

# Holy Cross Catholic Church

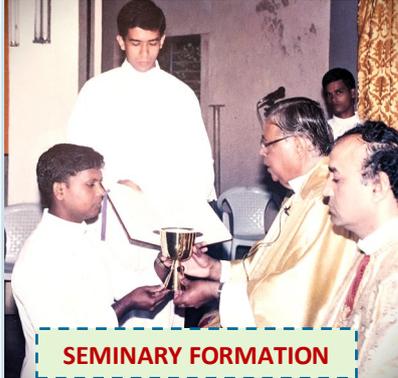
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**3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

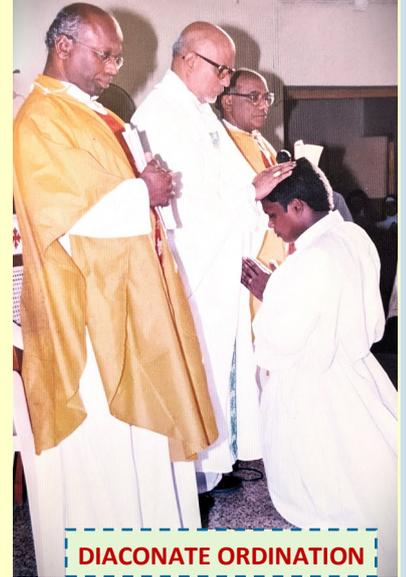
13 / 14 Apr 2024



**SEMINARY FORMATION**

**Dearest Parishioners of Holy Cross,**

This week marks the **20th anniversary of my ordination to the priesthood** (April 18, 2004). My heart overflows with gratitude to God for His love, compassion, and the many blessings He has bestowed upon me throughout my life, including 14 years of priestly formation. I am also deeply grateful to you, dear parishioners of Holy Cross, for your constant prayers, friendship, and support. It's been a privilege to spend more than a quarter of my priestly life here in Catford (5 years, 6 months, and 4 days). May we continue to work together, as instruments of God, to create beautiful harmony in our Church and His world.



**DIACONATE ORDINATION**



**ORDINATION MASS**

Please keep my mother in your prayers. She is currently bedridden and in fragile health, able to take only fluids and struggling with bedsores. She longs to see me, and I plan to visit her in the second week of May. The coming weeks hold First Holy Communion celebrations, Confirmations, and several marriages, which will keep me here for now.

After a short break (Palm Sunday, Easter, and Divine Mercy Sunday), I now resume my series on the Catholic Catechism in our newsletter. For this week, please read numbers 50-53 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. You can find the text here: [https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/\\_PF.HTM](https://www.vatican.va/archive/ENG0015/_PF.HTM). Please discuss these reflection and questions in your families.

**Later this year we shall have a special thanksgiving Mass to celebrate my Jubilee year in the Priesthood.**

## Catholic FAITH [part 6]

**GOD COMES TO MEET MAN: God Reveals His "Plan of Loving Goodness"**

Imagine having a super-secret plan, the most amazing plan ever, filled with goodness! That's like God and His plan for us. The awesome part is, He doesn't keep this plan hidden! This is what Revelation is all about – God sharing His secret.

Think of it like levels in a video game. We can figure some things out about God on our own – like He must be powerful to have made the world. But God wants to take our friendship to the next level! He tells us more about himself and invites us to be part of his family.

He does this slowly, over time, just like becoming best friends with someone. God sent Jesus, His Son, to show us the ultimate level of this amazing plan – we can share in God's own life!

### Reflection:

- Has anyone ever shared a really special secret with you? How did it make you feel?
  - God doesn't have to reveal Himself to us, why do you think He chooses to?

### Questions to Discuss:

- What are some ways you've learned about God (through the Bible, prayer, people in your life)?
  - How does knowing God has a plan make you feel? Excited, secure, confused – why?
    - If you could ask God one question about His plan, what would it be?

### Bible Verses to Remember:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12)

*In Christ's Risen Light, Fr Antony*

## [Blue Missal Book](#) - page 337

**I confess...** : page 453      **Gloria:** page 455  
**Creed(s):** pages 458 - 459      **Our Father...**485

### Prayer Time at Holy Cross

**Holy Mass:** Mon to Thurs - 9.15am; Fri - 7pm;  
Sat - 6.30pm; Sun - 9am & 11.30am  
**Rosary** – Mon, Tue, Thu @ 9.45am;  
**Divine Mercy Chaplet** – Wed @ 9.45am and  
Fri 7.30pm

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions:** Fri 6.00pm

### Night Prayer at 9pm

[Zoom]

Meeting ID: 7578777461;  
Passcode: 20212021

### Southwark Guild of St Stephen

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on May Day Bank Holiday Monday 6 May 2024 at The Friars, Aylesford Priory. All altar servers are requested to participate in this event. A coach may be organised if we get sufficient numbers.

**Youth Days (10-14 years)** at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 11 May. The day will include faith input, prayer, sports, games, and pizza.

**Retreat Days (13-17 years)** on Saturday 15 June at Richard Challoner School, New Malden. These days are opportunities for teenagers to grow in faith and friendship in a fun environment.

**Young Adults' Masses** at 6pm on the first Sunday of every month, followed by a social gathering (for those aged 18+) in the Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral. Please contact Fr Antony for more information.

### IMPORTANT DAYS TO REMEMBER

<b>20 April 2024 at 4.30pm</b>	Confirmation rehearsal/Parents' meeting
<b>27 April 2024 at 10am</b>	First Holy Communion rehearsal
<b>04 May 2024 at 10am</b>	First Holy Communion celebration [1 batch]
<b>05 May 2024 at 3pm</b>	Confirmation celebration
<b>11 May 2024 at 10am</b>	First Holy Communion celebration [2 batch]
<b>12 May 2024 at 10am</b>	Confirmation: Certificates and Bring & Share
<b>18 May 2024 at 4.30pm</b>	RCIA: Certificates and celebratory meal
<b>TBC</b>	First Holy Communion: Certificates and Bring & Share

### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS - Sat 13 - Fri 19 Apr

SAT 6:30pm	<i>Saint Martin I, Pope &amp; Martyr</i> Welfare of Fr Antony's mother Sebasty
SUN 9:00am	Jumoke Idowu – Birthday Thanksgiving
SUN 11:30am	Paul Njoku – Birthday Thanksgiving
MON 9:15am	The Caruana Family Members (living and deceased)
TUE 9:15am	Mary Judith Rathika Bernard R.I.P.
WED 9:15am	Enedina Alvarez Rabanal R.I.P (1st Anniversary)
THU 9:15am	People of the Parish
FRI 6:30pm 7:00pm	<i>Saint Alphege, Archbishop of Canterbury, Martyr</i> Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament The Eberendu Family – Private Intention

**Please Pray for the Sick:** Mary Rand, Pat Doyle, Albert Young, Ivor Lewis, Graham Canelle, Sherine Sukhram, Vivianne Owens, Norma Jones, Myra Hannon, Colin Maton, Melanie Thomas, Katie Bourner, Florence Nosegbe, Joe Green, Aboa Claudine, Susan Murphy, Eileen Embury, Kitty Wilkinson, Theresa Butler, Ann Whittington, Elfrida Wacholz, Jill Campbell, Pat Gallagher, Lydia Joseph, Elaine Williams, Abosede Titi Balogun, Baby Gwen Williams, Trish Keaveney, Jo Rocca Smith, Leonie Nwawudu, Elizabeth Goba, Meesh Gemmill & Rachael Pereira Wibberley.

**ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL?** - Contact Lewisham Hospital Catholic Chaplain directly on 07436051067. In an emergency, please say to the staff that you would like to see a Catholic priest.

### LAPTOP AVAILABLE FOR CATECHESIS &

**FORMATION:** A laptop is available at the Parish Office for groups to use. To reserve please contact Jo Flahive or Lisa O'Hara at least one week in advance.

### Baptism Preparation:

Parents who would like to baptize their children, please follow these steps:

1. Obtain an Application form from Fr. Antony. The Parish Surgery is open on Fridays at 3pm and again at 8pm.
2. Submit your completed application form to the Parish Office, along with proof of Catholicism of at least one parent and all Godparents. Evidence can be a copy Baptism Certificate, Marriage Certificate in a Catholic Church or Letter from a Priest.
3. Completion of an on-line Baptism Course, a link will be sent to you which will contain Baptism preparation videos which aim to provide you with theological and spiritual insights into the Sacrament of Baptism. In addition, attendance at one in-person course will be required.
4. After the above requirements have been met, you will be asked to select a date for your child's Baptism.

### THE NEXT IN-PERSON BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE DATE IS

**11 May 2024 at 10:00am in Hartley Hall**

The course dates for the remainder of 2024 are:

\* 22nd June \* 14th September \* 23rd November

### *Baptismal Congratulations*

To

*Hayden and Haley Newland*

Who were baptised on **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April**  
and to their parents Valerie and Norbert



**Third Thursday Time** is a mental health space hosting relaxing activities with the opportunity to socialise with other people. Come and join us in Hartley Hall for our next session on **18th April from 6-8pm** for massage, exercise and other activities.

### *May they Rest in Peace!*

*Mary Gallagher* Funeral 15th April at 9:30am

*Jeanette Hawkins* [Funeral TBC]

**Please keep them in your prayers.**

### Money Matters - THANK YOU

Main Collection: £544

2nd Collection next week for the Priests Training Fund: this collection helps to meet the cost of training students for the priesthood and the permanent diaconate. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy.

### PARISH CONTACTS

**Office:** 020 8698 3672 (Tues & Thur from 10:00am)

**Josepha Flahive:** catford@rcaos.org.uk

**Lisa O'Hara:** catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk

**Holy Cross School:** [Mary Collins: 020 8698 2675]

**Holy Cross Book Shop:** 020 3441 8240

**Safeguarding:** Pat Barber & Lisa O'Hara 07598 524024