

Holy Cross Catholic Church

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Palm Sunday
23/24 Mar 2024

Dear Parishioner,

This weekend we celebrate the Palm Sunday and begin the Holy Week – a journey of sacred remembrance and profound reflection. Holy Week is the most sacred time in the liturgical year. It is a time of blessing and a time of cherishing God's salvation for us all. This is not just a week of rituals, but a time to enter more deeply into the heart of Jesus' sacrifice for us.

Palm Sunday reminds us of His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, yet this joy was fleeting. Holy Week reveals the depths of His suffering, from the betrayal of the Last Supper to His agonizing crucifixion. Let us walk with Him in spirit through each of these profound events.

Let us make time for prayer, silence, and acts of service as a way of honouring our Lord's path. Let this Holy Week be our journey alongside Him, as we prepare for the glorious celebration of Easter and His resurrection.



Family Palms: Thank you for nurturing your family palm, a symbol of the connection within our parish community. May the Lord's peace and joy flourish in your homes as your palm grows.

Holy week confessions [Monday at 6.30pm]: The Sacrament of Reconciliation (or Confession) offers us the profound gift of God's forgiveness and unconditional love. Several priests will be available for confessions in our parish. Please prepare your hearts and make use of this opportunity as you ready yourself for the Paschal Feast. Let us share the blessings of Holy Week by inviting our family and friends to join us in celebrating this sacred time.

Full Day Adoration at Holy Cross: During this Holy Week, let us spend more time with the Lord in prayer. On Tuesday, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in our church after the morning Mass until 5pm.

Chrism Mass at the Cathedral: During Holy Week, we will celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral with our Archbishop, bishops, priests, and the faithful of our diocese. During this Mass, the bishop blesses the oils— the oil of catechumens (oleum catechumenorum or oleum sanctorum), the oil of the infirm (oleum infirmorum) and holy chrism (sacrum chrisma) — which will be used in the administration of the sacraments throughout the diocese for the year. Please join us for this year's Chrism Mass on Wednesday, 27 March 2024, at 11.30am in our Cathedral. Address: Cathedral House, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY.

The Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday begins at 7pm: During this Mass, we will celebrate the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the sacrament of Holy Orders. On this sacred day, the Lord gave us the New Commandment to love one another as He has loved us. The washing of the feet, a powerful symbol of service and humility, will take place after the homily.

Good Friday Service begins at 3pm: On Good Friday, we solemnly remember the sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation. It is a day for prayer, fasting, and quiet reflection on Christ's Passion. Let us join together on Good Friday to walk the sorrowful path with Jesus, reflecting on His boundless love.

Easter Decorations: We are grateful to Catherine Sanderson and Joyce Joseph for their beautiful Palm Sunday decorations. If you would like to contribute your talents to our Easter decorations, please let us know!

May your Holy Week be blessed with the grace and peace of Jesus Christ. Fr Antony

Rite of Election Please continue to pray for the catechumens due to be baptized this Easter. They are Francesca Tafri-Allon, Aaron Kong, Kieran Tresadern, Florence Obeng and Eli Elca De Havillain. They are joined by Brad Robinson, who will be received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter, and also Vanessa Borsatto and Kristina Ika who will both receive Confirmation and Holy Eucharist. Please pray for all catechumens and candidates as they now enter the next important phase of their faith journey. This Easter we shall also be welcoming into the catholic Church, baby Dylan Parker and Jade-Sola Omolayo Tafri-Allen.

I confess... : page 453
 Creed(s): pages 458 - 459

Gloria: page 455
 Our Father...485

Your Easter Offering

As is customary, your offering over the Easter Weekend is a personal gift to our Parish Priest, Fr Antony. Thank you.

Night Prayer at 9pm

[Zoom]
 Meeting ID:
 7578777461;
 Passcode: 2021021



St Patrick's Day at Holy Cross

We extend a heartfelt thank you to the Irish and Nigerian communities, who honor St. Patrick as their patron saint.

Your contributions made our celebration truly special.

Special thanks to Louise Meaney for creating the beautiful shamrock wreaths that adorned our church. The space looked incredibly festive and lush with green.

Thank you again to everyone involved for a joyful St. Patrick's Day!

Stations of the Cross

We gratefully thank the **Filipino Community** for last Friday's Stations. This Friday (22nd) Stations will be led by the **Ivorian and French Speaking Community**. Fr Antony will be leading Stations on Good Friday.

Food Collection Sunday at Holy Cross – weekend of 6/7 April.

If you are able to donate, please leave any non-perishable items in the porch (Sangley Road entrance) and they will be collected and delivered to a local foodbank. The goods can be left any day after morning Mass and it will be stored until the actual collection day. A huge thanks to everyone who has helped by donating.

How else can we help?

We know not everyone is in a position to donate food – there are lots of other ways we can help too. Together we can all pray for justice and an end to hunger and poverty.

Baptism Courses

The course dates for the remainder of 2024 are:

- 11th May 22nd June
- 14th September 23rd November

Those wishing to have their child Baptised should see Fr Antony for a Baptism Application Form.

May they Rest in Peace!

Gillian Yhip [Funeral 4th April, time TBC]
Jeanette Hawkins [Funeral TBC]

Please keep them in your prayers.

Saints' Corner Welcomes Statues from your Homeland!

If you travel to your homeland, why not bring along with you a special statue for our Saints' Corner. Share the saints of your heritage with our community. It must be a 12" statue. Your contribution will enrich our spiritual surroundings.

RED MISSION BOXES:

These will be collected after Easter. More information to follow.



Money Matters - THANK YOU

Main Collection(s) - £511
 Poor Parishes - £344

SECOND COLLECTION GOOD FRIDAY
 Papal collection for the Holy Places of Palestine

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 23 - Sun 31 Mar

SAT	6:30pm	Ibidun Eberendu – Birthday Thanksgiving
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord Grace Mary Nezianya – Thanksgiving Mr Gnanapragasam Manuelpillai & Mrs Bernadate Gnanapragasam R.I.P
MON	9:15am 6:30pm	The Caruana Family Members Living and Deceased <i>Adoration and Confession</i>
TUE	9:15am	Erica Canelle R.I.P. (1st Anniversary) <i>Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 5pm</i>
WED		NO MASS TODAY Chrism Mass at the Cathedral at 11:30am
THU	7:00pm 12:00am	Mass of the Last Supper Holy Souls - November List <i>Followed by Adoration until Midnight Compline at Midnight</i>
FRI	3:00pm 7:00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion Stations of the Cross
SAT	8:00pm	Easter Vigil
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord People of the Parish People of the Parish

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, Elaine Williams, Abosede Titi Balogun, Trish Keaveney, Jo Rocca Smith, Leonie Nwawudu, Elizabeth Goba, Lydia Joseph, Meesh Gemmell, Rachael Pereira Wibberley, Mary Gallagher, Pat Gallagher and Baby Gwen Williams.

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.