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Holy Cross Catholic Church

**Celebration of faith and Community
for 120 Years**



**23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7 September 2025**

Rejoice and Celebrate 121 Years of Faith!

Dear Beloved Parishioners of Holy Cross,

Get ready for a joyous celebration! **Next Sunday**, we gather to celebrate **our Parish Feast Day**, giving thanks to God for the countless blessings He has showered upon our community over the past 121 years.

This is a special time to honour our history and embrace our vibrant future. We invite you to celebrate at all our weekend Masses, which will include a special blessing with **the Relic of the True Wood of the Holy Cross**.

A highlight of our celebration will be the **11:30 AM Mass**, where we will lift our voices in a beautiful tapestry of praise, praying and singing in our mother tongues. **Let us fill the church with the universal sound of worship!**

The celebration continues after Mass with a **grand feast in the Hall and Carpark**. Come and experience **"the taste of the globe"** as we share food, fellowship, and joy as one family.

Come dressed in your traditional attire, adding your unique colour and heritage to our beautiful mosaic of faith.

We have indeed been blessed throughout this Jubilee year of grace. Our profound gratitude goes to **Bishop Pat Lynch, Bishop Paul Mason, Canon Gerard Bradley, and Fr. Chris Connor** for their spiritual leadership, guiding us closer to Jesus Christ through the offering of Masses and retreats. **To mark the completion of the Jubilee**, next week's Parish Feast Day Mass will be a culmination of our celebrations, presided over at **11:30 am** by **Fr. Feroz Fernandes**, a beloved former priest of Holy Cross.

Let us come together to make this a truly unforgettable celebration of faith, culture, and community!



ST JOSEPH'S COUNCIL- ZOOM MEETING will be held on **Tuesday, 9 September at 7:30 PM**. Username: **578777461** and Password: **20212021**. All members of St. Joseph's Council, and all those who wish to support our parish, are kindly invited to join this meeting. We look forward to your participation.

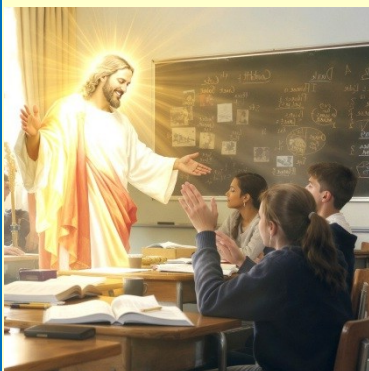
Gratitude for the Children's Choir and Altar Servers Party

A heartfelt thank you to **Francisca Dunbar, Helen Pearce, Truly Johnston, Micah Jackson and Josepha Flahive** for organising such a wonderful and joyful day for our Altar Servers and Children's Choir members last Saturday. Your dedication and hard work in nurturing our young people is a true blessing to our parish community.

The event was a beautiful success, and it is so inspiring to see our children grow in faith and fellowship.



A Back-to-School Blessing



Heavenly Father,
As a new academic year begins, we ask for Your blessing upon all **our children and young people**. Fill their hearts with a spirit of curiosity and a love for learning. Give them the courage to embrace new challenges and the resilience to keep trying when things are difficult.

Bless their teachers and all who will guide them. **May their classrooms be places of kindness, respect, and friendship.** Help them to grow not only in knowledge but also in **wisdom and character**.

Protect them, Lord, and keep them safe in mind, body, and spirit. May they always feel Your loving presence with them, reminding them that **they are unique, capable, and deeply loved**.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

EMMAUS WALK FROM HOLY CROSS

We will walk the streets - especially the High Street - on the first Sunday evening of each month. The next walk will be **THIS Sunday, 7th September, from 5 PM**. As we pray for our community and consecrate our streets, may we encounter Christ in every person in need.

Please gather at our church for a brief prayer before we begin. Join us in this spiritual mission to transform Catford into a place of peace, kindness, and God's presence.

"Pray for the peace of your city, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." [cf. Jeremiah 29:7]

Red Missal Book ... page 1052

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

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

IMPORTANT DAYS REMEMBER

07 Sep - Emmaus Walk (5:00pm)
 09 Sep - St Joseph's Zoom Meeting (see front of Newsletter)
 14 Sept - Parish Feast Day (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
 20 Sept - Baptism Preparation course (10:00am)
 26 Sept - MacMillan Cancer Research (Friday) Coffee Morning
 30 Sept - St Mary's Council meeting
 05 Oct - Emmaus Walk
 07 Oct - St Joseph's Council meeting
 14 Oct - St Paul's Council meeting
 21 Oct - Parish Pastoral Council meeting
 01 Nov - All Souls
 02 Nov - All Saints
 02 Nov - Emmaus Walk

KEEP IN TOUCH



Receive important parish updates and news from the Universal Church through our Parish WhatsApp News Group.

To become a member, simply scan the **QR code** or send a message to 07578777461. Stay informed and connected with our community!

NEW YOUTH CHOIR AT HOLY CROSS!

Following the wonderful success of our Children's Choir and Men's Choir, we are excited to announce the launch of a new Youth Choir at Holy Cross!

I will personally lead the music for their first Mass.

This is a beautiful opportunity for young people to lift their voices in prayer and praise.

If you are interested in joining, please **contact me directly or scan the QR code to register.**

Let's make a joyful noise unto the Lord together!

Fr. Antony



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 06 - 12 Sep 2025

SAT	6:30pm	FOUNDATION MASS: Rev. Dr. John Mulligan R.I.P.
SUN	9:00am	Maria Ihedinwa Eberendu R.I.P. (20th Anniversary) & All Departed Souls of the Eberendu Family
	11:30am	Prema Louth R.I.P.
MON	9:15am	People of the Parish
TUE	9:15am	Tony & Theresa Green R.I.P.
WED	9:15am	David & Nancy Mendes R.I.P.
THU	9:15am	Thierry Christian Gnanakumar R.I.P.
FRI	6:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	7:00pm	Mrs Caroline Obiefulah R.I.P.

Please Pray for the Sick: Mary Rand, Pat Doyle, Manuel Vieira, Enid Benzynie, Sherine Sukhram, Lydia Joseph, Trish Keaveney, Melanie Thomas, Colin Maton, Titi Balogun, Aboa Claudine, Susan Murphy, Leonie Nwawudu, Rachael Pereira Wibberley, Abosede Elizabeth Goba, Eileen Embury, Ann Whittington, Joe Green, Florence Nosegbe, Katie Bournier, Theresa Butler, Vivianne Owens, Kitty Wilkinson, Jo Rocca Smith, Meesh Gemmell, Elfrida Wacholz, Albert Young, Ivor Lewis, Elaine Williams, Dorothy Ezinwanyi Wogu, Christine Conroy, Pat Gallagher, Amah Catherine, Maggie Broadley & Stewart Byrne.

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.

Want to Become a Catholic or to Deepen your Catholic Faith?

If you want to learn more and to deepen your faith, if you have been baptised but not yet confirmed, if you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, or if you simply want some answers to life, kindly join our RCIA and email the Parish Office: catford@rcaos.org.uk. Alternatively, call the office on 020 8698 3672 (Please note – the Parish Office is open each Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00am.)

This Week's Saints & Feasts

Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary (September 8)

The Church celebrates the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on September 8, honouring her as the dawn of salvation. Born to Saints Joachim and Anne, Mary's birth was a divine gift, preparing the world for the coming of Christ. Her "yes" to God's plan brought redemption to humanity. This feast reminds us of Mary's humility, purity, and role as Mother of the Church. Let us imitate her faith and seek her intercession in our spiritual journey.

St. John Chrysostom (September 13)

St. John Chrysostom, a 4th-century bishop and Doctor of the Church, was renowned for his eloquent preaching—earning him the title "Golden-Mouthed." He fearlessly denounced corruption, advocated for the poor, and emphasized Scripture's transformative power. Exiled for his boldness, he remained steadfast in faith. His life teaches us to proclaim truth with courage and live the Gospel with conviction. May his example inspire us to deepen our love for God's Word and serve others selflessly.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (September 14) – Parish Feast

Next Sunday, we joyfully celebrate the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, our parish feast. Please find more information on the front page.

Friday Coffee Mornings: We're delighted that our Friday Coffee Mornings will be starting up again for the start of the new school year. We begin at 09:00am and go on to 10:30 or so.

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider using the electronic offertory plates located at the entrances of the church, or simply scan the **QR code** or click:

https://donorbox.org/holy-cross-church_catford.

Thank you for your continued support!



PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Matthew Donnelly: matthewdonnelly@rcaos.org.uk

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

Joseph Flahive, Secretary: catford@rcaos.org.uk

Lisa O'Hara, Pastoral: catfordsupport@rcaos.org.uk

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

Holy Cross Book Shop: <https://holycrossbooks.co.uk>

Safeguarding: Pat Barber & Lisa O'Hara 07598 524024