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Holy Cross Catholic Church

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6th Sunday in Ordinary Time
15 / 16 Feb 2025

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel reading invites us to reflect on the Beatitudes. Jesus' Beatitudes turn our world upside down, revealing a path to true happiness not found in earthly riches or fleeting praise, but in humility, hunger for righteousness, and even in sorrow endured for his name. Do we seek comfort and ease, or the kingdom of God? Are we filled with ourselves, or do we hunger for his truth? Let us examine our hearts, for true joy lies not in the world's fleeting pleasures, but in embracing the values Jesus proclaims. This week, let us reflect on where we seek our happiness, and open ourselves to the blessings of a life lived for Christ. Let us find our true joy in the Lord.



Thanks for your Prayers

Dear friends,

Thank you for your prayers. I had a pleasant and blessed time spending most of my holiday with my mother. We offered the Holy Mass together, and it was joyful to sing hymns with her, listening to the spiritual melodies with a gentle, aged vibrancy.

She has been bedridden for over two years, and her Parkinson's disease is progressing. Her left hand and leg are becoming stiff and bent. Yet, she maintains joy in her heart, except for when I was leaving to return to London. My siblings are taking good care of her. Thank you again for your prayers.

Thank You to Our Singing Angels!

Last Sunday, our children filled the Mass with beautiful music, including the Responsorial Psalm. Their angelic voices created a truly prayerful and uplifting atmosphere. Thank you to all the children who shared their gifts and sang God's praises!

We encourage parents to bring their children to our Angels' Choir. It's a wonderful opportunity for them to develop their musical talents, connect with their faith, and receive God's blessings.

We also extend our sincere thanks to the dedicated organizers of our children's choir for their hard work and commitment.



Join us on a pilgrimage of hope during this Jubilee Year (2025)!



Reflecting the universal Church's theme, "Pilgrims of Hope," we're organizing coach trips to holy sites within our Archdiocese of Southwark, which boasts over 100 saints. Our first pilgrimage is Saturday,

February 22, 2025, visiting Canterbury, Ramsgate and Faversham.

We will celebrate the Holy Mass in Canterbury, the city of St. Augustine.

This day of prayer and blessings is open to all. The cost is £20 per adult and £10 per child. Fr. Antony welcomes those needing financial assistance—please don't hesitate to join! Email your name(s) to catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk or speak to Fr Antony to reserve your place.

St. Mary's Council Meeting:

This council plans and coordinates the liturgy and worship in our parish. This meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 25th, at 7:00 pm in Hartley Hall. Please share your visions and suggestions for making our liturgy more meaningful. As we prepare to begin the Season of Lent and observe several special liturgical events in this Year of Jubilee, your ideas can greatly enrich our worship and make it more prayerful.

Announcing Our New Parish Website!

As we announced previously, our new parish website is launching the first weekend of March! We're excited to share this updated online presence with you. The new site features a fresh, modern design and is packed with information about our parish community. We've also created expanded opportunities for enriching our Catechesis section with valuable resources.

You can preview the new website by scanning the QR code here.



We encourage you to explore the new site and share your feedback. Your suggestions will help us make it an even more meaningful and valuable resource for everyone.

A special thank you to Bruno Perez for his hard work and dedication in creating this beautiful new website!



PILGRIMAGE TRIP TO FATIMA

Monday 2nd – Thursday 5th June 2025

Total Cost £580 (includes flight, transfers and half board hotel for 3 nights – single room supplement £27 per night)

Deposit of £250 to be paid by 3rd March 2025

Please register your interest to catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk OR visit the parish office with your deposit.

We will also need a copy of your passport.

Payment can be made by cash, cheque or bank transfer.



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

Meeting ID: 7578777461;
 Passcode: 20212021

I confess... : page 525 **Gloria:** page 531
Creed(s): pages 543 - 545 **Our Father...**635

Next Sunday - Bible Readings

1st Reading: Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23 **Psalm:** 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 **Gospel:** Luke 6:27-38

IMPORTANT DAYS REMEMBER UNTIL JUNE

- 22 Feb - Coach Pilgrimage to Diocesan Holy Places
- 23 Feb - **Seeds of the Word** [Retreat for parents who baptised their children in the past 7 years]
- 25 Feb - St Mary's Council Meeting
- 04 March - St Joseph's Council Meeting
- 05 March - **Ash Wednesday**
- 09 March - Lenten Retreat: **Bishop Pat Lynch**
- 11 March - St Paul's Council Meeting
- 13 March - Lenten Retreat [via Zoom]: The Desert Experience
- 17 March - St Patrick's Day Celebration
- 20 March - Lenten Retreat [via Zoom]: Metanoia
- 23 March - Lenten Retreat: **Bishop Paul Mason**
- 27 March - Lenten Retreat [via Zoom]: The Paschal Mystery
- 29 March - Baptism Preparation
- 30 March - Lenten Retreat: **Fr Chris Connor**
- 03 April - Lenten Retreat [Via Zoom]: The Beatitudes
- 10 April - Lenten Retreat [via Zoom]: Discipleship
- 13 April - Palm Sunday
- 14 April - Lenten Confessions
- 20 April - **Easter**
- 04 May - Confirmation Celebration
- 10 May - Holy Communion Celebration
- 17 May - Baptism Preparation
- 25 May - **Archbishop John Wilson's** Mass
- 29 May - The Ascension of the Lord
- 2-5 June - Pilgrimage to Fatima
- 07 June - Jubilee Year celebration with the diocese [Aylesford]
- 08 June - Pentecost
- 15 June - International Day - The Most Holy Trinity
- 21 June - Readers and EMHC Retreat
- 22 June - **Sprouts of Faith:** Post Holy Communion Retreat

Seeds of the Word

[Continuing formation for the parents who baptised their children]

Families who have baptised their children in the past seven years are invited to attend the **9am Mass on Sunday, February 23rd.**

Your children will receive special prayers and blessings, followed by spiritual reflection and refreshments in Hartley Hall.

This is a wonderful opportunity to sow the seeds of God's word into their hearts. We look forward to seeing you there.

Celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025 and 175 years of Southwark (60 as an Archdiocese)!

Join us at The Friars, Aylesford, on June 7, 2025, for the Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration.

Connect with others from across London and Kent. More information to follow. Please keep this date in your diary!

BAPTISM

This Sunday - 16th February 2025 we welcome into our church

Atarah Joseph

Please keep her parents **Dolly and Joseph** in your prayers

St Paul's Council (for Catechesis and Formation)

Sunday 23rd February 10.15-11.15am: we shall be meeting in the Library in Hartley Hall for our first **Praying and Learning with Scripture** session. Come join us, especially if you have a ministry in church or feel called to carry out a ministry. We shall be meeting once a month on the 4th Sunday of each month.

Saturday 1st March 4.30-6pm in Hartley Hall: Next RCIA Journey in Faith meeting: Sacraments of Healing led by Father Antony.

Tuesday 11th March 7.30pm, with food and drinks at 7pm: St Paul's Council members bi-annual meeting. Come and join us!

Are you called to be a catechist? Do you want to share your faith? We are able to provide you with support and training. The best way to develop your faith is to teach others: you will gain so much! Please contact Judy on cdmlewisham@rcaos.org.uk or catford@rcaos.org.uk

2nd Collection this week for the *Catholic Association for Racial Justice*. This helps to support the work of the Catholic Church in promoting racial justice in our schools, parishes and in the wider society.

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

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS Sat 15th - Fri 21st Feb 2025

SAT	6:30pm	John Joseph Foley R.I.P.
SUN	9:00am	Maurice Conroy R.I.P.
	11:30am	Sasilia – Thanksgiving
MON	9:15am	Clarence & Alba Fernandes R.I.P.
TUE	9:15am	Edward, Lily & Clovis Colaco R.I.P.
WED	9:15am	Mary Callaghan (Ann) R.I.P.
THU	9:15am	Mrs Gillian Yhip R.I.P. (1st Anniversary)
FRI	6:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00pm	Hamilton & Edwin Noronha R.I.P.

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

ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL? - Contact Lewisham Hospital Catholic Chaplain directly on 020 8333 3299. In an emergency, please say to the staff that you would like to see a Catholic priest.