

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
28 / 29 August 2021

Pope Francis: *Hypocrisy jeopardises the unity of the Church*

Hypocrisy, the Pope said, “can be called the fear of the truth,” a feeling that “it is better to pretend than to be yourself” that can “suffocate the courage to openly say what is true” in every circumstance.

He warned that hypocrisy flourishes “in an environment where interpersonal relations are lived under the banner of formalism.”

The Bible, however, shows us examples of holy men and women who refuse to pretend. Pope Francis pointed to Eleazar who, during the time of the Maccabees, refused to pretend to eat meat sacrificed to idols, even at the cost of his life. In the New Testament, the Pope noted, Jesus often condemned hypocrites who appeared righteous on the outside, but inwardly were filled with vice. [Vatican News]

Altar Servers Training: There will be a training session for altar servers on Saturday 25th September at 10am in the church. All who wish to serve at the Holy Mass, please request an application form from Fr Antony. Many thanks to Nick and Rachael Wibberley who are happy to lead the altar servers.

Can you help? If you are an electrician and happy to help us in our parish, please contact Fr Antony.

Catechises, Formation and Evangelization Teams in Holy Cross: Anyone who would like to join these teams, please contact Fr Antony.

Holy Cross Feast: We shall have a special Feast Day Mass on Sunday 12th September 2021 at 7:00pm to celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. It will be a special day for us to thank God for every blessing we cherish in our parish. Please make a note of this special day in your diary.

Holy Cross Manna Mission: We are planning to begin the Soup And Bread Kitchen in our parish after the 11.30am Mass from October – as long as we receive sufficient assistance from our parishioners. Please come forward to support the poor and needy.

You can either let Fr Antony know you would like to support this Mission, or email the Parish Office with your contact details.

Congratulations to James Hubbard who received the Sacrament of Confirmation during the 7:00pm Mass on Friday 27th August. Please keep James, and his family in your prayers.

Baptism: Our congratulations go to baby Milan Myers, the daughter of Ashley and Riahna, as Milan will receive the Sacrament of Baptism and be welcomed into the Catholic Faith this Sunday 29th August.

Application Forms for Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA: please contact Fr Antony during the Parish Surgery without an appointment. This week it will be: Tuesday after the 9:15am Mass and Friday after the 7:00pm Mass.

Parish Surgery this week: Meet with Fr Antony without an appointment this week on Tuesday after the 9:15am Mass, and Friday after the 7:00pm Mass.

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 in 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

School Street Scheme operating on Culverley Road: Please note that the School Street Scheme which restricts anyone entering the enforcement area operates during the Lewisham Schools Term Times only – not during the holidays. To check the School Term Dates please go to the Website:

<https://lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/parking/schoolstreets/schools-streets-programme-streets-outside-schools>

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. Please could the parents reply to the email address catfordfhc@rcaos.org.uk **as soon as possible** if they plan to attend. Thank you.

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 should the date you have requested be unavailable. If no contact number is provided and your preferred date is unavailable, an alternative will be selected on your behalf. 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).

Vacancy: Site Maintenance and Caretaker: We are looking for an experienced person to join our site maintenance and caretaking team. Based on the Cathedral site in London SE1, which includes residential and office accommodation, as well as public access spaces and a car park. The primary function of this role is to provide handyman/maintenance services across the whole estate and act as a caretaker for the site. The full advert is on the Diocesan website www.rcsouthwark.co.uk or email hr@rcaos.org.uk for more details. Closing date 3rd September 2021.

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 and second Sundays of every month at 2:00pm.
- Up to two Baptisms can take place on each of these Sundays.
- Certificates are issued on the day of the Baptism, but only if the Baptism course has been attended.

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; Tel: 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. email: catford@rcaos.org.uk; phone: 020 8698 3672.

<i>MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Saturday 28th August – Friday 3rd September</i>	
SAT 6:30pm	<i>Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> People of the Parish
SUN 09:00am 11:30am	Othilia Fernandes Manuelpilai Gnanapragasam & Gnanapragasam Bernadate R.I.P.
MON 09:15am	<i>Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Martyrs</i> William Fernandes R.I.P.
TUE 09:15am	Clarence Fernandes R.I.P.
WED 09:15am	Len Calver R.I.P.
THU 09:15am	Danielle Monduc R.I.P.
FRI 6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Saint Gregory The Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church</i> <i>Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> L.B. Cephas

Please Pray for the Sick: Clowie Aspery, Myra Hannon, Melanie Thomas, Florence Nosegbe, Lydia Joseph, Pat Vessey, John Conway, Dorothy Beacon, Gala Lobo, Mary Emmanuel, Pat Doyle, Alan Durkin, 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.

Please pray for the peaceful repose of the soul of Tommy Murphy who has sadly passed away in Ireland. Tommy is the brother of our parishioner Mary Burke. Please keep Tommy, Mary and all their family in your prayers at this time. Thank you.

Please continue to pray for the peaceful repose of Margaret Woodward who passed away last week, and remember also her loved ones at this sad time. The funeral Mass for Margaret will be at Holy Cross on 16th September.

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: £392. Thank you.

Bible Verse to Remember:

Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. [Mark 7: 21-23]

MASS READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.
O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of mercy to all who call to you.

Collect

God of might, giver of every good gift,
put into our hearts the love of your name,
so that, by deepening our sense of reverence,
you may nurture in us what is good
and, by your watchful care,
keep safe what you have nurtured.
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

Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8

Observe these laws and customs, that you may have life

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, take notice of the laws and customs that I teach you today, and observe them, that you may have life and may enter and take possession of the land that the Lord the God of your fathers is giving you. You must add nothing to what I command you, and take nothing from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God just as I lay them down for you. Keep them, observe them, and they will demonstrate to the peoples your wisdom and understanding. When they come to know of all these laws they will exclaim, “No other people is as wise and prudent as this great nation.” And indeed, what great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him? And what great nation is there that has laws and customs to match this whole Law that I put before you today?’

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 14(15):2-5

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Lord, who shall dwell on your holy mountain?
He who walks without fault;
he who acts with justice
and speaks the truth from his heart;
he who does not slander with his tongue.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who does no wrong to his brother,
who casts no slur on his neighbour,
who holds the godless in disdain,
but honours those who fear the Lord.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

He who keeps his pledge, come what may;
who takes no interest on a loan
and accepts no bribes against the innocent.
Such a man will stand firm for ever.

The just will live in the presence of the Lord.

Second reading

James 1:17-18,21-22,27

Accept and submit to the word

It is all that is good, everything that is perfect, which is given us from above; it comes down from the Father of all light; with him there is no such thing as alteration, no shadow of a change. By his own choice he made us his children by the message of the truth so that we should be a sort of first-fruits of all that he had created.

Accept and submit to the word which has been planted in you and can save your souls. But you must do what the word tells you, and not just listen to it and deceive yourselves.

Pure, unspoilt religion, in the eyes of God our Father is this: coming to the help of orphans and widows when they need it, and keeping oneself uncontaminated by the world.

Gospel Acclamation

cf. Jn6:63,68

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

Gospel

Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

You put aside the commandment of God, to cling to human traditions

The Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered round Jesus, and they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with unclean hands, that is, without washing them. For the Pharisees, and the Jews in general, follow the tradition of the elders and never eat without washing their arms as far as the elbow; and on returning from the market place they never eat without first sprinkling themselves. There are also many other observances which have been handed down to them concerning the washing of cups and pots and bronze dishes. So these Pharisees and scribes asked him, 'Why do your disciples not respect the tradition of the elders but eat their food with unclean hands?' He answered, 'It was of you hypocrites that Isaiah so rightly prophesied in this passage of scripture:

This people honours me only with lip-service,
while their hearts are far from me.
The worship they offer me is worthless,
the doctrines they teach are only human regulations.

You put aside the commandment of God to cling to human traditions.' He called the people to him again and said, 'Listen to me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean. For it is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge: fornication, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, malice, deceit, indecency, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within and make a man unclean.'

Prayer over the Offerings

May this sacred offering, O Lord,
confer on us always the blessing of salvation,
that what it celebrates in mystery
it may accomplish in power.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

How great is the goodness, Lord,
that you keep for those who fear you.

Ps 30: 20

Prayer after Communion

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table,
we beseech you, Lord,
that, being the food of charity,
it may confirm our hearts
and stir us to serve you in our neighbour.
Through Christ our Lord.