

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

25 Sunday of Ordinary Time
19/20 September 2020



Parish Office

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Mass Readings

FIRST READING [Isaiah 55:6-9]

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found, call to him while he is still near. Let the wicked man abandon his way, the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him, to our God who is rich in forgiving; for my thoughts are not your thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens are as high above earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts. **The word of the Lord.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM [Psalm 144(145)] R. The Lord is close to all who call him.

SECOND READING [Philippians 1:20-24. 27]

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake. Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

GOSPEL [Matthew 20:1-16]

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, "You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage." So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, "Why have you been standing here idle all day?" "Because no one has hired us" they answered. He said to them, "You go into my vineyard too." In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first." So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. "The men who came last" they said "have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day's work in all the heat." He answered one of them and said, "My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?" Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Meet Fr Antony without an appointment: 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. **This week:** Please meet him without an appointment on Monday after the 7pm Mass or Wednesday after the 9.15am Mass. Parents must come with their children/candidates.

Congratulations: Last weekend, Ehimwenma Irene OBASOGIE was received into full communion with the Catholic Church and Ehimwenma Irene OBASOGIE and Julia Teresa RASZEWSKA were granted the sacrament of Confirmation. Congratulations! Many thanks to Ossie Folkes and his team for accompanying them on their faith journey.

Please note: the parish office is open on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am to 3pm.

Mass Offertory Collection: £297.97 – Thank you to all who continue to make cash donations. We are also very grateful to all those parishioners who have continued to donate by standing order and those who have recently switched to this method of giving. A Standing Order and Gift Aid form is attached to this newsletter for those parishioners who may be considering making an offering in this way in future. And please remember, your gift is most gratefully received no matter how small you may consider it to be.

HOLY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
SAT	10am 7pm	First Holy Communion celebration Eileen Hanlon – Wellbeing	First Holy Communion celebration Requiem Mass – for all who died during the time of the Pandemic
SUN	9.00am 11.30am 4pm	Mary Monaghan R.I.P. For Holy Cross parishioners First Holy Communion celebration	Lydia Joseph – 90 th Birthday Anthony Zammit R.I.P. First Holy Communion celebration
MON	7pm	St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist Douglas D’Souza – Thanksgiving, 84 th Birthday	Melba & Oscar Fernandes - Thanksgiving
TUE	9.15am	Tony Baker – Anniversary of Baptism	Saints Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels Edwin Noronha R.I.P.
WED	9.15am	St Padre Pio Melba & Oscar Fernandes - Thanksgiving	Melba & Oscar Fernandes - Thanksgiving
THU		No Mass for the public	No Mass for the public
FRI	7.00pm 7.30pm	Adoration and Confessions Melba and Oscar Fernandes - thanksgiving	The Holy Guardian Angels Adoration and Confessions Anthony Noronha R.I.P.

Sacrament of Confirmation 2020: The final session [the Gifts of the Holy Spirit] will be held on 30th Wednesday at 6.30pm in the church and the celebration of the Sacrament will be 13th and 14th October at 6.30pm and 17th October at 10am and 18th October at 5pm. More information to follow.

Congratulations: The children receiving their First Holy Communion this week are:

Saturday: Chika Martin-Iwuajoku, Dillon Uweri, Tiwadola Ojejinmi, Carlos Sarmiento and Jose Maqui

Sunday: Grace Atayi and Wiktorina Stankiewicz

Please 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.

Holy Cross School Uniform: A very kind parishioner has put together a supply of Holy Cross School Uniforms for donation. If you could benefit from taking advantage of this, please take a look at the Holy Cross School Noticeboard and Newsletter for information and contact details.

R.I.P.: Please pray for **Anna Solly**, a long-time parishioner of Holy Cross, whose funeral will be on 29 September at 11am.

Mass on YouTube: As you are aware, I have been offering private Mass via YouTube, which was then sent to people via WhatsApp. As we have started our regular Masses and the weekends have become busier, it has now become a bit difficult for me to record and send the Mass via WhatsApp. If you are housebound and unable to attend Mass, please follow the parish live stream [<https://www.holycross-catford.org.uk/livestreaming.php>] or the live stream from Walsingham [<https://www.walsingham.org.uk/live-stream/>]. As of this weekend, I will no longer be offering Mass via WhatsApp. Of course, if the need arises, I will support the parish again by sending you Morning Blessings and returning to offering Mass via YouTube.

Sick Visit and Visiting the Housebound: I am on call to Lewisham Hospital on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If anyone is admitted there and would like me visit them, please do let me know. If you are housebound and would like to receive Holy Communion, please give me a call [02086983672] as I am now able to do home visits, and I will be happy to support you.

Stay with me, Lord, for it is You alone I look for, Your Love, Your Grace, Your Will, Your Heart, Your Spirit, because I love You and ask no other reward but to love You more and more. Padre Pio