

**Catholic Parish of Holy Cross
Parsons Green**



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



Parish Priest: Fr Bernard Akoeso

Parish Administrator: Collise Lynch

Email: parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk

Office hours this week: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30am – 3pm

Catechetical Coordinator: Maria Pepe

Email: parsonsgreencat@rcdow.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Julie Oyogoa

Email: parsonsgreen@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Online Live Streaming of Masses

<http://www.youtube.com/@RCChurchofHolyCross1> and also via <http://www.holycrosschurchparsonsgreen.org.uk>

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A) – 26/27 September 2026

(Pg 134 in Parish Mass book)

**1st reading Ezekiel 18: 25-28;
Psalm 25 Response: Remember
your compassion, O Lord.
2nd reading Philippians 2: 1-11.
Gospel: Matthew 21: 28-32**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**Saturday 26 September: 26th SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
5:30PM –**

**Sunday 27 September: 26th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
9am – People of the Parish
12pm –**

Monday 28 September – NO MASS

**Tuesday 29 September – SAINTS
MICHAEL, GABRIEL AND RAPHAEL
9:30am: Michael Mauledey - Sick**

**Wednesday 30 September: Mass at
Our Lady of Perpetual Help – 10am**

**Thursday 1 October – Saint Thérèse of
the Child Jesus – 9:30am**

**Friday 2 October – Holy Guardian
Angels – 9:30am**

**Saturday 3 October: 27th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)
5:30PM: Maria Teresa Matteucci, RIP**

Jesus has always presented himself as a reformer of humanity. He has said very explicitly that He had not come for the “self-righteous”, but for “sinners”; no wonder He was often seen surrounded by “sinners”, while the “virtuous” seemed to be overlooked by Him.

A big blow to the “self-righteous” is the parable of *the two sons*. Both sons are imperfect; the ideal way is to promise and to do as promised. The son who regretted his refusal and then did the work spoiled his doing good by the awfully ungracious way he did it, but it is far more noble to change one’s mind and do good than to remain set in the direction of evil.

We could learn so much from today’s parable. The newly “converted sinners” seem to be more eager than we, the “older saints”, and worse, we might even get cross because those “ex-sinners” praise the Lord more successfully, while we who have been doing it for long seem to be less blessed. For most of us, God is not the problem; the problem is those humans that God created, especially the “creeps” who do not deserve to exist, to be blessed.

Maybe we have forgotten we are called to work, to do something for the kingdom, and to account for it. Maybe we have become too accustomed to overlooking that very simple fact. Are we just mouthing the words but not acting? The other son resists at first but eventually labours in the vineyard. Words are not enough. We all talk about love, but the living of it requires a great winnowing of our lives, a shaking down of our pretence. Doing takes precedence over saying. Do we belong to those who think it is enough to say yes? To say “Amen” is not enough; we must be doers. We are not saved by belonging, but by becoming.

**WITH PRAYERS AND GOD’S BLESSINGS, FR BERNARD
AND THE PARISH TEAM.**

PARISH NOTICES

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest – Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection. Put your faith into action and share the Lord's love by supporting our global neighbours experiencing shortages of food and safe water. Your gift can support children like Tayla in Zimbabwe to stay in school by helping communities and schools provide nourishing meals, improve access to water and grow food in school gardens.

Adoremus National Eucharistic Congress – Saturday 10 October – This year's Adoremus National Eucharistic Congress will take place in London on Saturday 10 October. Parishioners are warmly invited to join the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament from Southwark Cathedral to Westminster Cathedral, beginning at 3.00 pm and concluding with Solemn Benediction at 5.00 pm. Mass will follow at 6.00 pm, with an evening of prayer, Eucharistic Adoration and an overnight vigil. Young people, teenagers and Confirmation candidates are especially encouraged to attend. Those wishing to take part in the Holy Hours or overnight vigil must register in advance.

41st Annual Rosary Crusade of Reparation – Join this annual public Rosary procession on Saturday, 17 October 2026. Participants will gather at Westminster Cathedral at 1:45 PM before walking through central London in prayer, concluding at Brompton Oratory at approximately 5:45 PM. The day will end with a Consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Solemn Benediction and Scapular Enrolment. All are welcome.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE FORMS – Secondary school forms please submit all requests by e-mail only parsonsgreen@rcdow.org.uk and an appointment will be made for you. **1.** Parents should please indicate what Mass they regularly participate in at the weekend. **2.** Fr Bernard will require the full name of your child, date of birth and home address with postcode. **3.** Parents must indicate how many references they require. **PLEASE NOTE CERTIFICATES WILL ONLY BE ISSUED TO THOSE WHO ATTEND MASS REGULARLY**

First Holy Communion and Alpha Youth registration, and Confirmation pre-registration are NOW OPENED.

Please, collect a BOOKLET on the table at the church's entrance, follow the guidelines and scan the Q-R code to access the registration form, selecting the course you are interested in:

- **First Holy Communion** – from Year 3 / First Session: Sunday, 29 November 9:00 am
- **Alpha Youth** – from Year 5 / First Monthly Session: Saturday, 7 November 11:30 am
- **Confirmation** – from Year 9 / First Session: 30 January, 3:30 pm

Alpha Youth is a new monthly group intended especially to bridge the years between First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Young people will meet over shared food, watch selected Alpha Youth material, discuss questions about life and faith, and build friendships in a welcoming and safe environment. **Alpha Youth is open to all, including young people from different Christian traditions, other faith backgrounds or no current religious practice.**

Our **Confirmation programme, Growing into Communion**, will invite teenagers to explore questions of identity, belonging, faith, freedom, relationships, purpose and their own personal response to God.

We warmly welcome parents and parishioners interested in **volunteering** across any of the three programmes.

Please, contact Maria: parsonsgreencat@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH CHILDREN'S CHOIR – Our children's choir has now resumed at the Family Mass every Sunday of term-time. The next monthly rehearsal will be on **Saturday, 10 October at 11:00 am**. If your child wish to join the choir and receive all updates, **please use the sign-up poster on the glass door at the back of the church.**

For those with Special Needs – We provide Catechetical sessions in collaboration with Caritas St Joseph's to serve all children and families with special needs who wish to prepare for the Sacraments (Baptism, Reconciliation, First Holy Communion or Confirmation). *Please contact Maria to register or receive further information.*

Baptism – Please contact the parish office directly by e-mail for a registration form and arrange an appointment with Fr Bernard.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – Our service for young children at the Sunday's Family Mass has now paused and will resume on Sunday the 27th of September, every Sunday of Term-time. All children between **three and six years of age** are very welcome. Please arrive before Mass starts to meet one of our catechists at the church entrance. *Children will pray and reflect on the Gospel together reinforced by arts & crafts activity and will come back to Mass while carrying the Offertory.* **We seek new parents who wish to help with this important ministry for their children.** Please email Maria if you wish to be involved or know more.

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. Please **contact the Parish Office to meet with Fr Bernard to complete the necessary paperwork if you live within our parish boundaries.**

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick – Please also let the parish office know if you are less able to come to mass and would like to receive a home visit.

Mothers Prayers – We warmly welcome all Mothers and Grandmothers who wish to join us in prayer. We meet in church (and online via Zoom for those who can't attend in person) every Monday of Term-time for an hour at 11:00 am to pray, read and reflect on the Scriptures. Please email or speak to Maria to join us. We also welcome expecting mothers and mothers with newborn babies. **Our in-church sessions will now resume on Monday, 7th of September.**