

**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

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Online Live Streaming of Masses

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

29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year A) – 17/18 October 2026

(Pg 143 in Parish Mass book)

**1st reading Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6; Psalm
96 Response: Ascribe to the Lord
glory and power. 2nd reading
Thessalonians 1: 1-5. Gospel:
Matthew 22: 15-21**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**Saturday 17 October: 29th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)**

5:30PM: Osnelle – DB int

**Sunday 18 October: 29th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)**

9am –

12pm – People of the Parish

Monday 19 October – NO MASS

Tuesday 20 October – Feria

9:30am – Emily Mauledey – BD Int

**Wednesday 21 October: *Mass at Our Lady
of Perpetual Help – 10am***

Thursday 22 October – Feria

9:30am – Benedict Tatoenyega – BD int

Friday 23 October – Feria

9:30am –

**Saturday 24 October: 30th SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME (A)**

5:30PM: Michael Akoeso – RIP

The Pharisees in today's gospel passage were speaking about "paying of taxes" to Caesar. The story is not simply about competing jurisdictions of Church and State, nor about the isolated question of paying taxes. They were preoccupied with their "rights", whether it was right for them to pay taxes to Caesar. Jesus, on the other hand, was speaking of "giving" the coin back to Caesar. Jesus does not stop at stating the duty to pay taxes, but adds something revolutionary; that is to "give back to God what belongs to God".

Questions are good in as much as they are asked with the intention of acquiring knowledge and bringing order into society. Christians are citizens like any other person. They have the same rights and duties and hence should not claim any exemption or privilege. Likewise, Christians are supposed to watch the behaviour of those in authority, be ready to criticise, contest, and discuss with whoever fails to respect the human person. We are told in the book of Genesis that we were created in the image and likeness of God. Just as the coin has to be returned to its owner, the emperor, because it bears His image, so must we return to God, the creature that bears His image.

Any human-made laws and every strong authority that prevents us from inheriting or getting what belongs to us must be questioned. We know very well how to fight for our rights, but not our duties. People kill and exploit others while in a position of power, ignoring everyone else's rights, but once they are overthrown, they fight for their rights, appealing and seeking amnesty and what have you? Is this right? If we are not freed from the power of position, money, and fame, if people are still starving, oppressed and exploited, we have not rendered to God what He wants us to render to Him; a fully developed human life for all.

We are bound to God's service not eight hours a day, but twenty-four hours a day, because He is the Lord of the universe; hence, as we render our services here on earth, we should not forget our heavenly home.

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

PARISH NOTICES

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – This weekend, World Mission Sunday is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Good News, and by giving a donation we respond to Christ's call to share our faith in Jesus so that all may experience God's love. ***Please collect an envelope in the porch area and return with the collection.***

Your prayers and your **donations** on World Mission Sunday support our Church family overseas.

MESSAGE OF HIS HOLINESS POPE LEO XIV FOR THE 100th WORLD MISSION DAY 2026 <https://missio.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/MESSAGE-OF-HIS-HOLINESS-POPE-LEO-XIV-for-WMS-2026.pdf>

CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest – We have received very few envelopes back. If you still wish to donate. ***Please collect an envelope in the porch area and return with the collection.***

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.***

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE FORMS – This week is the last week before the half term break to request a meeting before the October deadline date. All certificates required for Primary schools will resume on 3rd November.

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.

We have now reached full capacity for the First Holy Communion Course enrolment. If you intend to join our waiting list, we cannot guarantee a space will be available. Collect a booklet at the church entrance and scan the QR code to enter the waiting list.

For our other courses please collect in church the corresponding booklet and follow the guidelines to access the registration form, selecting the course you are interested in:

Alpha Youth – from Year 5 / First Monthly Session: Saturday, 7 November 11:30 am; **AND Confirmation** – from Year 9 / First Session: 30 January, 3:30 pm. ***We warmly welcome parents and parishioners interested in volunteering across any of the three programmes. Please contact Maria: parsonsgreencat@rcdow.org.uk***

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!

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.