



Holy Cross Catholic Church

120 YEARS IN GOD'S MISSION

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
01 DECEMBER 2024



Dear Parishioners,

As Advent begins, let us embrace the spirit of hope and anticipation. This special time invites us to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas and prepare our hearts for the coming of our Lord. During these weeks, let us deepen our prayer life, engage in acts of charity, and participate in the sacred rituals of the Church. As we journey towards the Nativity, may we be inspired by the example of Mary and Joseph, who welcomed the Christ child with faith and humility. Let us also remember those who are less fortunate and extend our compassion to them. By sharing our blessings and offering acts of kindness, we can truly embody the spirit of Christmas. May this Advent season be a time of grace and renewal for us all.



New Lectionaries and Missals: We are excited to announce that, in accordance with the guidance of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, our parish will be using new Lectionaries and Missals, effective immediately. We would like to thank Piero Finaldi, the publisher of these Missals, for his informative session on the new Missals, which was held last Tuesday for our Parish Ministers of the Word.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the following parishioners who generously sponsored the new ambo lectionaries: Mr & Mrs Vincent O'Konji; Eliza Finden-Crofts and Family; Mark Sanderson and Family, Chuz Eberendu, Ibidun Idowu-Eberendu and Family.

A brief training session on using the Red Missals will be provided during this weekend's Masses.

Christmas Tree: The Filipino community at Holy Cross continues to enchant us with their Christmas magic! Every year, they come together as a spiritual family to erect and decorate a stunning Christmas tree. While the tree itself is a sight to behold, it's the unity and spirit of service that truly shine.

Join us on **December 12th** as they gather to create this beautiful centrepiece. Your presence and participation will add to the joy and spirit of the occasion.

Christmas Fayre: Let's make our Christmas Fayre on December 8th a resounding success. Donate your treasures - homemade goodies, pre-loved books, toys, or unique crafts - to Hartley Hall by 7th December. Every item counts! Spread the word and volunteer your time to help set up, serve refreshments, or run a stall. Let's spread joy and support a great cause together! Half the proceeds will go towards purchasing new red Missals for the church [we spent nearly £3000], while the other half will be donated to help the poor this Christmas.

To discuss plans and volunteer opportunities, join the St. Joseph's Council Zoom meeting this Tuesday at **8 PM**. Meeting ID: **843 1253 4919**. Passcode: **holycross**.

Sunday Bible Class Christmas Lessons: We are delighted to invite all our children and young people to a special Christmas celebration during our Sunday Bible Class this week.

St. Paul's Council's Two-Year Plan:

St. Paul's Council members recently embarked on a spiritual journey to Aylesford, dedicating their time to prayer and reflection. During this retreat, they also developed a comprehensive two-year plan for the Council. For more details, please refer to the attachment in the email newsletter.



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]

Join us after the 9 am Mass for a festive gathering where we will watch a short video about the birth of Jesus and learn of God's wisdom in small groups.

This is a wonderful opportunity to come together, participate, and receive God's blessings during this Season of preparation to celebrate the nativity of our God. We look forward to celebrating with you!

First Confession: Our First Holy Communion children will receive the sacrament of their First Confession this Saturday, November 30th. Please keep them in your prayers.

With every blessing, Fr Antony.

Red Missal - page 63

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

ID: 7578777461

Password: 20212021

Next Sunday - Bible Readings

1st Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm: 126 (125)

2nd Reading: Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

Spirituality Commission Advent reflections: The Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Advent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. You can sign-up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning here:

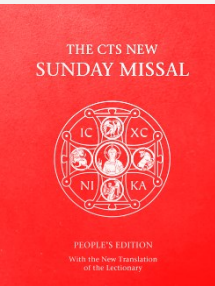
tinyurl.com/adventreflections2024.

Advent Carol Service: Join us this Sunday, December 1st, at 6 PM for an Advent Carol Service at St. Laurence Church, Catford. All are welcome to attend this joyous celebration of the season.

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

The New Lectionaries/Missals

We have purchased 200 new Missals for use at Mass by our congregation. Please do not remove these from the church.



If you would like your own **Personal Copy**, a special Burgundy or White edition can be purchased from the Church Shop (repository). The Church Shop is open after all weekend Masses.

Blue Missals (old version): If you would like one of these, please give your name to a Welcome Minister and we shall organise for a copy to be reserved for you to take. In this regard, please make a small donation to the church when possible.

PARISH DIARY

30 Nov: First Holy Communion Service of Reconciliation

Confirmation Class

01 Dec: Sunday Bible Class

08 Dec: Parish Christmas Fayre

12 Dec: Setting up Christmas Tree in the church

23 Dec: Advent Confessions

[more info about the Advent programmes to follow]

Christmas Offering: As many families travel to their home countries during this Christmas, envelopes to make your Christmas offerings will be available from the Welcome Ministers. The Christmas offerings go to Fr. Antony as a yearly gift from your family according to the diocesan practice. Many thanks for your generosity.

FUNERAL

Rest in Peace

The funeral of **Mrs June Walsh** will take place on **3rd December at 12:00pm** in Holy Cross Church.

May she Rest in Peace

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Sat 30 Nov - Fri 6 Dec

Sat 7 Dec - 13 Dec 2024

	Sat 30 Nov - Fri 6 Dec	Sat 7 Dec - 13 Dec 2024
SAT 6:30pm	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Healing	UCM Intention: Prima Louth - Wellbeing
9:00am	Mrs Joyce Joseph - Birthday Thanksgiving	Fiona & Lucy Huntingford - Wellbeing
SUN 11:30am	Special Intentions & Wellbeing for the Ibe & Okoro Families	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Healing
MON 9:15am	Beatrice & Philip Orodje - Marriage Blessings & Thanksgiving	Dennis Collingwood R.I.P. (Anniversary)
TUE 9:15am	Lancelot Clapperton R.I.P.	In Remembrance of Yakkomuthu R.I.P.
WED 9:15am	Erica Canelle R.I.P.	Thierry Christian-Gnanakumar R.I.P.
THU 9:15am	Special Intentions & Wellbeing for the Ibe & Okoro Families	Mrs Bridget Woods R.I.P.
FRI 6:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm	Departed Souls of the Jijo & Dona Families R.I.P.	The Kenny Families - Thanksgiving

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 Bournier, 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 Gemmell, Elaine Williams, Mary Lewis, Baby Gwen Williams, Jessica O'Hara, Rachael Pereira Wibberley 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.

PARISH CONTACTS

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

Josepha 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