**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**

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

**Parish Administrator: Mrs Annie D’Souza Email:** **parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk**

**Also in residence: Seminarian David Cherry Email: davidcherry@rcdow.org.uk**





**2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Yr C) 4th/5th DECEMBER 2021**

**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 the reasonable expectation that Catholic parents requesting baptism for their child should be practising their faith by fully participating at Sunday Mass every week**, and live within the Holy Cross parish boundary.

**First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion:** Please contact Alexandra Fisher, the parish catechetical coordinator by e mail (see address above) for any information you require.

**Confirmation for Young People –** Registration 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 take place after Easter 2022. Please contact Alexandra, the parish catechetical coordinator who can be reached by e mail (see above) for any further information required about the next programme.

**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.

**Children’s Liturgy** – during term time takes place weekly at the **9.45am Mass**. This is for children from **age 3 upwards to School Year 2**. Please bring your children to the side sacristy (by Our Lady’s Chapel) before Mass starts to be collected by their catechists. Please be on time, as children will not be admitted once Mass starts. They will return in time for the Lord’s prayer

**Monday Club** - is a period of instruction and catechesis for our children in primary school reception and Year 1 who do **not** attend Catholic schools and takes place between 4pm and 5pm on Monday afternoons. This is for children of parishioners who are recorded on the parish register and who practice here at Holy Cross. Please see Alexandra after Mass for more information, and an application form for interested parents OR just turn up before the session starts via the main Church entrance. Please note – this for children in NON Catholic schools only.

**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

**PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER – (Fr Michael, interim)**

michaeldaley@rcdow.org.uk

**MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS**

**Sat 4th Dec: 2nd Sunday of Advent (C)**

**4pm Vigil:** Marylou Jennings Taylor RIP

**6.30pm Vigil:** People of the Parish

**Sun 5th Dec: 2nd Sunday of Advent (C)**

**9.45am:** Giuseppe Cirillo (Health and wellbeing)

**11.15am:** Sean Hickey RIP (Anniv)

**Mon 6th Dec: Advent Feria, Week 2**

**9.30am**: For all mothers, and intentions of Mothers Prayers Group

**Tues 7th Dec: St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor**

**9.30am**: Adriana Concin (Guidance & Protection)

**Weds 8th Dec: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**9.30am**: Ints of David Cherry

**Thurs 9th Dec: Advent Feria, Week 2**

**9.30am:** Private Intention

**Fri 10th Dec: Advent Feria, Week 1**

**9.30am:** For a spirit of repentance & conversion

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[**https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen**](https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen)and also via [**http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk**](http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk/)**.**

Those confined to home or unable to get to Mass for any reason can participate from a distance and experience a closer bond with the parish community. During the celebration of 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.’*

**Reconciliation (Confession) –** The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available *on request* andbetween 5.45pm and 6.15pm on Saturday evenings, and from 10am to 10.30am every Friday morning (except in Aug)

**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 nappies home with you in a bag. Many thanks to everyone for all the efforts we make to ensure that our Church is a prayerful, special and sacred space.

**Seminarian David Cherry** - ***Candidacy*** is a rite which takes place during [Roman](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Roman_Catholic_%28term%29) [Catholic](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catholic_Church) [seminary](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seminary) formation, by which the Church recognises a seminarian as worthy of being ordained (hence, they become a "candidate" for [ordination](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Holy_Orders) to the [priesthood](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priesthood_%28Catholic_Church%29#Education))). David has been with us on extended pastoral placement since September 2021, and will be admitted to candidacy during a celebration of Mass on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, next Wednesday 8th December at Allen Hall Seminary in Chelsea. Please keep David in your prayers, as he prepares to take this important step towards ordination.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary** – will take place next Wednesday 8th December. It is not a Holyday of Obligation, but there will be a celebration of Mass at **9.30am**.

**Recitation of 1000 Hail Marys** – will take place via the Zoom Portal on Wednesday, 8th December, starting at 3pm and will go on for about 5 hours. Anyone wishing to join in can contact Aldina on 07747 562326. If no reply, please leave your phone number, and she will get back to you.

**Fulham Camerata Choir** – will perform highlights from Handel’s **‘Messiah’** by candlelight on **Sunday 12th December at 6pm,** plus audience Carols and mulled wine here at Holy Cross Church. Tickets, £12 at the door (£10 concession for students and seniors)

**Advent Reflection Course - *“Letting God come close”* Saturdays 2.45pm for 45minutes (or so)**

**27 Nov, 4 & 11 Dec with Seminarian David Cherry in the Church**. Advent is the season to celebrate the coming of salvation.  How does the Lord come to his Church?  How do I experience him drawing near to me in loving acceptance, in forgiveness and mercy?  How does God come to me in prayer to strengthen me in my faith so that my relationships flourish and I can bring his saving love to others? If you desire ‘the more’ come and participate in a time of reflection and guided meditation in this season of the Lord’s graciousness.

**Catholic Children’s Society 2021 Christmas Appeal –** Thousands of local children and families are facing a Christmas without gifts, food and other basic essentials. Supporters of the CCS are asked to donate gifts which are distributed to those most in need – for example, toys, clothes, books, games, arts & crafts, sweet treats – and Gift cards (for example from Amazon, Argos, or any supermarkets) *Please note*: We can only accept brand new gifts which are in their original packaging. We would be very grateful if you could donate *before* THIS **Sunday 5th December**, so that any gifts received can be prepared and given out in good time for Christmas. Please do not wrap your gifts, and bring them to the side sacristy of the Church near to Our Lady’s Chapel. Many thanks for your kindness and generosity and for further information, please see the posters in the Church porch.

**First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2022** - Registration for the programme commencing in February 2022 is now open. Please contact the parish catechetical coordinator Alexandra Fisher by e mail. Her contact details are in the parish newsletter and website. Registration will close THIS Sunday, the 5th December.

**School References - How to obtain a ‘Certificate of Catholic Practice’ from Fr Michael** -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**Parents should please indicate what Mass they have participated in at the weekend for the past three years. **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.*

**PLEASE remember to support our parish financially –** Because of the pandemic, most parishes have experienced the challenge of greatly reduced income. Our community and parish ministry needs your ongoing financial support to survive. The parish finance committee kindly ask parishioners to move away from giving cash or using Planned Giving Envelopes for the Sunday Collection. We are encouraged instead to take out a Standing Order or donate online. Our account details are: **WRCDT Holy Cross Parish Sort Code 40-05-20 Account Number: 81308408** or **https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/parsonsgreen/donate/** There is now an opportunity to make donations for the upkeep of the Church and parish by using a contactless payment device, which is situated in the porch, just before you enter the nave of the Church through the main glass doors. Please note that can also Gift Aid your donation on this device. *Thank you for your continued financial support.*

**We pray for the faithful departed:** ***Recently deceased:*** *Mary Lou Jennings-Taylor,**Mae Folan, Philip Keaney* ***Anniversaries:*** *Patrick Cullen, Sean Hickey.*

**We pray for those who are sick:** *Aline Holland, Maria and Peter Rozee, Jennifer Preston, Nicolai Schmidt, Yvonne de Bellissen, Sonia Foster, Julia Smith, Vivian McCormick, Ruth Doyle, Philippa Shiach* and all suffering and housebound people in our parish.