

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH



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## The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary 16 August 2020

In union with the whole Church, we celebrate the Assumption of Our Lady,

body and soul, into the glory of heaven. Mary's Assumption shows us our own destiny as God's adoptive children and members of the body of Christ. Like Mary our Mother, we are called to share fully in the Lord's victory over sin and death, and to reign with him in his eternal Kingdom. – Pope Francis

*New Mass time from the first of September to the End of the Pandemic Covid -19*

Please note, that in order to help those parishioners who are not able to come to church in the evening, we shall be celebrating Holy Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings from the beginning of September, and whilst the attendance figures remain low, there will be no Sunday evening Mass at 7pm.

Please find below the new Mass times which will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September to the end of the Pandemic.

Monday – 7pm; Tuesday – **9.15am**; Wednesday – **9.15am**; Thursday – no Mass for the Public; Friday – **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and the sacrament of Reconciliation** at 7pm and the Holy

Mass at 7.30pm; Saturday – 7pm [Vigil Mass]; Sunday – 9am and 11.30am. On Sundays, a Holy Mass will be available for the housebound and sent to people via WhatsApp. All Masses are also available on live-stream.

- **The obligation to participate in Sunday Mass remains suspended.**  
Where possible, please try to attend a weekday Mass to ensure Sunday attendance remains manageable.
- Toilet facilities in churches should remain closed to prevent any risk of transmission of infection.

- From today we shall be following the Diocesan guidelines at Holy Cross: during the Communion procession, “... communicants are stewarded forward in an orderly manner to receive Holy Communion, **and then immediately leave the Church.**
- Currently only 20% of our parishioners are coming to church and as there is no offertory collection, we would ask you to consider making your offerings via Standing Order or Donorbox. Standing Order forms are available at the entrance of the church and the link to the Donorbox is: [https://donorbox.org/holy-cross-church\\_catford](https://donorbox.org/holy-cross-church_catford)
- Your contributions do help us to attend to some essential repairs and renovation in the church. During the period of lockdown, we have...
  - Repaired the ceiling of the church
  - Installed new audio equipment in Hartley Hall
  - Renovated the Sacristy and laid a new ceramic floor
  - Repaired the Church roof in a few places
  - Repointed the brickwork where needed
  - Repaired the storage areas and installed 3 UPVC doors
  - Polished, renewed, electroplated and lacquered the six big century old candle stands and two antique crosses, and bought four new processional candle holders with stands
  - Installed two noticeboards and a First-Aid Box
  - And, we are going to install a new kitchen in Hartley Hall and repair the Hartley Hall office.
- Many thanks for all those who have been coming forward to become catechists in our parish. We are now trying to follow **a collegial model of catechises** in Holy Cross.
- **Sick Visits:** I am now visiting the housebound. Kindly give me a call and let me know if you require Holy Communion and a visit to someone who is feeling poorly or who is housebound.
- **Remember them:** We shall be celebrating a Requiem Mass on 26 September for all who died during this Pandemic. Families of the deceased can also ask for a special Mass for their beloved ones.
- Entry into Mass will be on a first come first served basis, and where the maximum number is met, those awaiting entry shall be asked to kindly attend an alternative Mass.



- **Face Mask:** The one-meter distance rule applies and all parishioners (excluding very young children) are required to **wear a face mask** and to sanitise their hands.

## HOLY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
SAT	7pm	Fortuna Medhanie - Thanksgiving	Maria Zammit R.I.P.
SUN	9am 11.30am  7pm YouTube	Sarah Phipps R.I.P. Soul of baby Esther Loughnane, wellbeing of her parents and brother John Roche R.I.P. People of the parish	Larry Doyle R.I.P. Frank Kathleen & Coghlan family intentions Mr Louis Joseph R.I.P. People of the parish
MON	7pm 7.30pm	Adoration and Confessions John Roche R.I.P.	Adoration and Confessions John Roche R.I.P.
TUE	YouTube	Lydia Petrosevic – wellbeing	
WED	7pm	Deceased members of Adonai family R.I.P.	Mr Innocent Liverpool
THU		No Mass for the public	No Mass for the public
FRI	7pm	Many Monagan R.I.P.	Mrs Maria Liverpool

Please Pray:

- Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Margaret Middleton whose funeral Mass will be on 18 August 2020 at 11.45am.
- Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Jeanette Watmore who died recently.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – DAYS TO REMEMBER

### DAYS OF PREPARATION

15 August 2020 [10am] and 12 September 2020 [10am]

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

22 August 2020 [5pm] and 13 September 2020 [4pm]

### DAYS OF CELEBRATION

24 August 2020 [10am]; 27 August 2020 [10am]; 19 September [10am];  
20 September [4pm]; 26 September [10am]; 27 September [4pm] and  
3 October [10am]

## PRAYER OF A PARISHIONER

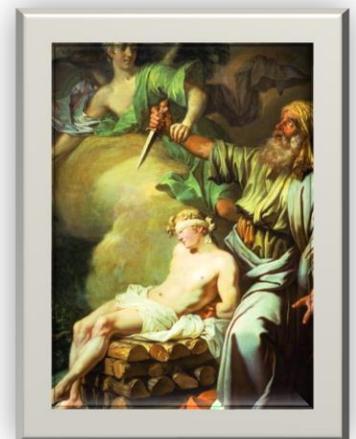
God loves us so much...  
His love is unconditional,  
His arms are always open, ready to embrace us,  
His love will comfort us and bring us forgiveness –  
His love will wipe away the tears, His love will bless us with courage.  
His love is greater than anything we can comprehend,  
let us breathe into our hearts His love,  
let us feel His Holy spirit, let us taste His goodness,  
let us walk with His purpose,  
let us see with His eyes,  
let us be... With His purpose

## Spiritual Thoughts

[sent by Kath O'Sullivan]

### Abraham

I love Abraham, that old weather-beaten  
unwavering nomad; when God called to him,  
no tender hand wedged time into his stay. His faith  
erupted him into a way  
far-off and strange. How many miles are there  
from Ur to Haran? Where does Canaan lie,  
or slow mysterious Egypt sit and wait?  
How could he think his ancient thigh would bear  
nations, or how consent that Isaac die,  
with never an outcry or an anguished prayer?  
I think, alas, how I manipulate  
dates and decisions, pull apart the dark,  
dally with doubts here and with counsels there, take out  
old maps and stare.  
Was there a call at all, my fears remark.  
I cry out: Abraham, old nomad you, are you my father? Come to me in pity.  
Mine is a far and lonely journey too.



Jessica Powers

# SUNDAY HOLY MASS

## First reading **Apocalypse 11:19,12:1-6,10**

### **A great sign appeared in heaven: a woman adorned with the sun**

The sanctuary of God in heaven opened and the ark of the covenant could be seen inside it.

Now a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman, adorned with the sun, standing on the moon, and with the twelve stars on her head for a crown. She was pregnant, and in labour, crying aloud in the pangs of childbirth. Then a second sign appeared in the sky, a huge red dragon which had seven heads and ten horns, and each of the seven heads crowned with a coronet. Its tail dragged a third of the stars from the sky and dropped them to the earth, and the dragon stopped in front of the woman as she was having the child, so that he could eat it as soon as it was born from its mother. The woman brought a male child into the world, the son who was to rule all the nations with an iron sceptre, and the child was taken straight up to God and to his throne, while the woman escaped into the desert, where God had made a place of safety ready.

Then I heard a voice shout from heaven, 'Victory and power and empire for ever have been won by our God, and all authority for his Christ.'

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

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## Responsorial Psalm [**Psalm 44(45):10-12,16**]

*On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.*

The daughters of kings are among your loved ones.

On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Listen, O daughter, give ear to my words:

forget your own people and your father's house.

*On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.*

So will the king desire your beauty:

He is your lord, pay homage to him.

They are escorted amid gladness and joy;

they pass within the palace of the king.

*On your right stands the queen, in garments of gold.*

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**Second reading - 1 Corinthians 15:20-26**

**Christ will be brought to life as the first-fruits and then those who belong to him**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet.

**The word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Mary has been taken up to heaven;  
all the choirs of angels are rejoicing.

Alleluia!

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**Gospel - Luke 1:39-56**

**The Almighty has done great things for me**

Mary set out and went as quickly as she could to a town in the hill country of Judah. She went into Zechariah's house and greeted Elizabeth. Now as soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. She gave a loud cry and said, 'Of all women you are the most blessed, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord? For the moment your greeting reached my ears, the child in my womb leapt for joy. Yes, blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.'

And Mary said:

'My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord

and my spirit exults in God my saviour;

because he has looked upon his lowly handmaid.

Yes, from this day forward all generations will call me blessed,  
for the Almighty has done great things for me.

Holy is his name,

and his mercy reaches from age to age for those who fear him.

He has shown the power of his arm,  
he has routed the proud of heart.  
He has pulled down princes from their thrones and exalted the  
lowly.  
The hungry he has filled with good things, the rich sent empty  
away.  
He has come to the help of Israel his servant, mindful of his mercy  
– according to the promise he made to our ancestors –  
of his mercy to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.’  
Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then  
went back home.

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**United in Christ we are never alone,  
Fr. Antony**