Holy Rood Catholic Church

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Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 10am-1pm and 1.30pm-3pm
Office Location: Percy Road, WD18 0QA
Charity No. 233699
CCTV operating in Church and on-site 24 hrs

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Assistant Priest: Fr Tim Mangatal
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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 27 September 2026

God's Army On 29 September, the Church will commemorate the Feast of the Holy Archangels, St Michael, St Gabriel and St Raphael.

The three archangels are venerated in the tradition of the Church.

Angels are pure, created spirits. The name 'angel' means servant or messenger of God. Angels are celestial or heavenly beings, on a higher order than human beings.

Angels have no bodies and do not depend on matter for their existence or activity. They are distinct from saints; which humans can become.

Angels have intellect and will and are immortal. They are a vast multitude, but each is a person. Archangels are one of the nine choirs of angels listed in the Bible. In ascending order, the choirs or classes are 1) Angels, 2) Archangels, 3) Principalities, 4) Powers, 5) Virtues, 6) Dominations, 7) Thrones, 8) Cherubim, and 9) Seraphim.

This feast of the archangels reminds us that the physical things are only a small part of God's creation and that there are realities that we do not know nor understand fully. Angels are not imaginary but real beings with different tasks to perform.

Michael whose name means "Who is like God?" is the archangel who fought against Satan and all his evil angels, defending all the friends of God. He is the protector of all humanity from the snares of the devil.

Gabriel whose name means "Strength of God" announced respectively to Zachariah the forthcoming birth of John the Baptist and Mary, the birth of Jesus. His greeting to the Virgin, "Hail, full of grace," forms the beginning of the Hail Mary prayer.

Raphael whose name means "Medicine of God" is the archangel who took care of Tobias on his journey. Raphael cures our wounds and sicknesses.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that "The existence of the spiritual, non-corporeal beings that Sacred Scripture usually calls "angels" is a truth of faith. The witness of Scripture is as clear as the unanimity of tradition."

Life Issues So many have been hurt as a consequence of abortion, including families and friends. But there is help and counselling. Please check out notice board or visit sites such as ARCH, www.archtrust.org.uk, SPUC, www.spuc.org.uk, lifecharity.org.uk. Please don't suffer in silence.

Weddings If you are planning to get married, the diocese requires 6 months' notice, wherever you are getting married, locally or abroad. Please do not make any formal arrangements with venues or families, until permission has been granted by the Chancery Office, at Westminster. Often people request a letter from us, with the wedding day already planned. There is no such thing as a single letter. Full paperwork has to be completed, involving, along with a marriage course, civil paperwork and a visit to a solicitor. Please share this information with family and friends. The parish and the diocese will not be liable for any expenses incurred before permission is granted.

Journeying with the Gospels Every Tuesday evening we meet at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre. We read the following Sunday's Gospel and then spend about 40 minutes exploring the meaning for us today with the intention of developing our understanding so that when we hear it proclaimed at the Sunday Mass we have already opened our minds to the message for each one of us that day. We then collect intentions for particular prayer, maybe personal or more public, local, national or international and then spend about 10 minutes praying for those intentions. We aim to finish about 9.00 p.m. and at that time some members choose to go home whilst others stay and have a coffee or tea and some community time. You are invited to come and join us, either occasionally or regularly. There is no formal membership but we do ask for your contact details so that we can advise you of change of time or day. For more information please contact Deacon Neville or just come along and try it out even if it is only for one week. Access is via Percy Road, left of the church front door on Market Street.

Legacies These present a huge opportunity for our parish. To find out more, please see the leaflets at the back of the church. Further information can be found on the website, or by contacting the Legacy Coordinator at the diocese. | legacies@rcdow.org.uk | 020 7798 9025.

The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few, therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Matthew 9:37-38. Please pray daily for vocations to the priesthood.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 27 September
+TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am	Pablo De Peralta RIP
9.30am	People of the Parish
11am	Jackie Elliott RIP
12.30pm	Manna Joshi Int.
2.15pm	Polish Mass

Monday 28 September
Feria

12noon	Antoinette O'Brien RIP

Tuesday 29 September
Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels

8.30am	Patrick O'Connor RIP anniv.
12noon	Graham Davies RIP

Wednesday 30 September
Saint Jerome, Priest and Doctor

12noon	Winnie Brady Int.

Thursday 1 October
Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor

12noon	Fatima Dias Int.

Friday 2 October
Holy Guardian Angels

6pm	Abidoye family Ints.

Saturday 3 October
Feria

11am	Nora Matthews Int.
6pm	Simon Gannon RIP

Sunday 4 October
+TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8am	Pablo De Peralta RIP
9.30am	People of the Parish
11am	Deceased members of Hynes Family
12.30pm	Eithne Mullany RIP 9th anniv.
2.15pm	Polish Mass

BLESSED SACRAMENT LAMP
Hannah Thanksgiving

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & BENEDICTION
Tuesday 9am-11.15am; Friday 6.30pm-7.15pm

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION
Friday 6.30pm-7pm
Saturday 11.30am-12noon & 4.45pm-5.15pm

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK & LAST RITES By request

BAPTISMS Please contact the Parish Office 01923 224085

Annual Healing Mass Thank you to all who attended, and made the evening so special and Holy Spirit filled. Everyone was healed in some way. The prayer, stillness, silence, adoration and the deep respect for the Blessed Sacrament was incredible. Holy Rood was truly blessed that evening and everyone was included in the prayers. A special thank you to our readers, sacristans, organist, choir, servers and flower arrangers. May God Bless Holy Rood Parish.

School Form Signing Certificates of Catholic Practice for all school admissions, will be signed Saturday 10th October, 9am – 9.30am, in the Parish Centre. Parents must attend at this time.

Catechism Corner: The Sunday Obligation Catholics are required by church law to attend Mass every Sunday or anticipate the obligation by attending a Saturday evening vigil.

The Rule: Attending Mass on Sundays (or a Saturday vigil) is a grave obligation, one of the primary precepts of the Catholic Church.

Saturday Vigil: A Mass held on Saturday evening, usually starting from 4:00pm or later, counts fully as your Sunday Mass obligation.

Exceptions: Catholics are excused from this requirement for serious reasons, such as personal illness, caring for the sick, severe weather, or a lack of access to a nearby Catholic church.

The Three Conditions for a Mortal Sin For missing Mass (or any act) to be a true mortal sin, Catholic theology requires three specific conditions to be met simultaneously:

Grave Matter: The church considers the Sunday obligation a serious matter because the Eucharist is central to the faith and fulfils the Third Commandment.

Full Knowledge: The person must know that attending Mass is a binding, serious obligation.

Deliberate Consent: The person must freely choose to skip Mass out of laziness, trivial preference, or other activities, rather than feeling forced or constrained.

Growing in Faith Together The parish is not accepting applications at this time for preparation for the Sacraments of First Confession & First Holy Communion. Information will be published in time.

Adoremus National Eucharistic Congress Procession of the Blessed Sacrament from Southwark Cathedral, along the South Bank of the Thames, to Westminster Cathedral. The procession will begin at 3pm and it would be wonderful for as many as possible to join us for this public witness to our faith. Procession will finish at 5pm with Solemn Benediction at Westminster Cathedral. Mass will follow at 6 pm. Then at 8pm, the first of three Holy Hours will begin led by the youth ministry teams of Westminster, Southwark and CYMFed – the Catholic Youth Ministry Federation. The Holy Hours will include reflections on Eucharistic saints, prayer led by youth ministry teams and music from One Hope Project. Teenagers and Confirmation groups are especially welcome. From 11pm an all-night Vigil before the Blessed Sacrament begins, which will finish with Mass at 6am.Please note that everyone wishing to attend the Holy Hours and all night-vigil needs to register at https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/adoremus/
Fr Tim & Fr Gerard will attend the Procession. We can meet at Watford Junction or you can make you own way to St Georges Cathedral, Lambeth Rd, London SE1 7HY. Please contact Parish Office if you intend to go.

The priest is to be a member of every family, yet belonging to none"
Jean-Baptiste Henri Lacordaire, OP

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