

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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*13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
26 / 27 June 2021*

Dear friends in Christ,

This Sunday's readings proclaim that our God is the God of life. This message is found throughout the Bible. St John says: "All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men" [Jn 1:3-4]. When we acknowledge our God, the God of life, we also avoid anything that is against life. And these are against life: abortion and euthanasia, suicide and death penalty, wars and terrorism, guns and knife crimes, AK 47 and atom bombs, warships and space armies, bioweapons and Gain of function research, pollution or deforestation... *May we be always the missionaries of the Gospel of Life.*

Fr Antony

### ***Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage [October 9<sup>th</sup> at St George's Cathedral]:***

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> + wedding anniversary this year, please apply as soon as possible. Get in touch with us at [mflse@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflse@rcaos.org.uk) so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop. Spaces are limited. Please send your names in the format John and Mary Smith and Your home address. The anniversary you are celebrating (2020 anniversaries are welcome!).

**First Holy Communion Rehearsals:** These will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July as follows: Children booked for 17<sup>th</sup> July at 10 am; children booked for 24<sup>th</sup> July at 11am. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

**First Holy Communion Celebration for Both the 2020 And 2021 Children: In September** this year, we will have the final sessions and celebration for the children who received this Sacrament in both 2020 and 2021. The dates for each session will be given nearer the time. All the children will be presented with their certificates at that time.

**Confirmation:** Please note additional dates: The next session will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm in Hartley Hall. The catechises will be given by the *Franciscan Sisters of the Immaculate*. The celebration will take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July at 5pm.

**Holy Mass from Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July [if the restrictions are relaxed]:** Fr Antony and one other Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharistic will be distributing the Holy Sacrament at all weekend Masses.

Parishioners can return to their seats to receive the final blessings. Please follow the guidance of the Welcome Ministers as you leave. You may remain in the church for your personal prayers for a short time, up to 5 minutes when a bell will be rung, as the church will need to be sanitised.

### ***Until the End of the Pandemic:***

- Please always keep 1m distance between families/people/bubbles inside and outside the church. **Please note:** Keeping 1m distance is your responsibility and the Welcome Ministers are there to support you.
- Please wear a face mask at all times, ***unless you are exempt.***
- Please ensure you sanitise your hands as you enter and leave the church.

***Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis:*** The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is an online course for all in Southwark who wish to know their Catholic faith more deeply.

Participants will take a two-year journey through the Church's teaching to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with confidence and joy. The course will commence in October 2021 and the cost will be £365 per year. Registration must be completed in advance. Further details can be obtained from Fr Antony.

### ***Altar Servers Summertime Programme – 2021 [Tuesday 3 – Friday 6 August]***

Following last year's cancellation, we are pleased to announce that this annual activity is back, and commend it to boy and girl altar servers aged 10 - 15 years within Southwark Diocese. Summertime 2021 will take place at the Oratory School in Reading and will open with Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson. Activities will include talks, discussions, prayer, daily Mass, as well as sport, a trip to Thorpe Park and Swimming.

A coach is being provided from St. Anselm's, Dartford, and the cost of £165 covers all board and lodging, Thorpe Park and swimming.

For more details, please [obtain a form from the Sacristy](#) or contact Fr Stephen Boyle, Chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen. Tel: 01322 220075 Email: [dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk)

***Altar Servers:*** A message for all those who would like to return to their mission as Altar Servers AND for those who would like to become Altar Servers, please collect a form from Fr Antony after any Mass.

***Message for School Parents:*** Once you have dropped off your children, please can you not stay outside the church. You are very welcome to come into the church for quiet prayer before Mass, which starts at 9.15am, Monday to Thursday.

### ***PARISH CONTACTS***

***Parish Office:*** Jo Flahive & Lisa O'Hara – [catford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catford@rcaos.org.uk); 02086983672

***Franciscan Sisters Of The Immaculate:*** Tel: 02034418240

***Hartley Hall:*** Tony Early – [catfordhall@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordhall@rcaos.org.uk)

***Baptism:*** Donella Canelle - [catfordbaptism@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordbaptism@rcaos.org.uk)

***First Holy Communion:*** Anne Mellis - [catfordfhc@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordfhc@rcaos.org.uk)

***Confirmation:*** Franck & Patricia Angubi - [catfordconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk)

***RCIA:*** Judy & Fabian Chen - [catfordrcia@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordrcia@rcaos.org.uk)

***Safeguarding:*** Pat Barber and Kate Cleevly - [catfordsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk](mailto:catfordsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk)

<i>MASS TIMES &amp; INTENTIONS Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July</i>		
SAT	6:30pm	People of the Parish
SUN	09:00am 11:30am	Alba Fernandes R.I.P. Tom and Brendan Kilcoyne R.I.P.
MON	09:15am	Raphael Green R.I.P.
TUE	09:15am	<i>Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles</i> Alba Fernandes R.I.P.
WED	09:15am	David and Nancy Mendes R.I.P.
THU	09:15am	Anthony Zammit R.I.P.
FRI	6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Stjepan Jerkovic R.I.P.

**9pm for Night Prayer [every day except Saturday]:** In this Pandemic, let us pray together as God's family and receive His blessings before going to sleep. Please invite your family also to join prayer. **Meeting ID:** 7578777461; **Passcode:** 20212021.

**Please Pray for the Sick:** Clowie Aspery, Myra Hannon, Melanie Thomas, Florence Nosegbe, Lydia Joseph, Pat Vessey, John Conway, Dorothy Beacon, Gala Lobo, Mary Emmanus, Pat Doyle, Tommy Murphy, Alan Durkin, Margaret Woodward and Rachael Pereira Wibberley. If you would like the parish community to pray for the sick members of your family and to be added in the newsletter, please send us an email.

**Your Prayers** are asked for the repose of the soul of Everal Egan who sadly passed away last Sunday. Everal was a member of the Union of Catholic Mothers for many years, attending the meetings here at Holy Cross each Wednesday evening. Please keep Everal, and all her dear loved ones in your prayers at this sad time.

**The Parish Office** is open on Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 3pm. Please try to avoid coming into the office in person during this Pandemic. Please send an email: [catford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:catford@rcaos.org.uk); or call: 02086983672

**The Church Care Team** undertakes a deep clean and sanitises our church every Saturday at 12 noon. Please join if you can. Sincere thanks to our Church Care Team for their sacrifices.

**RENATE Anti-Trafficking Short Film Competition:** RENATE (Religious in Europe Networking Against Trafficking and Exploitation) is inviting 16-24-year-olds in European countries to join its mission to tackle human trafficking by entering a film competition. The competition is running now. RENATE encourages young people to get involved by producing a short film individually or as part of a team, up to four minutes long, around the slogan 'Slavery - Human Trafficking - Near YOU!', and some or all of the tags #StopTheDemand, #BreakTheChains, #EndTheCycleTOGETHER. The deadline date of entry is mid-August 2021. For more information: [www.renateevents.net/film-competition](http://www.renateevents.net/film-competition)

### **Walk-in COVID-19 vaccination clinics**

It's easy to find a walk-in vaccination clinic near you. There's no need to book, just turn up. All of the clinics below will offer the Astra Zeneca vaccine. You do not need proof of address, immigration status, ID or an NHS number.

- Lewisham Hospital (Lessof auditorium accessed via the Blue Zone) - Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 8am–4pm
- Downham Health & Leisure Centre, BR1 5EP - Saturdays, 9am–6pm
- Waldron Health Centre, SE14 6LD - Saturdays, 9am – 1pm and 2pm – 6pm.

### **Vacancies:**

#### **St George's Cathedral**

A vacancy has arisen for one Tenor Lay Clerk, and one Low Bass Clerk, to sing at Sunday morning Solemn Mass during term time, as well as on other major liturgical occasions, diocesan events and special services, such as weddings throughout the year in St George's Cathedral.

Candidates should be excellent singers with extensive experience in ensemble and liturgical singing. They should be fluent sight-readers and familiar with Gregorian Chant. Both positions are subject to a successful enhanced DBS check.

Applicants should send their CV to the Director of Music, Jonathan Schranz, including contact details for two referees. Email: [music@stgeorges.org.uk](mailto:music@stgeorges.org.uk). The closing date is Friday 2nd July 2021.

Further information: <https://www.stgeorgescathedral.org.uk/news/cathedral-choir-tenor-and-low-bass-lay-clerk-vacancy>

**The Shrine of St Augustine** is seeking to appoint a practicing Catholic with effect from September 2021 for an initial period of 2 years. An interest in heritage alongside administrative experience would be an advantage. Salary: £15,000 pa

Applicants should send their CV to [office@augustineshrine.co.uk](mailto:office@augustineshrine.co.uk)

**SPUC:** Please meet your MP to lobby against DIY abortion and assisted suicide

SPUC is holding a **Mass lobby of MPs** on **Friday 16 July or Saturday 17 July 2021**. We are asking pro-life supporters up and down the country to organise a meeting with their MP, at the MP's constituency office, on one of these dates. The DIY abortion policy is still in place, and there is a renewed threat of assisted suicide being legalised.

Please ask your MP to lobby the Health Secretary to **end DIY abortion**. Please ask your MP to **vote against assisted suicide**.

SPUC has produced dedicated briefings to help you lobby your MP. Please go to [www.spuc.org.uk/MassLobby2021](http://www.spuc.org.uk/MassLobby2021) Thank you.

**Mass Offerings:** Your loose cash offerings for last weekend the 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> June was £388.00. Thank you.

**Second Collection:** Your donations for last weekend's Second Collection for Day for Life raised £184.00. Thank you.

**Peter Pence:** This weekend, 26/27 June, the Second Collection will be for Peter Pence. By reason of the bond of unity and charity, the bishops of the Church, with their people, join together to produce those means which the Holy Father and the Apostolic See need to exercise works of mercy and charity and its service of the Universal Church. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are destined to church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. The Pope, being pastor of the whole Church, is attentive to the material needs of poor dioceses, religious institutes and faithful in grave difficulties: the poor, children, the elderly, those marginalised and the victims of war and natural disasters. Concrete aid is thus made available to bishops or dioceses in need, to Catholic education, assistance, to refugees and immigrants, etc.

**Catechist Meeting:** How has the pandemic affected your ministry? What are your plans for the coming year? The Diocese has a new Agency and team. We would like to get to know you. Come and find out how we can work together to create a missionary diocese. Thursday 8th July 7:30pm-9:30pm. Calling parish catechists - will your parish be represented? Zoom link on registration - [www.aec.rcaos.org.uk/catechesis-events](http://www.aec.rcaos.org.uk/catechesis-events) to register.

**Bible Verse to Remember:**

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.

**[John 6: 63, 68]**

## ***MASS READINGS***

**FIRST READING**    **Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24**

**God takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living**

Death was not God's doing,  
he takes no pleasure in the extinction of the living.  
To be – for this he created all;  
the world's created things have health in them,  
in them no fatal poison can be found,  
and Hades holds no power on earth;  
for virtue is undying.  
Yet God did make man imperishable,  
he made him in the image of his own nature;  
it was the devil's envy that brought death into the world,  
as those who are his partners will discover.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM 29(30): 2, 4-6, 11-13**

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me  
and have not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O Lord, you have raised my soul from the dead,  
restored me to life from those who sink into the grave.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

Sing psalms to the Lord, you who love him,  
give thanks to his holy name.  
His anger lasts but a moment; his favour through life.  
At night there are tears, but joy comes with dawn.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

The Lord listened and had pity.  
The Lord came to my help.  
For me you have changed my mourning into dancing.  
O Lord my God, I will thank you for ever.

*I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.*

**SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15**

**The Lord Jesus became poor for your sake, to make you rich**

You always have the most of everything – of faith, of eloquence, of understanding, of keenness for any cause, and the biggest share of our affection – so we expect you to put the most into this work of mercy too. Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was: he was rich, but he became poor for your sake, to make you rich out of his poverty. This does not mean that to give relief to others you ought to make things difficult for yourselves: it is a question of balancing what happens to be your surplus now against their present need, and one day they may have something to spare that will supply your own need. That is how we strike a balance: as scripture says: *The man who gathered much had none too much, the man who gathered little did not go short.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 6: 63, 68**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL Mark 5: 21-43**

**Little girl, I tell you to get up**

When Jesus had crossed in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered round him and he stayed by the lakeside. Then one of the synagogue officials came up, Jairus by name, and seeing him, fell at

his feet and pleaded with him earnestly, saying, 'My little daughter is desperately sick. Do come and lay your hands on her to make her better and save her life.' Jesus went with him and a large crowd followed him; they were pressing all round him.

Now there was a woman who had suffered from a haemorrhage for twelve years; after long and painful treatment under various doctors, she spent all she had without being any the better for it, in fact, she was getting worse. She had heard about Jesus, and she came up behind him through the crowd and touched his cloak. 'If I can touch even his clothes,' she had told herself 'I shall be well again.' And the source of the bleeding dried up instantly, and she felt in herself that she was cured of her complaint. Immediately aware that power had gone out from him, Jesus turned round in the crowd and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said to him, 'You see how the crowd is pressing round you and yet you say, "Who touched me?"' But he continued to look all round to see who had done it. Then the woman came forward, frightened and trembling because she knew what had happened to her, and she fell at his feet and told him the whole truth. 'My daughter,' he said 'your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free from your complaint.'

While he was still speaking some people arrived from the house of the synagogue official to say, 'Your daughter is dead: why put the Master to any further trouble?' But Jesus had overheard this remark of theirs and he said to the official, 'Do not be afraid; only have faith.' And he allowed no one to go with him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. So they came to the official's house and Jesus noticed all the commotion, with people weeping and wailing unrestrainedly. He went in and said to them, 'Why all this commotion and crying? The child is not dead, but asleep.' But they laughed at him. So he turned them all out and, taking with him the child's father and mother and his own companions, he went into the place where the child lay. And taking the child by the hand he said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' which means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' The little girl got up at once and began to walk about, for she was twelve years old. At this they were overcome with astonishment, and he ordered them strictly not to let anyone know about it, and told them to give her something to eat.