

# Holy Cross Catholic Church

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2nd Sunday in Lent (Year B)  
24/25 Feb 2024

## Dear Parishioner,

In today's Gospel reading, the dazzling light of Christ's Transfiguration pierces through our Lenten journey. Witnessing Peter, James, and John's awe reminds us that even in the midst of trials, God's glory is present. Like the disciples, we may struggle to comprehend the mystery of suffering and sacrifice. But God's voice beckons us: "This is my beloved Son. Listen to Him." This Lent, let us heed Christ's call, even when it leads through darkness. Trust that His light will transform us, revealing the path to resurrection and eternal life.

As previously informed, we are spreading learning from the Catechism through our Sunday Newsletter, step by step. Find the second part here below. Please read and reflect personally and in your family. You can find the source passage [Catechism of the Catholic Church] at this following link: [http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_INDEX.HTM](http://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_INDEX.HTM).

## CATHOLIC FAITH [PART 2]

### MAN'S CAPACITY FOR GOD; The Desire for God

[please read Catechism of the Catholic Church - nos. 27-30]

**We are made with a built-in desire for God.** No matter where you come from or who you are, God created you to know Him and crave a connection with Him. It's only in this relationship that we find true fulfilment and lasting happiness. This is a key part of what makes being human so special!

#### Finding God Through History

Throughout time and across cultures, people have expressed this longing for God in different ways – through prayer, traditions, and a spiritual search. Even when there's confusion, this basic desire to connect with something greater shows how faith is part of us.

#### When Things Get in the Way

The world can get noisy and confusing—bad things happen, people disappoint us, and we chase temporary happiness. Sometimes it's hard to keep that connection with God at the centre. But here's the amazing part: God never gives up on us.

#### God Calls Us Back

Even when we lose our way, God is calling us back, offering peace and belonging. Finding our way to Him takes honesty, openness, and sometimes help from our faith community. As Catholics, we believe the most profound way to experience God's love is through Jesus Christ and the community of the Church.

**"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." - St. Augustine**



#### Reflection

- Think of a time you felt close to God. What made you feel that way?
- Have you ever drifted away from God? What brought you back to Him?

#### Questions to Discuss in our Families

- Why do we feel this desire for God?
- What gets in the way of our relationship with God? (examples: bad things in the world, life's distractions, bad examples of faith)
- What are some ways we can grow closer to God?

#### Bible Verses to Remember

- "In Him we live and move and have our being." - Acts 17:28
- "Let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice." - Psalm 105:3

**CATHOLIC MOTHERS WITH A PURPOSE:** Mothers of our Holy Cross parish have come together with the desire to gather regularly for prayer and to take action to provide needed support. Their first project will be feeding the hungry and needy on Mother's after the 9am and 11:30am Masses. For more information, please contact **Hope Ezinwa, Tina Ibe, or Gesiere Ojejinmi.**



Please keep **Gillian Yhip**, who died recently, in your prayers along with all her family and friends.

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

I confess... : page 453 Gloria: page 455  
Creed(s): pages 458 - 459 Our Father...485

### Stations of the Cross

We gratefully thank those from the **English & Irish Community** who organised and ran the Stations last Friday. The next one (23rd Feb) will be led by the **Nigerian Community**. The **Indian & Sri Lankan Community** will lead the Stations on 01 March.

The Stations of the Cross invite us to walk alongside Jesus in His final hours. We witness his suffering, not to glorify pain, but to see the depth of His love. This love defeated sin and death. As we meditate on each station, we remember His sacrifice and are inspired to carry our own crosses with faith and hope.

**We pray the Stations of the Cross every Wednesday after the 9.15am Mass and Friday after the 7pm Mass**

### Calling all Sunday Apostles!

**For those who have made themselves known to Fr Antony,  
and for anyone else who would like to learn more!**

**Please join us on Wednesday 6th March at 7:00pm in Hartley Hall**

As previously communicated we are going to start various catechetical programmes in our parish on Sundays from March this year. Every first and third Sundays will be the time of learning about the Bible and Catholic teachings through Sunday Bible Classes from 10am to 11am. Second Sundays will be dedicated to Basic Christian Communities. Groups of people [families or groups based on shared languages or nationalities] will gather, pray and cherish their fellowship after any weekend Mass. Every fourth Sunday will be for Youth Groups, Children’s choir, Legion of Mary and so on.

Many thanks for those people who came forward for this mission. I need more people to come forward to support this mission and I would like to call them Sunday Apostles. They need not be highly qualified and talented. They need to give their time on Sundays from 10am to 11am to plan and execute catechetical programmes. Please come along to the meeting on Wednesday 6th March at 7:00pm to learn more. May your dedication bear fruit and through your commitments many may encounter Jesus Christ in their life.

#### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Sat 24th Feb - Fri 1st Mar 2024

SAT	6:30pm	Joe Roe R.I.P.
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Stephen Charles R.I.P. (1st Anniversary) Gala Lobo R.I.P.
MON	9:15am	Grace Mary Mezianya - Thanksgiving
TUE	9:15am	Costa D’Elia R.I.P.
WED	9:15am	The Caruana Family Members, Living & Deceased
THU	9:15am	Martin Joseph Flatley R.I.P.
FRI	6:00pm 7:00pm	<i>Saint David, Bishop, Patron of Wales</i> Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Emmanuel Arguedas R.I.P.

### Baptism

This Sunday at the 11:30am Mass we welcome

**SIENNA ROSE EDWARDS**

into the Catholic Church

Please keep Sienna and her parents **Chrisandrea and Shaun** in your prayers.

### PARISH CONSULTATION

It is better if our church remains open for longer for our people to pray. If there is not much opposition I would like to do this during school term time, from after the 9.15am Mass up to 3:00pm, on Mondays to Fridays.

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

**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

Main Collection(s) - £505

Clergy Support Fund - £385

This Week there is a 2nd Collection for CAFOD

### 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