

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

23 Sunday of Ordinary Time

05/06 September 2020



## Parish Office

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## Mass Readings

**First reading - Ezekiel 33:7-9** The word of the Lord was addressed to me as follows: 'Son of man, I have appointed you as sentry to the House of Israel. When you hear a word from my mouth, warn them in my name. If I say to a wicked man: Wicked wretch, you are to die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked man to renounce his ways, then he shall die for his sin, but I will hold you responsible for his death. If, however, you do warn a wicked man to renounce his ways and repent, and he does not repent, then he shall die for his sin, but you yourself will have saved your life.'

**Responsorial Psalm - 94(95):1-2,6-9** *O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'*

**Second reading - Romans 13:8-10** Avoid getting into debt, except the debt of mutual love. If you love your fellow men you have carried out your obligations. All the commandments: *You shall not commit adultery, you shall not kill, you shall not steal, you shall not covet*, and so on, are summed up in this single command: *You must love your neighbour as yourself*. Love is the one thing that cannot hurt your neighbour; that is why it is the answer to every one of the commandments.

## Gospel Acclamation - Jn17:17

Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord: consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

**Gospel - Matthew 18:15-20** Jesus said to his disciples: 'If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain any charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a pagan or a tax collector.'

'I tell you solemnly, whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.'

'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them.'

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**Our Church's Feast Day : The Exaltation of The Holy Cross (Monday 14 September):** This feast celebrates three things: the discovery of the true cross by St. Helena, the dedication of the Basilica and Shrine built on Calvary by her son Emperor Constantine, and the triumph of the cross by which Christ defeated sin and death, winning for us salvation and everlasting beatific life in heaven. We are so blessed to have in our possession here in Catford, a relic of the real wood of The Holy Cross, and a special Blessing will be given by Fr Antony on this Feast Day to those able to attend Mass, and for those who cannot, the service will be available on You Tube. Happy Feast Day to all our parishioners.

**Prayer** How have you managed to make time for prayer each day? During this time of the pandemic many have been grateful for the YOUCAT app, which allows a few minutes of prayer each day, with a short extract from the Gospel of the day, as well as a very short explanation of areas of our faith. To keep us grounded there is also a short Inspirational comment to help us understand the Gospel and put it into practice each day. Do try it and see what you think - use the link: <https://www.youcat.org/docat-app>

**The New Academic Year has begun.** Please remember in your prayers all students, teachers and ancillary staff. We wish them a safe and fruitful year.

**Application Forms:** Those who wish to baptise their children, to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation or to be received into the full communion with the Catholic Church can obtain your application forms from Fr Antony. It will be an opportunity for Fr Antony to meet your family, to explain about the importance of the sacraments you are going to receive and to stress the necessity to participate in the preparation programmes. Please make an appointment to meet him without an appointment on Mondays after the 7pm Mass or Tuesdays and Wednesdays after the 9.15am Mass.

## HOLY MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

		THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
SAT	7pm	Blessings & Thanksgiving for Children's School Year	Thanksgiving for Lesley Allen – and her army of helpers
SUN	9.00am 11.30am YouTube	The 'Joseph' Family – Thanksgiving Fr. John Mulligan R.I.P.	Margaret Middleton R.I.P. Michael Motha
MON	7pm	Amalan Motha	<b>The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Parish Feast</b> People of the Parish
TUE	9.15am 7pm	<b>The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Alphones Manuelpillai R.I.P. <b>Feast of Our Lady of Good Health</b> [Mass in Tamil]	<b>Our Lady of Sorrows</b> (No intention received)
WED	9.15am	Fernando & Lilians Jesuthas – Thanksgiving	(No intention received)
THU		No Mass for the public	No Mass for the public
FRI	7.00pm 7.30pm	Adoration and Confessions Thierry Christian Gnanakumar R.I.P	Adoration and Confessions (No intention received)

### First Holy Communion Information

**Catch-up Session:** 12 September at 10am; Sacrament of Reconciliation: 13 September at 4pm

**Days of Celebration:** 19 September at 10am; 20 September at 4pm; 26 September at 10am; 27 September at 4pm, and 3 October at 10am.

If you wish your child to receive Holy Communion for the first time, you must attend the lesson together with your child, bringing your completed 'I Belong' workbook, and having looked at and discussed the two PowerPoint presentations you received earlier. You also need to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child on 13 September. There are five Masses arranged for First Communion, and there are places available. You can choose the date when you attend the catch-up session. Looking forward to seeing you on 12 September. If you have any questions, please use this address: [fhc.catford@gmail.com](mailto:fhc.catford@gmail.com)

### ONLY UNTIL THE END OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PLEASE...

- Do come 10 minutes before the mass
- Do sanitize your hands
- Do wear masks and do bring your face mask
- Do keep 1 metre distance in church always
- Do follow the instructions of welcome ministers
- Do avoid kneeling
- Do avoid touching statues
- Do receive the holy communion only on hands
- Do avoid receiving the holy communion on hands with gloves
- Do prayerfully leave the church immediately after the holy communion

**RCIA:** Next weekend at the [Saturday evening](#) Vigil Mass we welcome our RCIA group. Irene Obasogie, who will receive the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) and Julia Raszewska, who will be confirmed. Their Journey in Faith was interrupted by Covid 19, and they were due to celebrate at the Easter Vigil in April. The delay has not deterred them, but only strengthened their faith. We congratulate them and welcome them both into our parish community, so please greet them and help them become full members of our parish. Continue to keep them in your prayers.

The RCIA will restart before Christmas, if you have someone in your family or social circle who might be interested in finding out more about the catholic Church do please speak to Fr Anthony about it.

The RCIA is also for Catholics who want to find out a bit more about their faith. Speak to Fr Anthony if you are interested.

**Baptism:** We welcome into the Catholic faith, baby Olivia Ukah whose Baptism we celebrate this weekend at Holy Cross.

**R.I.P.:** Please pray for **Anna Solly**, a long-time parishioner of Holy Cross, whose funeral will be on 29<sup>th</sup> September at 11am.

Mass Offertory Collections: £182.40 Thank you. (Thank you also to the anonymous donor for their gift of £200.)