**Catholic Parish of Holy Cross**

**Parsons Green**

**Parish Office: 22 Cortayne Road, London, SW6 3QA**

**Website:** [**http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk**](http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk/)

**Tel: 020 7736 1068**

**Parish Priest: Reverend Father Michael Daley Email:** [**michaeldaley@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:michaeldaley@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parish Administrator: Mrs Annie D’Souza Email:** [**parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk)

***Office hours: Mon & Tues. 8.30 am – 3pm. Thurs 8.30 am – 3.30pm (not available Weds and Fri)***

**Catechetical Coordinator: Mrs Alexandra Fisher Email: alexandrafisher@rcdow.org.uk**





**33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 14th/15th NOVEMBER 2020 (YEAR A) WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**

**SACRAMENTS and CATECHESIS**

**Baptism** - Before any child is baptised, Fr Michael would wish to meet parents, at least one of whom should be a baptised practising Catholic for a pre baptism interview. Please contact him directly by e mail. There is an expectation that Catholic parents requesting baptism for their child should be practising their faith by participating at Mass every week, and live within the parish boundary.

**First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion Programme:** For all information, please contact Alexandra, the parish catechetical coordinator by e mail (see address above) Registration for the 2021 course is now underway.

**Confirmation for Young People -** The programme leading to the Sacrament of Confirmation for the Young People of our parish (School Year 9 and upwards, but no older than 18 years) will commence early in 2021. Please contact Alexandra, the parish catechetical coordinator who can be reached by e mail (see above) to register.

**Adult Confirmation -** If you are a baptised Catholic over 18 years old, but for whatever reason did not receive the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation, please contact Fr Michael, who will instruct you about the process of completing the Sacraments of Initiation.

**Want to become a Catholic?** - If you come to Mass here, and are not baptised; or perhaps have been baptised and belong to another Church/Christian community, but would like to be received and confirmed into the Catholic Church, please contact Fr Michael.

**Marriage -** Engaged couples seeking marriage in Church should inform Fr Michael at least **six** months before the intended wedding date so that there is enough time for all the necessary administration to be completed. This requirement applies to marriages taking place here in the parish, in other parts of the UK, and overseas.

**Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick -** is available to all those who seek healing in body, mind or spirit. Please contact Fr Michael if you would like to receive it, especially if you are going into hospital.

**Creche and Children’s Liturgy – Because of the ongoing pandemic, and the safety protocols we have in place in Church and in the Hume Centre (Parsons Green Nursery) please note that we are unable to provide a crèche or Children’s Liturgy during the 9.45am Sunday Family Mass until further notice.**

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

**All Masses will be Live Streamed at**

[**https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen**](https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen)

**Sat 14th Nov – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**6.30pm Vigil:** Andrew Bacon RIP

**Sun 15th Nov: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**

**11.15am:** Paul Junior King RIP

**Mon 16th Nov: St Edmund of Abingdon (National)**

**9.30 am**: Audrey Barnett RIP and grieving family

**Tues 17th Nov: Feria, 33rd Week, Year 2**

**9.30am**: Yola Boylan RIP and grieving family

*Weds 18th Nov – No Mass today*

**Thurs 19th Nov: Feria, 33rd Week, Year 2**

**9.30am:** Phyllis de Piro RIP (8th Anniv)

**Fri 20th Nov: Feria, 33rd Week, Year 2**

**9.30am:** Clement, Theonilla and Fleur (Private Intention)

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**Reconciliation (Confession) –** During lockdown, the Sacrament of Reconciliation is available *on request and* between 10am and 11am on Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri.

**Prayers** **and Mass intentions** - If there is anyone you wish to pray for, living or deceased, then please e-mail Fr Michael and he will include them in the prayers of our parish community. If you wish to have Mass offered for a particular intention, please also contact Fr Michael to make the arrangements

**Church etiquette** – Out of respect for God, and for each other, please make every effort to arrive at Mass *in good time*. Kindly refrain from using your mobile phone to text or make/receive calls. The bins next to the various candle stands around the Church are for spent candle cases only. Please do not use them for coffee cups, food wrappers, bottles or used wet wipes/soiled nappies. Please use the bin in the toilet area or take them home with you in a bag. Many thanks to everyone for all the efforts we make to ensure that our Church is a more prayerful, special and sacred space.

**SAFEGUARDING**

**Parish Safeguarding Officers**

**Mrs Zoe Attard**: [parsonsgreensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:parsonsgreensg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Ms Aisling McKeown:** [parsonsgreensg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:parsonsgreensg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

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Year A: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time. Gospel: St Matthew 25: 14-30 - The Gospel for this Sunday offers another of the parables that Jesus told to concentrate the minds of His listeners on the **seriousness** of the Kingdom and of the judgement at the end of time. Today, he places emphasis the accountability of the disciples, for the gifts entrusted to them. A man is going abroad and entrusts some of his possessions to his servants. He is aware that they have different abilities - and so only gives to each one what he thinks they can manage: one receives five talents - another two and another one. The servants deal differently with the money entrusted to them - two use it to start dealing and make money - the third chooses to hide his talent. When the master returns, the servants come before him. The servants with five and two talents have doubled their money and the master is justifiably pleased with them. The servant with one still has only one and claims that it was fear that held him back... he was so afraid of losing the one talent that he hid it. This is an inadequate explanation - since, as the master points out, if he was so afraid, why did he not just deposit the money in the bank? Again, Jesus sounds harsh in his judgement of those who are inadequate - or who make simple errors of judgement - but the exaggeration emphasises the seriousness with which He takes the situation. The servant with one talent is not punished just for failing to use it wisely - but for failing to think about *how best* to use it. It has not been given to him to hide - but to **use!** The same applies to our own gifts and talents. To some great gifts seem to be given - but however great or small they are given for the building of the Kingdom. By using them as well as we can, we will be able to offer them back to God at the end of time, and also be able to offer the fruits that have been borne through them. God’s investment in us grows when we use our gifts in His service.

**Live Streaming** – has now been installed at Holy Cross Church, and is available via [**https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen**](https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen) and also the parish website [**http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk**](http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk/) Live streaming is available for the **6.30pm** Vigil Mass on Saturday, **11.15am** Mass on Sunday, and **9.30am** Masses on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday**.** This means that those confined to home and unable to get to Mass for any reason will be able to participate from a distance and experience a closer bond with the parish community. During the Mass, you are encouraged to make an act of Spiritual Communion at Holy Communion time. Obviously, this does not replace the actual reception of the Holy Eucharist, but can be a moment of intense personal prayer. *‘My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there,*

*and unite myself wholly to You. I fervently ask, never let me be parted from You. Amen.’*

**Friday Adoration** – A non-public Votive Mass in honour of the Holy Eucharist will take at 9.30am, *every* Friday morning during lockdown, followed by a period of private Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and closing with simple Benediction at 12 Noon. In keeping with the Covid 19 lockdown protocol, please note that there will be no singing or communal prayer, only private prayer. Fr Michael will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation between 10am and 11am.

**November – Month of the Holy Souls** - During November, the whole Church traditionally prays for all the departed, especially deceased family, relatives and friends. Please write their names on the sheet available from the Church porch and place it in the brown envelope provided - together with your offering - and leave it in the baskets provided in the Church porch. Masses for those named will be offered throughout the month of November. Alternatively, leave your envelope and offering with Annie in the parish office or post through the door of the presbytery, 22 Cortayne Rd.

**Registration for Preparation for First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion 2021** - Registration for our Spring 2021 Programme is now open to Parishioners. You can request an application form, if your child is in Year 3 or above from September 2020, has been baptised Catholic and you and your child attend Mass regularly here at Holy Cross Church. Please email [alexandrafisher@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:alexandrafisher@rcdow.org.uk) with your request and include the following: 1) A copy of the baptism certificate for your child.  2)  A copy of the Catholic parent’s baptism certificates.

**The Holy Cross Charity Ball** – that was due to take place on Saturday 21st November 2020 has been cancelled because of the ongoing Covid19 pandemic. Full refunds for tickets purchased are available if you contact the parish administrator Mrs Annie D’Souza by e mailing her at  [**parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk)  Please indicate whether you want a refund, or wish to donate the cost of your tickets to support the three designated charities which are Holy Cross School, the Fulham Bilingual School and the Chelsea Community Hospital School. Thank you for your understanding and your support, but in the current circumstances it cannot go ahead. Much appreciation to the Ball committee who worked so hard to promote this event and make it a success, and to all who gave prizes for raffle and auction. These will be kept for a later date.

**School References - How to obtain a ‘Certificate of Catholic Practice’ from Fr Michael** -The purpose of obtaining a reference from any parish priest to support a parental request for a child to gain admission to a Catholic School is to establish *regular* and *genuine* Catholic practice and a commitment to the faith, work and ministry of the parish community. If you are planning on asking Fr Michael for a reference from September, please make sure he knows you, and adhere to the following guidelines:

**1**. All Certificates of Catholic Practice must be requested by e mail *only* [**michaeldaley@rcdow.org.uk**](mailto:michaeldaley@rcdow.org.uk)Parents should indicate what Mass they participate in at the weekend.

**2.** Fr Michael will require the full name of your child, date of birth and home address with postcode.

**3.** A photograph of parents with their child must be submitted by e mail attachment.

**4**. Parents must indicate how many references they require.

*In accordance with the Diocese of Westminster General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) all information and images used by the parish office will be deleted once certificates have been approved and completed.*

**Financially supporting our Parish** - Over the past few months, most parishes have experienced the challenge of greatly reduced finances. Our parish needs your financial support to survive. If you are not already making your weekly/monthly donation by direct debit/standing order with your bank, please give your loose note and coin offerings/planned giving envelopes as you leave the Church. *Thank you again for your continued and generous support.*

**We pray for the faithful departed:*****Recently deceased;*** *Patrick Cullen****,*** *Yola Boylan, Audrey Barnett,**Karl Prinz-Minshall,**Sandra Cousins, Philomena O’Leary****,*** *Hilary Tierney,**Ernest Pereira,**Patricia im Thurn,**Miguel Angel,**Mary King****,*** *Catherine Tighe* ***Anniversaries:*** *William Daley, Jenny Guest, Lina Fischetti, Arnaud Hoarau de la Source, Yvonne Burney, Edmund Roche.*

**We pray for those who are sick:** *Anne Redmon-Nightingale, Josephine Upton, Yvonne de Bellissen, Sonia Foster, Julia Smith, Vivian McCormick, Ruth Doyle, Philippa Sirach* and all suffering and housebound people in our parish.