perth and of course John Fisher, and in Faversham, Saints Crispin and Crispinian are very special, as is Saint Jude, the patron saint of hopeless cases! Upon visiting Canterbury, we learn there are quite a number of well-known saints, including Saint Augustine, Saint Thomas Beckett, St Anselm, St Mildred... the list goes on. Finally, in Ramsgate we will see the Shrine of St Augustine of Canterbury, which is where he first landed on English soil from Rome in the year 597, and his apostolic mission began.

## Red Missal Book ... page 971

**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

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

### Next Sunday - Bible Readings

**1st Reading:** Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10      **Psalm:** 18:8-10, 15  
**2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12: 12-30      **Gospel:** Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

### IMPORTANT DAYS REMEMBER

01 February - Baptism Preparation  
22 Feb - **Coach Pilgrimage** to Diocesan Holy Places  
23 Feb - **Seeds of the Word** [Retreat for parents who baptised their children in the past 7 years]  
25 Feb - St Mary's Council Meeting  
04 March - St Joseph's Council Meeting  
05 March - **Ash Wednesday**  
09 March - Lenten Retreat: **Bishop Pat Lynch**  
11 March - St Paul's Council Meeting  
13 March - Lenten Retreat: The Desert Experience  
17 March - St Patrick's Day Celebration  
20 March - Lenten Retreat: **Bishop Paul Mason**  
27 March - Lenten Retreat: The Paschal Mystery  
29 March - Baptism Preparation  
03 April - Lenten Retreat: The Beatitudes: A Pathway to Holiness  
10 April - Lenten Retreat: Discipleship: Following Jesus in the World Today  
13 April - **Palm Sunday**  
14 April - **Lenten Confessions**  
20 April - **Easter**  
04 May - **Confirmation Celebration**  
10 May - **Holy Communion Celebration**  
May (dates to be confirmed) - **Pilgrimage to Fatima**  
17 May - Baptism Preparation  
25 May - **Archbishop John Wilson's** Mass  
29th May - The Ascension of the Lord  
08 June - International Day [Pentecost]  
15th June - The Most Holy Trinity  
21 June - Readers and EMHC Retreat

### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 18th - Fri 24th Jan 2025

SAT	6:30pm	Peggy Jones R.I.P. (Anniversary)
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Wellbeing – Private Intention Antoine Kodjo - Thanksgiving
MON	9:15am	Hamilton & Edwin Noronha R.I.P.
TUE	9:15am	Martin Joseph Flatley R.I.P. (1st Anniversary)
WED	9:15am	Antony & Joseph Noronha R.I.P.
THU	9:15am	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Healing
FRI	6:00pm 7:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Malcom Francis R.I.P

**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, Ivor Lewis, Colin Maton, Katie Bourner, 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 and Rachael Pereira Wibberley

**ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL?** - Contact Lewisham Hospital Catholic Chaplain directly on 020 8333 3299. In an emergency, please say to the staff that you would like to see a Catholic priest.

### Seeds of the Word

[Continuing formation for the parents who baptised their children]

Families who have baptised their children in the past seven years are invited to attend the **9am Mass on Sunday, February 23rd**. Your children will receive special prayers and blessings, followed by spiritual reflection and refreshments in Hartley Hall. This is a wonderful opportunity to sow the seeds of God's word into their hearts. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Want to Baptise your child?

Parents who would like to baptise their children, please follow these steps:

1. Obtain an Application form from Fr. Antony. The Parish Surgery is open on Fridays at 3pm and again at 8pm.
2. Submit your completed application form to the Parish Office, along with proof of Catholicism of at least one parent and all Godparents. Evidence can be a copy Baptism Certificate, Marriage Certificate in a Catholic Church or Letter from a Priest.
3. Completion of an on-line Baptism Course, a link will be sent to you which will contain Baptism preparation videos. The Parish Office will guide you once you have submitted your application form.
4. After the above requirements have been met, you will be asked to select a date for your child's Baptism.

### THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE DATE IS:

**Saturday 1st February 2025 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall**

The course dates for the remainder of 2025 are:

29 March, 17 May, 19 July, 20 Sep & 15 Nov

**Cushions:** You may find several cushions near the pillar closer to the Marian Chapel. Please offer them to the elderly and those in need. Welcome Ministers and young people, please keep an eye out for those who may require assistance.

**Sunday Missal:** All Sunday readings and Mass prayers can be found in the red-coloured Missal located in the porches. Please pick up a copy upon entering the church. Page numbers are typically indicated on the second page of the newsletter. Remember to return the Missal before leaving the Church. If you'd like to own your own copy of the Missal, why not visit the Repository at the rear of the church. The shop is open after every weekend Mass.

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Office:** 020 8698 3672 (Tues & Thur from 10:00am)

**Joseph 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