

Holy Cross Catholic Church

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17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B)
27 / 28 July 2024

Dear Parishioners,

In the Gospel of John (6:1-15), Jesus miraculously feeds a multitude with just five loaves and two fish. This story isn't merely about physical hunger. It symbolizes Christ's abundant love and our call to share His compassion with those in need. This miracle reminds us that God can take our simple offerings and multiply them to meet the needs of many.

Tragically, hunger persists in our world today. The United Nations estimates that over 811 million people go to bed hungry each night. Inspired by the Gospel, let's turn our faith into action. Consider donating to our parish Food Bank, volunteering at a local soup kitchen, or organizing a food drive in your neighbourhood. Remember, even small acts of generosity, when united in Christ, can have a profound impact. **Fr Antony**

Catholic FAITH [Part 14]

Providence and the Scandal of Evil [why suffering]

[Please read Catechism of the Catholic Church - 309 to 324]

Click/type to read the Catechism:

https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_P19.HTM

The Catechism acknowledges the difficult question of why evil exists in a world created by a good and loving God. It explains that evil is not directly caused by God but is a result of the free will given to angels and humans. While God permits evil, He mysteriously brings forth good from it. This is evident in the story of Joseph, whose brothers' evil intentions led to his rise to power and the salvation of many. Even the greatest evil, the death of Jesus, brought about the greatest good, our redemption.

Reflection:

God's ways are not our ways. While we may not always understand why suffering and evil exist, we can trust that God has a plan, even when it is not immediately apparent to us. We can find comfort in the words of the saints who, even in the face of great trials, remained steadfast in their faith and trusted in God's goodness.

Question to Discuss in your family:

Can you think of an example in your own life where something that seemed bad at the time eventually led to something good? How can this experience help you to trust in God's providence, even when things are difficult?

Bible Verse to Remember:

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." (Romans 8:28).

Permanent Diaconate Vocations: We pray for the Permanent Deacons serving in our Archdiocese as well as praying for the new vocations to this ministry. If you are a man between 21 years to 58 years, prayerful, with the desire to love God and God's people, you are involved in services within your parish and community, you have tried many things and still feel drawn to a closer relationship with Christ and His Church you might possibly be called to be a Permanent Deacon? If you require further information about the Permanent Diaconate, please speak to Fr Antony or contact the Diaconate Formation Director via e-mail: ianblack@rcaos.org.uk. See poster.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion & Readers Formation Day: 9.30am -3pm Saturday 19th October ~ at St Stephen's Church Hall 26 Deepdene Road, Welling, DA16 3QL.
OR Saturday 26th October at Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, Streatham SW16 2HY. See poster for full programme of the day.

BIBLE VERSE TO MEMORISE

[Psalm 22 or 23]

John 6:58: 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'

WANT TO VALIDATE YOUR MARRIAGE IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

If you were married civilly and desire to have your marriage recognized and blessed by the Catholic Church, or if you have any questions regarding the nullity of a previous marriage, this is your opportunity to seek guidance.

Sr. Helen Costigane, a Canon Law professor and a judge in the Marriage Tribunal, will be sharing her insights during the **9 am Mass**. Following Mass, Sr. Helen will be available in the Hall to answer your questions and offer personalized assistance. Please join us and take this opportunity to clarify your doubts and validate your marriage in the eyes of the Church.

HOLY CROSS PARISH - FOOD COLLECTION

On Sunday 4th August, your kind food donations will be taken to the Whitefoot and Downham Food Project. Remember, you can donate food at any time - there are lidded boxes always positioned in the church porch so whenever you are passing or visiting the church, please do remember to bring an item of non-perishable food or toiletries.

Last date to request an Application Form for the 2024/25 First Holy Communion and Confirmation course is THIS WEEKEND (27/28 July 2024).
Please meet Fr Antony after any Mass.

Special Mass and Anointing of the Sick, 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. **All** sick and/or elderly people of your family / Community are most welcome to Holy Cross.

Blue Missal Book - page 759

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
[Zoom]
 Meeting ID: 7578777461;
 Passcode: 20212021

Next Sunday Bible Readings

1st Reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15 Psalm: 77
2nd Reading: Ephesians 4:17, 20-24 Gospel: John 6:24-35

PARISH DAY & INTERNATIONAL DAY



Our parish is a wonderful mix of people from different countries and who speak many languages. We are so grateful for this gift from God!

To celebrate all the good things this brings to our community, we're having an International Day on Sunday, September 15th, 2024. There will be food, fun, and a chance to learn about each other's cultures.

St. Joseph's Council will be sharing more information soon, so keep an eye out for those details! We hope you'll join us for this special celebration.

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 27 Jul - Fri 2 Aug Sat 3 - Fri 9 Aug

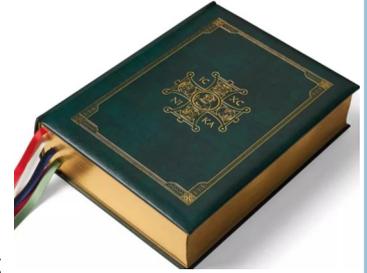
SAT 6:30pm	Thanksgiving	Mr Nam & Mr Nguyen - Healing and Wellbeing
SUN 9:00am	Danny Annund R.I.P.	Michael Cleary R.I.P.
SUN 11:30am	Stanislaus & Genovieve R.I.P	Dec'd Members of the Killick Family R.I.P.
MON 9:15am	Bernadette Njoku Birthday Thanksgiving	Michael Sunday Nosegbe R.I.P.
TUE 9:15am	Barney Baldwin Birthday Thanksgiving	Christiana Eberendu - Thanksgiving & Marriage Blessings
WED 9:15am	Margaret George R.I.P.	Chief Paul Njoku R.I.P.
THU 9:15am	Linda Kanu Birthday Thanksgiving	Paul Njoku Family Thanksgiving
FRI 7:00pm	Mr Manuelpillai & Mrs Cicelia R.I.P.	People of the Parish

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.

New Lectionary Coming This Advent (Part 3)

Why the English Standard Version-Catholic Edition?

The English Standard Version - Catholic Edition (ESV-CE) offers a unique blend of accuracy and beauty, drawing from the rich tradition of the King James Version while incorporating the latest biblical scholarship. Its "formal-equivalent" translation style prioritizes fidelity to the original texts, preserving the intricate meanings and imagery often lost in other translations.



The ESV-CE is particularly well-suited for liturgical use due to its reverent tone and the inherent unity it reflects between the Old and New Testaments. The accompanying Abbey Psalms and Canticles (APC), a revised Grail Psalter staying closer to the original Hebrew text, further enriches our liturgical experience.

While change can be challenging, embracing the new Lectionary based on the ESV-CE and APC provides an opportunity for deeper engagement with Scripture, ultimately leading us to a richer understanding of God's word.

THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE DATE:

14th Sept 2024 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall
 The last course date in 2024 is: **23rd November**

Saints' Corner Welcomes Statues from your Homeland!

As you journey to your homeland or any sacred destination during this holiday season, we invite you to bring back with you a special statue for our Saints' Corner. Share the saints of your heritage with our community by bringing in a 12" statue for our sacred space. Your contribution will enrich our spiritual surroundings. Thank you for being part of this spiritual endeavour!

Money Matters - THANK YOU

Last Weekend's Mass Offering: £744

PARISH CONTACTS

OFFICE: 020 8698 3672
 Tues & Thur from 10:00am
JO FLAHIVE: catford@rcaos.org.uk
LISA O'HARA: catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL: Mary Collins
 0208698 2675
HOLY CROSS BOOKSHOP: 020 3441 8240
SAFEGUARDING: Pat Barber & Lisa O'Hara
 07598 524024