

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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[Parish Priest]
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The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary 14 / 15 August 2021



Dear friends in Christ,

Today we celebrate the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This feast invites us to contemplate the salvation of the whole human person: body and soul. Mary's body, like her soul, did not know the corruption of the grave. This mystery gives us the confirmation of our own destiny, not only to cherish the glorious body [Phil 3:21] on the day of our resurrection but also to enjoy that dignity that every 'body' is created in the likeness and the image of God [Gen1:27]. Fr Antony

Lumen Gentium 68: In the interim just as the Mother of Jesus, glorified in body and soul in heaven, is the image and beginning of the Church as it is to be perfected in the world to come, so too does she shine forth on earth, until the day of the Lord shall come,(304) as a sign of sure hope and solace to the people of God during its sojourn on earth.

Lebanon Appeal: Thank you so much for the generosity you have shown in your donations last week to provide financial support to help the suffering people of Lebanon. I am very pleased to advise you that the Second Collections amounted to £1,065, and the Diamond Club Table Top Sale raised a further £265. The Holy Cross Finance Committee agreed that the appeal warranted further support, and therefore a further sum was added to bring the total donation to £2,500. A cheque for this sum has been sent to the Holy Family Sisters in Lebanon. Since then, an additional £250 contribution has been generously made towards this appeal. Please continue to keep the people of Lebanon in your prayers. Thank you.

Parish Surgery: Meet with Fr Antony without an appointment every Tuesday after the 9:15am Mass, and every Friday at 5:00pm.

First Holy Communion Updates For The 2020 and 2021 Children:

For those children who made their First Holy Communion in 2020, you are invited to attend Mass on Saturday 11th September at 10:00am.

For those children who made their First Holy Communion in 2021, you are invited to attend Mass on Saturday 18th September at 10:00am.

After each Mass, the Candidates and their families are invited to a celebration party in Hartley Hall. If you can wear your special outfits, please do. Otherwise please dress smartly.

Mass Intentions: Kindly note that when requesting a Mass for your Intention, we are currently working on a two month lead time. Please leave your contact number on the Mass Intention envelope so we can confirm the date we have to offer, if the date you have requested is unavailable. Thank you.

Foundation Masses: A Foundation Mass is a Mass Intention that lasts for 25 years. If you would like to request a Foundation Mass, please give details for whom the Mass is to be offered together with the intention to Fr Antony. Please also include the date and time of the Mass together with your name and contact details. The cost is £300 (cheque made payable to RC Archdiocese of Southwark).

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.

Morning Prayers: Morning prayers after Mass have resumed now. You are invited to join us:

Rosary – Mon, Tue, Thu @ 9.45am; Divine Mercy Chaplet – Wed @ 9.45am and Fri 6.10pm

Want to Baptise your Child? From September 2021, the process to follow for those wishing to Baptise their child will be as follows:

- Complete the Baptism Application Form, which can be collected from Fr Antony during the Parish Surgery (see newsletter for current Parish Surgery times).
- Book an initial appointment with the Parish Office (Monday and Friday, 10:00am to 3:00pm) to submit the form and accompanying documents.
- Attend a Baptism Preparation Course.
- Meet with Fr Antony during the Parish Surgery (times announced in the Newsletter each week), to book a date for the Baptism and discuss the Order of Service.
- Baptisms are celebrated on the first Sunday of every month at 2:00pm.
- Certificates are issued on the second Sunday of every month.

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.

Confirmation 2021-2022: young people, aged 14 and above, who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, can request an Application 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.

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.

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 Cleevly - catfordsg2@safeguardrcaos.org.uk

The Parish Office is open on Mondays and Fridays, 10am to 3pm. email: catford@rcaos.org.uk; phone: 020 8698 3672.

<i>MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 14th August – Friday 20th August</i>		
SAT	6:30pm	Christina Adedeji - Wellbeing
SUN	09:00am 11:30am	<i>The Assumption Of The Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Marie Bernard – Health & Wellbeing Glenard and Everard Fletcher R.I.P.
MON	09:15am	Foundation Mass in Perpetuity for those Registered at Holy Cross
TUE	09:15am	Dulcidon Noronha R.I.P.
WED	09:15am	Francis Omotayo R.I.P. And The Dunbar Family - Thanksgiving
THU	09:15am	Anastasia Bernard – Birthday Thanksgiving & Wellbeing
FRI	6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church</i> <i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Wellbeing

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, Ann Whittington, Christina Adedeji, George Wacholz, Elfrida Wacholz and Dora Biasi. 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 Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is an internationally recognised course, primarily for those involved in education. The Agency team and external tutors will deliver the CCRS via Zoom and in-person at the Amigo Hall, London. For full dates and other information, please visit <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs>. For 2021-2022 the price will be £45/module or £350 for the full course.

Mass Offerings: Your loose cash offering last weekend: £250. Thank you.

Bible Verse to Remember:

Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ;
[Corinthians 1 15:22]

MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Rev 12: 1

A great sign appeared in heaven:
a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon beneath her feet,
and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
who assumed the Immaculate Virgin Mary, the Mother of your Son,
body and soul into heavenly glory,
grant, we pray,
that, always attentive to the things that are above,
we may merit to be sharers of her glory.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

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.'

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.

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.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Alleluia!

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.

Prayer over the Offerings

May this oblation, our tribute of homage,
rise up to you, O Lord,
and, through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
may our hearts, aflame with the fire of love,
constantly long for you.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon**Lk 1: 48-49**

All generations will call me blessed,
for he who is mighty has done great things for me.

Prayer after Communion

Having received the Sacrament of salvation,
we ask you to grant, O Lord,
that, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
whom you assumed into heaven,
we may be brought to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.