



Catholic Parish of Holy Cross Parsons Green

Parish Office: 22 Cortayne Road, London, SW6 3QA
Website: <http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk>
Tel: 020 7736 1068



Parish Priest: Reverend Father Michael Daley (RIP)

Catechetical Coordinator: Ms Alexandra Rhoades
Director of Music: Mr Chris Potts
Parish Administrator: Mrs Annie D'Souza

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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B) – 20/21 April 2024

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

Saturday 20 April: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

10:00am: First Holy Communion Celebration (1)

12:00pm: First Holy Communion Celebration (2)

5:30pm: For Marcello Pointu (RIP)

Sunday 21 April: FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

09:45am: For the people of the parish

11:30am: For our First Holy Communion Candidates

14:00pm: First Holy Communion Celebration (3)

Monday 22 April: Easter Weekday

NO MASS

Tuesday 23 April: St George, Martyr

09:30am: Mass: Mothers Prayer Group Intentions

Wednesday 24 April: St Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Martyr

6:00pm: Reception of Fr Michael's Body & Requiem Mass

8:00pm: Requiem Mass for Fr Michael James Daley (RIP)

Thursday 25 April: St Mark, Evangelist

12:00: Funeral Mass for Fr Michael James Daley (RIP)

Friday 26 April: Easter Weekday

NO MASS

Saturday 27 April: Easter Weekday

11:00am Holy Baptism – Daphne Benoit

13:00pm Holy Baptism – Edoardo Robbiati

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Confession - The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available between **4.45pm and 5.15pm** on Saturday evenings before the Vigil Mass.

Online Live Streaming of Masses

<https://www.churchservices.tv/parsonsgreen> and also via <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.

Prayers and Mass intentions - If there is anyone you wish to pray for, living or deceased, then please e-mail Alex our catechist and she will include them in the prayers of our parish community. If you wish to have Mass offered for a particular intention, please contact Alex to make the arrangements. *Please make an offering with your request.*

Rosary – Recitation of the Rosary will take place at **9am** before the morning Mass on the Tuesday of each week and at **10am** (after Mass) on Thursday. *All welcome.*

Church etiquette – Please make every effort to arrive at Mass *in good time*. Kindly refrain from using your mobile phone to make/receive calls. The bins next to the various candle stands around the Church are for spent candle cases only. Parents are kindly and gently asked **NOT** to bring hard toys for the children to play with at Mass. Many thanks to everyone for all the efforts we make to ensure that our Church is a prayerful, special and sacred space.

SACRAMENTS and CATECHESIS

Following the death of our parish priest, you are kindly asked, to make contact with Alex our Catechist for all sacramental and catechetical enquires, either speak to her after Mass or make contact via email.

Baptism - There is a 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.

Want to become a Catholic? If you come to Mass at Holy Cross, 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 Alex our catechist.

Marriage - Engaged couples seeking marriage in Church should inform the Parish Office 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 speak to one of the priests if you would like to receive it, especially if you are going into hospital.

Children's Liturgy – *during term time* only 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.

Mothers Prayers - was formed to help those mothers who wished to pray together for their children and grandchildren and to find the support they needed. Join the Holy Cross group every Monday morning after the 9.30am Mass from **10.15am to 11.15am** near the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We gather to pray, reflect, offer support and a smile. Being part of Mother's Prayers is a wonderful comfort, knowing we are united with so many others throughout the world. As we gather, we rejoice in motherhood, ask for protection and guidance, for gentleness and a loving approach.

All mothers welcome. www.mothersprayers.org
WhatsApp for information - 07752 320555

PARISH SAFEGUARDING OFFICER – Ms Julie OYOGOA

For any concerns regarding the welfare and safety of children, elderly and vulnerable people please contact Julie at: parsonsgreen@safeguardrcdow.org.uk



Our Parish priest Fr Michael James Daley – died peacefully on the Solemnity of St Joseph Tuesday 19 March 2024.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

Fr Michael's mortal remains will be received into Holy Cross Church at **6pm on Wednesday 24 April** followed by a **Requiem Mass celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington**.

There will be another Requiem Mass at 8pm that evening offered by Fr Antony.

On Thursday 25 April at Noon, His Eminence Cardinal Vincent will celebrate the Funeral Mass. Each of these celebrations are likely to be well attended so please choose carefully which Mass you will attend and arrive in good time. Please continue to pray for his brother William, and for all who mourn his passing. Jesu Mercy + Mary Pray

The fourth Sunday of Easter is also called Good Shepherd Sunday. In each of the three lectionary cycles, our Gospel is taken from the 10th chapter of the Gospel of John. In Cycle B, we hear the middle verses of this chapter. Unless we consider this chapter in the greater context of John's Gospel, we will miss the radical nature of the statement Jesus makes when he declares himself to be the Good Shepherd.

This chapter of John's Gospel follows Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the rejection of this miracle by the Jewish leaders who question Jesus' authority to heal. Jesus responds to this challenge by calling himself the Good Shepherd. He is criticizing the leadership of the Pharisees and the other Jewish leaders. The Pharisees and other Jewish leaders are so angry that they attempt to stone and arrest Jesus (see John 10:31,39). This controversy with the religious leaders continues until Jesus' death.

In the portion of the chapter that we hear proclaimed today, Jesus describes his relationship with his followers as similar to the relationship between a good shepherd and his sheep. As a good shepherd will risk and lay down his life in order to protect his sheep, Jesus willingly sacrifices himself for the sake of his sheep. Jesus contrasts the actions of the good shepherd with the actions of the hired shepherd who abandons the sheep in the face of danger. In the verses following Jesus' teaching, we learn that the Pharisees and the other religious leaders understand that Jesus is referring to them when he describes the hired shepherds.

The concern of a good shepherd for his sheep is part of the shepherd's job. Jesus says, however, that the actions of the good shepherd are based upon the relationship that develops between the shepherd and the sheep. This is at the heart of the difference between the good shepherd and the hired shepherd. The good shepherd knows the sheep and therefore acts out of love. For the Good Shepherd, this is never simply part of a job; this love-in-action is integral to his identity.

As with so much of John's Gospel, one hears in this passage John's particular focus on Christology. As the sheep are known by the Good Shepherd, the Father knows Jesus and Jesus knows the Father. There is an essential unity between the Father and the Son. The freedom with which Jesus acts when he lays down his life is rooted in the unity that he shares with his Father.

In this context, Jesus also refers to others with whom he shares a relationship. By this reference, John probably understands the eventual inclusion of the Gentiles in the Christian community. Our modern ears hear this as a reference to Christian unity. The work of ecumenism is to restore unity among all Christians so that we form one flock under one shepherd, as God desires.



Good Shepherd Sunday & train a Priest Fund Collections – Please support this vital fund in the formation and education of our future parish clergy. There are envelopes at the back of Church along with Prayer cards. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

First Holy Communions 2024 - Congratulations to all our young people who have celebrated their First Holy Communion this weekend. Special thanks to the parents and to our catechists for all their hard work in supporting and encouraging our young people on this important milestone in their lives of faith.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH FINANCIALLY – Like your home, our parish Church and other buildings need resources to pay for heat, light, water and repairs. We also need to fund the many liturgical, catechetical and pastoral activities that take place year in and year out. The parish finance committee kindly ask parishioners to move away from giving loose cash for the Sunday Collection. We are encouraged instead to take out a Bank Standing Order and sign up for Gift Aid. Our bank account details are: **WRCDT Holy Cross Parish: Sort Code 40-05-20 Account Number: 81308408** or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/parsonsgreen/donate/> You can also 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 you can also 'Gift Aid' your donation on this device.** *Thank you for your continued financial support.*

Contactless Payments Machine – Our current machine is to be up-graded this week. We will soon be able to receive once more your electronic contributions for candles and offerings to the mission of the parish. Thank you all for your patience and support.

We pray for the faithful departed: *For all those recently deceased and for all whose anniversaries fall at this time.*

We pray for those who are sick and for all who care for them: *Maralyn Solman, Simon Watson, Laurence Bolton, Alison Coll, Paul King, Tony Chapman, Olivia Park, Andrew Green, John Healy, John Jacobs, Ruth Doyle & Philippa Shiach.*