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 9:30 – 3:30pm
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**

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS (Year A) – 31 October/ 1 November 2026

Throughout history, people of many cultures have set aside special days to remember the dead. In the Catholic Church, this remembrance finds its fullest expression in the closely connected celebrations of All Saints' Day on 1 November and All Souls' Day on 2 November.

The feast of All Saints was extended to the wider Church in the ninth century. All Souls' Day developed more gradually, particularly through the monastery of Cluny in France, where a special day of prayer for departed members was established in 998. The observance later spread to other monasteries, religious communities and dioceses.

The Church wisely places All Souls immediately after All Saints. On All Saints' Day, we rejoice with those who already enjoy the fullness of life with God. On All Souls' Day, we pray for all the faithful departed, entrusting them to God's mercy as they await full communion with him.

Requiem Masses, prayers for the dead, visits to cemeteries, the decoration of graves and the lighting of candles express our continuing love for those who have died. The lighted candle points to Christ, the Light of the World, and proclaims our hope in the resurrection.

All Souls' Day confronts us with the certainty of death, but All Saints' Day reminds us of our eternal destiny. We shall all die, but are we becoming saints? Saints are not simply born; they are formed by God's grace through faith, repentance, loving service and perseverance. We cease moving towards holiness only when we give up on God's mercy.

By virtue of Baptism, we have received the life of Christ and have been called to holiness. That divine life, which will be fully revealed in eternity, is already present within us.

These two feasts therefore proclaim one message: death does not have the final word. We rejoice with the saints, pray for the faithful departed and renew our commitment to holiness. In Christ, we belong to one family, united on earth and in heaven, awaiting the resurrection and the fullness of eternal life.

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

SATURDAY 31 October	**5.30pm**	***SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS*** ***First Mass of Sunday***	***RECONCILIATION - Sat 4.45pm – 5:15pm*** ***& on request***
SUNDAY 1 November	**9.00am** **12pm**	***SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS/ALL SOULS***	
MONDAY 2 November	**9:30am**	***ALL SOULS DAY***	***PRAYER GROUPS (in Chapel) Mothers Prayer Group – Mondays at 11am***
TUESDAY 3 November	**9.30am**	***Feria***	
WEDNESDAY 4 November	**10.00am**	***Mass at Our Lady of Perpetual Help***	
THURSDAY 5 November	**9.30am**		***ROSARY*** ***After 9.30am Morning Mass on Thursday***
FRIDAY 6 November	**9.30am**	***Feria*** ***Followed by Exposition, Reconciliation and Benediction***	***Fri: 10-10.30am***
SATURDAY 7 November	**5.30pm**	***32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME*** ***First Mass of Sunday***	***RECONCILIATION - Sat 4.45pm – 5:15pm*** ***& on request***

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The repose of the soul of Kathleen Hickey, Angela Graham and all who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at about this time.

PARISH NOTICES

(Pg 184 in Parish Mass book)
1st reading Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14; Psalm 24 Response: *Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.* 2nd reading 1John 3: 1-3. Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12 Jesus Proclaims the Beatitudes to the people

RCIA Programme – For those seeking full communion with the Catholic Church – whether you are or baptised or not, or have not yet been confirmed – we offer the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA).** This programme is for adults aged 18 and over. After a time of discernment and spiritual direction as individually needed, the candidates receive their Initiation in the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil. ***The next course will be commencing on Wednesday 11TH November between 7-8pm. Please contact the parish office for a registration form.***

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

Interested in learning about Faith Formation for children and adults with Special Needs?
Caritas St Joseph*, the office of our Diocese who supports and works with all those who have special needs, will be hosting a **training day** at our sister parish: Our Lady of Perpetual Help, in Stephendale Road*, on ***Saturday the 14th of November 2026, from 11:00 am****. *If you wish to join the session, please send an email to **parsonsgreencat@rcdow.org.uk** at your earliest convenience so we can book a place for all.*

We are planning a Musical Evening Showcase this Advent at Holy Cross to celebrate the Gift of Music!
If you or your child has a **musical talent**, please consider participating. All levels are welcomed. You will be performing one or two pieces of your choice by playing your preferred instrument or by singing a Christmas song. **A Registration Book will soon be available at the entrance of the church for entries**, and the date of the showcase in **early December** will be also announced soon! Let's rejoice!

CAFOD – Could you inspire the next generation and gain valuable experience of presenting to young people at the same time? CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, is looking for volunteers to visit local schools to present assemblies and workshops. Full training and support provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or contact Westminster's CAFOD representative Chris Driscoll at cdriscoll@cafod.org,uk or call 07776 493162

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 is 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.

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 – Join us on **Mondays during term-time at 11:00 am** for an hour of prayer, reading, and Scripture reflection. We meet in person at the church and online via Zoom. Mothers, grandmothers, expecting mums, and newborns are all warmly welcome. To join, please email or speak to **Maria**.

SUPPORTING OUR PARISH FINANCIALLY – If you would like to pay by Standing Order, our bank account details are: **WRCDT Holy Cross Parish: Sort Code 40-05-20 Account Number: 81308408** or you can make donations at **https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/parsonsgreen/donate/**
Please kindly use the QR Codes in the porch area of the church to make your donation if the contactless machines are in use.