



Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe

HOLY CROSS CHURCH, CATFORD
SUNDAY, 23 NOVEMBER, 2025



Dear Beloved Parishioners of Holy Cross,

This weekend, we celebrate the great feast of Christ the King. We proclaim that Jesus is our King of kings and Lord of lords, and we joyfully commit to following His commandments.

During the difficult times of the pandemic and lockdown, our parish did not sit idle. We reached out in many ways, both spiritually and socially. Through our Diamond Club and parish teams, we regularly supported nearly 200 elderly people and their families. Over 50 Welcome Ministers helped people worship in a safe and worthy manner. Personally, in addition to offering Masses and sending daily recorded messages and prayers, I visited those infected with COVID-19, cooked and delivered chicken curry and rice for them, and boldly entered high-risk hospital wards to bring the final rites to those who were isolated.

Why did we do all these good works? Because when we acknowledge Jesus as our King, we must live by His rules. His greatest commandment is to love God and love our neighbours and to take up our cross and follow Him. This means showing kindness, forgiving others, and helping those in need. We allow Jesus to reign in our lives when we act with the same love and mercy He shows us. Let us ask Him to help us make His love the center of our lives, so we may help build His kingdom of peace and love here on earth.



In serving the least,
we serve the King



Your Family's Invitation to Christmas Preparation

Next weekend we begin the holy season of Advent, our spiritual preparation for Christmas. This year, we invite our children to participate in a special way during the Christmas Masses by dressing as angels and characters from the Nativity scene.

We also invite every family to help us decorate our church for Christmas! We will distribute materials for making Christmas wreaths after all Masses this weekend. Please collect your wreath bases and create beautiful decorations together with your children. Don't worry if you're unsure how to make them

- we will send a detailed video tutorial via email and WhatsApp to guide you through the process. You can also click this link or scan the QR code below to access the video tutorial now:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVO8cU0GBeM>

Let us make this Advent a time of joyful preparation, where our families work together to create a beautiful sacred space to welcome the newborn King!

The Return of Receiving from the Chalice: With the great worries of the pandemic now behind us, we are joyfully able to reintroduce the beautiful practice of receiving Holy Communion under both kinds - the precious Body and the precious Blood of our Lord. As we enter the Season of Advent, a time of preparation and renewal, we will begin this on a trial basis. Starting this weekend, the Precious Blood will be offered to the congregation exclusively at the Saturday 6:30 PM Vigil Mass. This trial period will help us prepare to potentially extend this practice to other Masses in the future. Let us approach this renewal with deep reverence and gratitude, praying that it strengthens our love for the Holy Eucharist.

Please note that receiving the Sacred Host alone is a complete and valid reception of the Eucharist. The entire Christ - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity - is fully present under each species. Therefore, no grace necessary for salvation is missed if one receives only the Host.

Christmas Fayre – Sunday, 7th December 2025: Mark your calendars! Our Parish Christmas Fayre will be held on Sunday, 7th December, following both the 9:00 am and 11:30 am Masses. This year, all proceeds will go towards our urgent project to replace the church boilers.

We need your help to make it a success! Donations of items (toys, gifts, bric-a-brac, etc.) can be dropped off at the church from this week onwards, see handouts and posters in the two porches for further details. We also warmly invite our parish communities to come forward and run a stall - whether it's crafts, games, or food. Please contact the parish office to get involved. Let's work together for a joyful and successful event!

This weekend, we are joyfully incorporating more young people into our liturgical ministries. To celebrate and affirm their vital role in our parish family, a Special Blessing will be offered for all young people at the end of each Mass.

May Christ the King bless you all. Fr Antony

Christmas Decorations

Thank you to our Filipino Community for generously decorating our Christmas tree on **Sunday, 14 December at 3:00**

PM. All parishioners are warmly welcome to join this festive effort! We are also seeking help with our beautiful **Christmas flower arrangements**. If your community group would like to take on this special task, please contact **Fr. Antony** directly. Your service will help make our church radiant for the celebration of our Saviour's birth!

Red Missal Book ... page 1095

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 - 9.30am; 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

NEW WEEKDAY MASS TIME - 9:30am

Please note the new Monday to Thursday weekday Mass time of 9:30am

We continue to welcome your comments.

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting: Our Parish Pastoral Council will meet on **27 November at 7:00 PM** in the Parish Hall. We kindly ask for your prayers for our Council members as they discern and deliberate for the good of our parish community.

If you have any matters you wish to be discussed or suggestions to share, please email the parish office or drop a note in the Suggestion Box located near the church entrance. Your input is valued and helps guide our mission. Let us support our Council with prayer and collaboration!

Short Concert last weekend to support Aid to the Church in need:

Anne Mellis, who organised the concert, would like to thank everyone who helped make the event performed at Holy Cross Church, a huge success last Sunday. We thank everybody who attended the concert. A special thanks to the Children's Choir, the 11:30 Choir and the Hither Green Choir who joined us and presented several diverse pieces and to our resident organ scholar Micah Jackson who not only gave a wonderful rendition of two organ works but also accompanied both the Holy Cross Children's and Adult choirs.



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS 22 - 28 Nov 2025

SAT	6:30pm	John Joseph Foley R.I.P.
SUN	9:00am 11:30am	All workers of Holy Cross Parish Fr John Ackland - Thinking of you
MON	9:30am	Prema Louth R.I.P.
TUE	9:30am	Rachael Pereira Wibberley - Healing
WED	9:30am	In thanksgiving for the family & friends of John Joseph Foley R.I.P.
THU	9:30am	Jean Scott R.I.P.
FRI	6:00pm 7:00pm	Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Thang Nguyen - Wellbeing and Thanksgiving

Please Pray for the Sick:

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

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.

IMPORTANT DAYS TO REMEMBER

23 Nov - Christ the King
27 Nov - Parish Council Meeting
02 Dec - St Mary's Council Meeting
07 Dec - Christmas Fayre
08 Dec - Feast of the Immaculate Conception
22 Dec - Advent Confessions [6.30 pm]

Fill Those Smarties Tubes: A gentle reminder to all our parish families: please remember to fill your empty Smarties tubes with coins and return them to the church. A dedicated basket has been placed near the altar, close to the baptismal font, for your donations. Every coin brings us closer to our goal of replacing our aging church boilers. Thank you for your continued support.

Ashnawh Rathinakumar is going to be baptised this Sunday 23rd November at the 11:30pm Mass. Please keep his parents Thusharika and Rathinakumar in your prayers



Good News!

Holy Cross Parish, with the guidance from the Diocese, has been successful in securing a significant grant from the **National Lottery** to assist in the running of the Parish's **Diamond Club**.

Carols sung by our Holy Cross Children's Choir will be performed outside Catford Bridge Station on **Friday 5th December from 5-6.30pm.**

If you're in the area why not pop along to hear the angelic voices of our young ones. They will be collecting donations for a worthy cause.

Digital Catechesis Success! We joyfully conclude our 7-week Digital Catechesis on the Holy Mass! Heartfelt thanks to all participants for your wonderful engagement and insightful answers. Since names weren't provided, we couldn't identify individuals, but our anonymous winners will be recognized and rewarded soon. Stay tuned for our next digital faith series launching in a few weeks!



SECOND COLLECTION:

This week's Second Collection is for the Southwark Catholic Youth Service which supports youth work in the diocese and beyond.

PARISH CONTACTS

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