

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time A

7th/8th November 2020



Parish Office

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Sunday Mass Readings

First reading

Wisdom is found by those who look for her

Wisdom 6:12-16

Wisdom is bright, and does not grow dim. By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her. Quick to anticipate those who desire her, she makes herself known to them.

Watch for her early and you will have no trouble; you will find her sitting at your gates.

Even to think about her is understanding fully grown; be on the alert for her and anxiety will quickly leave you.

She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.

Responsorial Psalm *For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.*

Psalm 62(63):2-8

Second reading

Do not grieve about those who have died in Jesus

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We want you to be quite certain, brothers, about those who have died, to make sure that you do not grieve about them, like the other people who have no hope. We believe that Jesus died and rose again, and that it will be the same for those who have died in Jesus: God will bring them with him. We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching, that any of us who are left alive until the Lord's coming will not have any advantage over those who have died. At the trumpet of God, the voice of the archangel will call out the command and the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and then those of us who are still alive will be taken up in the clouds, together with them; to meet the Lord in the air. So we shall stay with the Lord for ever. With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

Gospel Acclamation

Mt24:42 44

Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Gospel

The wise and foolish virgins

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus told this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of heaven will be like this: Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were sensible: the foolish ones did take their lamps, but they brought no oil, whereas the sensible ones took flasks of oil as well as their lamps. The bridegroom was late, and they all grew drowsy and fell asleep. But at midnight there was a cry, "The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him." At this, all those bridesmaids woke up and trimmed their lamps, and the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, "Give us some of your oil: our lamps are going out." But they replied, "There may not be enough for us and for you; you had better go to those who sell it and buy some for yourselves." They had gone off to buy it when the bridegroom arrived. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding hall and the door was closed. The other bridesmaids arrived later. "Lord, Lord," they said "open the door for us." But he replied, "I tell you solemnly, I do not know you." So, stay awake, because you do not know either the day or the hour.'

Diamond Mass: Please note the special Mass for members of the Diamond Club on Tuesday 10th November will still go ahead via YouTube. Please contact Lesley Allen to get the link. Below is a prayer for our Diamonds who have died since the club started.

Remembrance Sunday: The Mass will still go ahead only on Sunday 8th November, and sadly without any congregation. We shall still light the candles and be in remembrance of all the departed, and especially those who have died during the past year. The Mass will be recorded on YouTube and can be sent via WhatsApp or email. The church will be open for private prayer on Sunday 8th November from 10am – 11am, where you are welcome to light a candle in memory of your loved ones and say a few prayers.

Please pray for sick: Myra Hannon, Kaye Gray, Lydia Joseph, Pat Vessey, John Conway and Tommy Murphy. If you want the parish community to pray for the sick members of your family and to be added in the newsletter, please send us an email.

Guidance from the Bishops' Conference relating to the lockdown

...The Regulations preclude gatherings for communal worship, including the celebration of Mass, **baptisms** and most weddings...

Funeral Masses and funeral services may continue to be celebrated, with an attendance of up to 30 people (not including those who are required for the celebration).

Churches may be used for Mass and other services to be streamed, without a congregation present. Musicians and singers may participate in online services, as long as they usually form part of the service that is being broadcast and are essential to its delivery.

It is important that the routines of cleanliness, stewarding and social distancing to which we have become accustomed, and which have made our churches places of real Covid security, are maintained. Face coverings should continue to be worn in churches, unless individuals are exempt. The maximum number of people allowed in a church for prayer will be determined by its size, seating arrangements and the requirements for social distancing.

In the light of the broad aim to minimise gatherings of those from different households, and to focus resources on keeping churches open for individual prayer, it is recommended that catechism classes and sacramental preparation sessions are suspended, or held online, whilst these Regulations are in force.

From the Archbishop: ...Please look after yourself... We will enter Advent this year from Lockdown; but how important it will be to mark the first weekend of Masses on 5/6 December, the 2 Sunday of Advent, as 'Return to Mass Sunday' when we will hear St John the Baptist call to us: 'Prepare a way for the Lord.'

Holy Cross – Pandemic News Sadly, our church is having to close her doors again to the public for at least another 4 weeks. During this time, Mass will be offered at 10am every day via live stream. <http://www.holycross-catford.org.uk/livestreaming.php>

You can participate in the Mass with the Spiritual Communion prayer as follows:

My Jesus, I firmly believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen

Please note, you will not be able to visit Fr Antony and the Parish Office throughout the lockdown time. Please contact the office via email or by telephone. Please also check the website. The newsletter will be uploaded in our website each week.

HOLY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS			Diamond Sparkle
SAT 7	10 am	Deceased Members of the U.C.M. – R.I.P.	A prayer for the diamonds who now sparkle in Heaven Their time here on earth now a glimmer of light.
SUN 8	10 am	Remembrance Sunday Vera Pollock R.I.P.	
MON 9	10 am	Alphones Manuelpillai R.I.P.	A light that was sowed in our souls when we met And grew into memories we'll never forget.
TUE 10	10 am	Mass for the deceased members of Diamond Club members	
WED 11	10 am	Thierry Gnanakumar R.I.P.	Fun times we shared and giggles we enjoyed Coach trips and pilgrimages, tea and cake - weren't we spoiled.
THUR 12	10 am	Raymond and Mary Boyve R.I.P.	
FRI 13	10 am	Denis Burke - Thanksgiving	We'll treasure your smile and your kindness too We'll say a prayer and light a candle for you.
SAT 14	10 am	A Mary Gracia – Thanksgiving	
SUN 15	10 am	People of the Parish	Your soul, we pray, is in heaven and at peace To sparkle and colour God's gardens and trees. Your joyful memories, we will honour with love May the Lord keep you safe in His kingdom above.
On Monday 16 th November, Fr Antony is scheduled to have surgery on his knee at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. There will be no Mass offered at Holy Cross this week. Please keep Fr Antony in your prayers that the surgery is successful and Father's recovery is swift. You are all very much in his prayers during this special month of November.			