

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fr Antony Megalan Sellam
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14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
3 / 4 July 2021

Dear friend in Christ,

After becoming an Apostle of Jesus Christ, Andrew brought his brother to Jesus. And when Jesus saw him, he said, “Simon son of John, you will be called Cephas.” This name can be translated as “Peter.” [John 1: 42]. Without the efforts of Andrew, the Church and the college of Apostles may not have had Peter who became the head of the Apostles and the first Pope of God’s Church.

Now, the Lord God wants you to be His Apostle. **Can you bring your family and friends to Jesus?** If you or your family and friends want to know more about Jesus or would like to become His disciple by becoming a member of His Church, please collect an Application Form from the Welcome Ministers and hand it over to me. With every blessing. Fr Antony

Confirmation: Please note additional dates: The next session will take place on the 10th 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 **25th July at 5pm**.

Confirmation 2021-2022: young people, aged 14 and above, who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, can receive your Application Form from Fr Antony after any Mass.

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 to register.

Want to be a Trained Catechist? 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

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.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage [October 9th at St George's Cathedral]: If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th + wedding anniversary this year, please apply as soon as possible. Get in touch with us at 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 10th July as follows: Children booked for 17th July at 10 am; children booked for 24th 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.

Congratulations: This Sunday, we shall be welcoming into the Catholic Faith Mikayla-Mae Muriuki, daughter of Martin and Romona Muriuki, and also siblings Amber Rose and Noah Ellis Odeneye, whose parents are Babs and Sarah Odeneye. Please keep these families in your prayers at this joyful time.

Holy Mass from Saturday 19th 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.

After receiving the Holy Communion, you can return to your 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.

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.

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.

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Office: Jo Flahive & Lisa O'Hara – catford@rcaos.org.uk; 02086983672

Franciscan Sisters of The Immaculate: Tel: 02034418240

Hartley Hall: Tony Early – catfordhall@rcaos.org.uk

Baptism: Donella Canelle - catfordbaptism@rcaos.org.uk

First Holy Communion: Anne Mellis - catfordfhc@rcaos.org.uk

Confirmation: Franck & Patricia Angubi - catfordconfirmation@rcaos.org.uk

RCIA: Judy & Fabian Chen - catfordrcia@rcaos.org.uk

Safeguarding: Pat Barber and Kate Cleevely - catfordsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

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; or call: 02086983672

<i>MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 3rd July – Friday 9th July</i>	
SAT 6:30pm	<i>Saint Thomas, Apostle</i> Hamilton Noronha R.I.P.
SUN 09:00am 11:30am	People of the Parish Felix Moron Vargas R.I.P.
MON 09:15am	The Motha Family - Thanksgiving
TUE 09:15am	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Wellbeing
WED 09:15am	Alba Fernandes R.I.P.
THU 09:15am	Dorothy Beacon - Wellbeing
FRI 6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> The Vitale Family - Thanksgiving

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, Rachael Pereira Wibberley and Ann Whittington. 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.

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.

Mass Offerings: Your loose cash offering last weekend : £507. Thank you.

Second Collection: Your donations for last weekend's Second Collection for Peter Pence raised £132. Thank you.

The Apostleship of the Sea: Next weekend, 10/11 July, there will be a Second Collection for The Apostleship of the Sea (AoS). The AoS is a Catholic charity supporting seafarers worldwide. They provide practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality or belief. Port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome seafarers, offer welfare service and advice, practical help, care and friendship. The AoS in Great Britain is part of an international network known to the maritime world as *Stella Maris*, working in more than 250 ports around the world. 90% of world trade is transported by ship, however the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones and often working in harsh conditions. The AoS relies wholly on voluntary contributions, and can only continue its work through the generous donations of its supporters, particularly this collection. You can also donate online, please see the Sea Sunday poster displayed on the Noticeboard as you exit the church via the side porch.

Bible Verse to Remember:

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:

to all who did accept him

he gave power to become children of God.

[John 1: 14, 12]

MASS READINGS

FIRST READING Ezekiel 2:2-5

These rebels shall know that there is a prophet among them

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, ‘Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, “The Lord says this.” Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.’

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 122(123)

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

To you have I lifted up my eyes,
you who dwell in the heavens:
My eyes, like the eyes of slaves
on the hand of their lords.

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

Like the eyes of a servant
on the hand of her mistress,
So our eyes are on the Lord our God
till he show us his mercy.

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.
We are filled with contempt.
Indeed all too full is our soul
with the scorn of the rich,
with the proud man’s disdain.

Our eyes are on the Lord till he show us his mercy.

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

The Lord's power is at its best in weakness

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, ‘My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.’ So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ’s sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jn1:14, 12

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us:
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL Mark 6:1-6

'A prophet is only despised in his own country'

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely, the son of Mary, the brother of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country, among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.