



OUR LADY OF THE CRAYS RC CHURCH, CRAY VALLEY
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PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Philomena's

Tel: 01689 826550
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Head Teacher: Miss V Maher

St. Peter & St. Paul

Tel: 01689 828208
St Paul's Wood Hill, BR5 2SR
Head Teacher: Miss Everson

Our Lady's Pre-School - www.ourladypreschool.net

Manager: Anne-Marie Glancy Tel: 07983 660589

To hire the Parish Hall for any event please contact: 01372 457651

SUNDAY 21ST MAY 2023

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

'Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. (John 17:1-2)

On the Seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the 17th chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' Farewell Discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. The whole of this chapter is a prayer of Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. In this prayer, Jesus not only reaffirms the complete union between him and the Father, but also prays for his glorification: "Father, the hour has come, glorify your son" (John 17:1)

And what does Jesus mean when he seeks to be glorified by the Father? The hour of Jesus' glorification is the hour when he is lifted up from the earth to be with the Father on the arms of a Roman cross. His glory is typified in the scourging at the Pillar, the crown of thorns, the awful journey to Calvary, the terrible agony of his execution and eventual crucifixion, his resurrection and ascension into heaven: this is Jesus' glory. And why does Jesus ask for this glory? He asks for it so that he, in turn, may glorify the Father (John 17:1). In this prayer, Jesus also recognizes the apparent challenges and hostility that would confront those faithful to his teaching. Thus, in the Second reading, we are reminded of the inevitability of suffering in the Christian life: "If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed" (1 Peter 4:13).

This is the great message of the Gospel today: like Jesus, we are invited to give glory to God by the many challenges and difficulties that come our way. As we prepare for the celebration of Pentecost next Sunday, let us pray for the

outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us. May the Holy Spirit help to offer up to God, our sorrows, losses, challenges and disappointments.

Confiteor (I Confess)

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore, I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie, eleison.

Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy.	Kyrie, eleison	Kyrie, eleison.
Christ, have mercy	Christ, have mercy.	Christe, eleison	Christe, eleison.
Lord, have mercy	Lord, have mercy.	Kyrie, eleison	Kyrie, eleison.

The Gloria

**Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.**

**We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory.**

Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,

Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;

you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory
of God the Father. Amen**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First reading: A reading from the Acts of the Apostles 1: 12-14

After Jesus was taken up into heaven the apostles went back from the Mount of Olives, as it is called, to Jerusalem, a short distance away, no more than a sabbath walk; and when they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All these joined in continuous prayer, together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 26: 1,4,7-8

Response: I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

The Lord is my light and my help; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; before whom shall I shrink? **R**

There is one thing I ask of the Lord, for this I long,

to live in the house of the Lord, all the days of my life,

to savour the sweetness of the Lord, to behold his temple. **R**

O Lord, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer.
Of you my heart has spoken: 'Seek his face.' **R**

Response: I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Second reading: A Reading from the First Letter of St. Peter 4: 13-16

If you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ, be glad, because you will enjoy a much greater gladness when his glory is revealed. It is a blessing for you when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ, because it means that you have the Spirit of glory, the Spirit of God resting on you. None of you should ever deserve to suffer for being a murderer, a thief, a criminal or an informer; but if anyone of you should suffer for being a Christian, then he is not to be ashamed of it; he should thank God that he has been called one.

The Word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

***I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you,
and your hearts will be full of joy,
Alleluia!***

THE GOSPEL: A reading from the Gospel according to John 17: 1-11

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: 'Father, the hour has come: glorify your Son so that your Son may glorify you; and, through the power over all mankind that you have given him, let him give eternal life to all those you have entrusted to him. And eternal life is this: to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

I have glorified you on earth and finished the work that you gave me to do. Now, Father, it is time for you to glorify me with that glory I had with you before ever the world was. I have made your name known to the men you took from the world to give me. They were yours and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now at last they know that all you have given me comes indeed from you; for I have given them the teaching you gave to me, and they have truly accepted this, that I came from you, and have believed that it was you who sent me.

I pray for them; I am not praying for the world but for those you have given me, because they belong to you: all I have is yours and all you have is mine, and in them I am glorified. I am not in the world any longer, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you.'

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit (*all bow*) was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and

glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the Almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

SANCTUS

English

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord of God of hosts.

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Latin

***Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus
Dóminus Deus Sábaoth***

***Pleni sunt caeli et terra glória tua.
Hosána in excélsis.***

***Benedíctus qui venit in nómine
Dómini.***

Hosána in excélsis.

We shall pray **Preface of the Ascension** and say **Eucharistic Prayer II**

The Mystery of Faith

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

English

**Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, who takes away the
sins of the world, grant us peace.**

Latin

***Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.***

***Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata
mundi, miserere nobis.***

***Agnus Dei, qui tolis peccata
mundi, dona nobis pacem.***

***O Sacrament most Holy, O Sacrament Divine,
All praise and all thanksgiving, be every moment thine (x 3)***

Hail Holy Queen: Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy. Hail our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn then, O most gracious Advocate, thine eyes of mercy towards us and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

Priest: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God;

People: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Priest: Let us pray:

O God, whose only-begotten Son, by his life, death and resurrection has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life; grant, we beseech you, that meditating on these mysteries of the most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may both imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

PARISH INFORMATION AND FAITH NEWS

May Devotion: May is the month of Mary. We shall be saying the rosary before each Mass all through the month of May. Please join in this special devotion.

Second Collection This Weekend: There will be a second collection this weekend for World Communication Day. This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seek to be of service both to the Church and the world in offering professional channels of communication, and provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales and the wider Church in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues.

Asian Day: Our Asian Day has been rescheduled and will now be held on Sunday the 4th of June. We encourage all members of the Asian community to be involved in making this day special for the Parish by contributing to the food, drink or entertainment. You can add your details to the sheets in the porch or speak to Mary Fernandes.

Confirmation Mass: On Saturday the 3rd of June, a number of our young people will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from the Most Reverend Dr. Jonas Benson Okoye. You are welcome to join us for this Mass. A short reception and light buffet will follow in the hall.

Parish Day and Anniversary: On Sunday the 17th of September, we will be holding our Parish Day, together with a celebration of Fr. Cyriacus' Priestly Anniversary. Please put this date in your diary.

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage: On Saturday the 23rd of September, a Mass in Celebration of Marriage will be held at St. George's Cathedral. If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th+ wedding anniversary this year, please let your parish know by the 31st of July. You should provide your names in the format John and Mary Smith, your home address and the anniversary you are celebrating. You will then receive an invitation from the Archbishop for the renewal of vows during Mass. Spaces are limited. You can also get in touch with Marriage and Family Life South East on mflse@rcaos.org.uk, with the title of your email to include the parish location eg. Cray Valley.

May Birthdays: On the weekend of the 27th/28th of May we will be celebrating all our parishioners who were born in the month of May. If you have a May birthday and your name is not already on the list in the porch, please add it on.

Pilgrimage Photos: If anyone who attended the recent parish pilgrimage has any photos that they would like to share with the group (high resolution photos of groups only), you can do so via the link on the website. There is also a link on the website where you can download any group photos taken for the church.

Youth Group: The next session of the Parish Youth Group will be this Friday, the 26th of May. The Youth Group is open to all parish children and young people over the age of 7. For more details contact Lisa on 07951 169119.

Youth Group Sessions 2023

Friday 26th May

Friday 30th June

Friday 28th July

Friday 25th August

Friday 29th September

Friday 27th October

Friday 24th November

CAFOD Campaigns: Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty, but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that "Love – caritas – is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace." For decades, CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to www.cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns

Church Cleaning: We are very grateful to the dedicated band of parishioners who keep our church looking clean and tidy, but we are now in need of extra people to join the cleaning rota. If you are able to commit to giving an hour once a month as part of a team, please contact Chris Meaney on 07989 074461.

Brass Cleaning: We are also looking for one or two people to help clean the church brasses once a month. If you are able to commit to this task, please contact Chris Meaney (number above).

Children's Sheets: Children's sheets are available in the porch to help our younger parishioners to understand the liturgy of the week. The Icthus sheet is aimed at those who are 9 or older; the Look sheet is designed for younger children. Please make use of these resources.

Legal Advice: Legal Aid advice is available to Our Lady of the Crays parishioners. Please contact Pedro on 07888 691332.

Food Bank: The SVP society would like to offer their thanks to everyone who donates to the food bank. Donations of food only can be left in the church porch. Please note books and medicines are not required at this time.

New Parishioners: If you are new to the parish, you are very welcome. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Cyriacus after Mass. Registration forms are available in the porch if you would like to be added to the Parish Database.



Readings For The Week Ahead:

	1st Reading	Psalm	Gospel
22/05/23	Acts 19:1-8	Ps 67:2-7	John 16:29-33
23/05/23	Acts 20:17-27	Ps 67:10-11,20-21	John 17:1-11
24/05/23	Acts 20:28-38	Ps 67:29-30, 33-36	John 17:11-19
25/05/23	Acts 22:30,23:6-11	Ps 15:1-2,5,7-11	John 17:20-26
26/05/23	Acts 25:13-21	Ps 102:1-2,11-12,19-20	John 21:15-19
27/05/23	1 Thessalonians 2:2-8	Ps 116	John 10:1-9

CHURCH MINISTRIES

	20th & 21st May	27th & 28th May
READERS 6PM	A Dsouza P Lobo	Chima L Winter
READERS 9AM	L Anyanjo T Wickenden	J Garber T Wingfield
READERS 11AM	M Higgins P O'Halloran	M Esong L Okafor
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 6PM	L Anyanjo	J Gallagher
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9AM	T Meaney	L Anyanjo
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 11AM	H Anseline, M McEveney, E Williams	M Ehiosun, G Greenspan, F Adewale
CLEANING	Team 3 – Tom Fernandes	Team 4 – Chris Meaney
LINEN	Helen Coker	Titi Obende

REQUEST FOR PRAYER FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND

Please continue to pray for: Alison Hannah, Eleanor Smith, Monica Gallagher, P. J. Connor, Janet Sinclair, Jeanette Miller-Spice, Mary Hayes, Helen Efemini, Sister Maureen Fay, Mary Mackay, Daisy Hone, Robert Burgess, Michael Thompson, Janet Storer and all the Sick Clergy of the Diocese and the housebound of the Parish.



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE - MAY

We remember in our prayers: Margaret Downes, Peter Storer, Mary Ann McNally, Julianna Akogboso, Anthony Reeves, Gerald Coleman, James Bryne, Isobel Kooper, Bill Glancy, M Fitzpatrick, Bridget Kelly, Charles Plowman, Owen Wait, Michael Downes, Margaret Sheridan, Emanuel Camilleri, Nancy Jarrold, Francis William Allen, Owen Toland, Sheila James, Charles James, Frank McMahan, Josephine Della, Rose Bateman, John Sheridan, Sheila Conway, Michael Lynch, John Fleming, Joanne Walker, Terence Crowley, Phyllis Eyre, John Twomey, Veronica Esenwah, Patrick O'Shea, Kate Wait, Alexander Kelly, Robert Burchell, Eilish O'Sullivan, Stella Hill, Thomas Murray, Raja Perera, Charlotte Wickenden, Kevin Dwane, Catherin Egbukwu, Barry Clarke, Eustace Rudolph, Sylvia Sobemheim, Dr. Tony Juwah, John Gerreyn, Danny McNally, Michael Lyons and Rose Bateman

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<p>Sunday: May 21: Seventh Sunday of Easter (A)</p> <p>6pm (Vigil Mass): Margaret Nuttman, 80th BT</p> <p>9am Mass: Terry Meaney, 80th BT</p> <p>11am Mass: Jean Corr, SR</p> <p>(11am Mass Livestreamed on YouTube)</p>	<p>Sat: May 27: Vigil of The Solemnity of Pentecost (A)</p> <p>5.15-5.45pm: Confession</p> <p>6pm Mass: Patricia Smith, RIP</p>
<p>Mon: May 22: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Holy Souls</p> <hr/> <p>Tues: May 23: No Mass</p> <hr/> <p>Wed: May 24: Feria</p> <p>6.45pm: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>7.30pm Mass: Chima Family, PI</p> <hr/> <p>Thu: May 25: St. Bede the Venerable, Priest & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Terry Meaney, 80th BT</p> <hr/> <p>Fri: May 26: St. Philip Neri, Priest (Memorial)</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Raja & Romesh Perera, RIP</p>	<p>Sun: May 28: The Solemnity of Pentecost (A)</p> <p>9am Mass: Terry Meaney, 80th BT</p> <p>11am Mass: Uchenna & Nkem Egbuhuzor, TG for answered prayers</p> <p><i>(11am Mass Livestreamed & available on YouTube)</i></p> <p>Note:</p> <p>SI means Special Intention SR means Speedy Recovery BI means Blessed GB means God's Blessings GP means God's Protection WB means Well-Being TG means Thanksgiving PI means Private Intentions BT means Birthday Thanksgiving WA means Wedding Anniversary Pro Populo: People of the Parish Private Mass: Mass to be said by the Priest alone</p>
<p>Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament: Starts at 8.45am on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays and at 6.45pm on Wednesdays.</p>	

CONTACT & FOLLOW US

Website: <http://www.ourladyofthecrays.com/>

Live streamed & past masses, YouTube channel 'crays parish':

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCc8_cbY24GvwEqXZHGA1eOg

SVP Emergency No: 07598 347602/ Email presidenta190213@svp.org.uk