

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

24 Sunday of Ordinary Time  
12/13 September 2020



## Parish Office

Joseph Flahive & Lisa O'Hara  
[catford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catford@rcaos.org.uk); 02086983672

208, Sangley Road  
Catford, SE6 2JS  
<https://www.holycross-catford.org.uk>

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam  
Parish Priest  
[antonymegalan@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:antonymegalan@rcaos.org.uk)

## Mass Readings

### **FIRST READING: A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus 27:33-28:9**

Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence. **The word of the Lord.**

### **RESPONSORIAL PSALM [Psalm 102(103):1-4,9-12]**

*The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy*

**SECOND READING [Rom14:7-9]** The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. **The word of the Lord.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

### **GOSPEL: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew 18:21-35**

Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me? As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time" he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me" he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.' **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Our Church's Feast Day : The Exaltation of The Holy Cross (Monday 14 September):** This feast celebrates three things: the discovery of the true cross by St. Helena, the dedication of the Basilica and Shrine built on Calvary by her son Emperor Constantine, and the triumph of the cross by which Christ defeated sin and death, winning for us salvation and everlasting beatific life in heaven. We are so blessed to have in our possession here in Catford, a relic of the real wood of The Holy Cross, and a special Blessing will be given by Fr Antony on this Feast Day and in all the Masses of this weekend to those able to attend Mass, and for those who cannot, the service will be available on You Tube. Happy Feast Day to all our parishioners.

**Application Forms:** Those who wish to baptise their children, to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation or to be received into the full communion with the Catholic Church can obtain your application forms from Fr Antony. It will be an opportunity for Fr Antony to meet your family, to explain about the importance of the sacraments you are going to receive and to stress the necessity to participate in the preparation programmes. Please make an appointment to meet him without an appointment on Mondays after the 7pm Mass or Tuesdays and Wednesdays after the 9.15am Mass. Parents must come with their children/candidates.

## HOLY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
SAT	7pm	Thanksgiving for Lesley Allen – and her team	Eileen Hanlon – Wellbeing
SUN	9.00am 11.30am YouTube	Margaret Middleton R.I.P. Michael Motha Melba and Oscar Fernandes - wellbeing	Mary Monaghan R.I.P. For Holy Cross parishioners Edwin Noronha R.I.P.
MON	7pm	<b>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Parish Feast</b> People of the Parish	Edwin Noronha R.I.P.
TUE	9.15am 7pm	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b> Bridget and her son Tammuz Brown - Wellbeing	Anthony Noronha R.I.P.
WED	9.15am	Angelo & Maria Leonie - Thanksgiving	Melba and Oscar Fernandes - thanksgiving
THU		No Mass for the public	No Mass for the public
FRI	7.00pm 7.30pm	Adoration and Confessions Teresa Dunne - Wellbeing	Melba and Oscar Fernandes - thanksgiving

### First Holy Communion Information

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 13 September at 4pm

**Days of Celebration:** 19 September at 10am; 20 September at 4pm; 26 September at 10am; 27 September at 4pm, and 3 October at 10am.

If you wish your child to receive Holy Communion for the first time, you must attend the lesson together with your child, bringing your completed 'I Belong' workbook, and having looked at and discussed the two PowerPoint presentations you received earlier. You also need to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child on 13 September. There are five Masses arranged for First Communion, and there are places available. You can choose the date when you attend the catch-up session. If you have any questions, please use this address: [fhc.catford@gmail.com](mailto:fhc.catford@gmail.com)

**RCIA:** This weekend at the [Saturday evening](#) Vigil Mass we welcome our RCIA group. Irene Obasogie, who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) and Julia Raszewska, who will be Confirmed. We congratulate them and welcome them both into our parish community, so please greet them and help them become full members of our parish. Continue to keep them in your prayers.

The RCIA will restart before Christmas, if you have someone in your family or social circle who might be interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church do please speak to Fr Antony about it.

The RCIA is also for Catholics who want to find out a bit more about their faith. Speak to Fr Antony if you are interested.

**Baptism:** We welcome into the Catholic faith, baby Joseph Anthony whose Baptism we celebrate this weekend at Holy Cross.

**Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis Vacancies:** The new diocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis is looking to appoint an Evangelisation and Outreach Advisor to join its team. This is a full-time, home-based role, 35 hours per week including evenings and weekends, though job share is a possibility. Salary £34,000-38,000 depending on experience.

The Agency is also seeking to recruit a Local Leadership Resource Co-ordinator whose responsibilities will include the support and development of the volunteer network, the management of data held by the Agency and working with the advisory team to develop resources for parish support. Salary £25,000-28,000 depending on skills and experience. Please contact Fr Antony for more information.

**Please note:** At present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

Given that there is no Sunday obligation, we ask you to consider the possibility of attending Mass on a weekday. This will ease the pressure of numbers for Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to the Eucharist for more people.

When we return to Mass there will be some differences in how the celebration will take place. For the time being, there will be no congregational singing and **Mass will be shorter than usual**. None of this detracts from the centrality of our encounter with the Risen Christ in the Eucharist.