



OUR LADY OF THE CRAYS RC CHURCH, CRAY VALLEY
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Parish Priest: Fr. Cyriacus Okafor
Deacon: Reverend Longinus Anyanjo
Parish Secretary: Dominica Winter

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Philomena's
Tel: 01689 826550
Chelsfield Road, BR5 4AD
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 19TH NOVEMBER 2023
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY (A)

“So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.” (Matthew 25:28-29)

As we approach the end of the Liturgical Year, Christ invites us to think about apocalyptic or end-time realities, and the importance of giving account of our stewardship. In the Gospel, the Master gives unequal talents to three of his servants, hoping to get returns on these talents during the accounting period. Two of the servants were enterprising and the master rewarded them; while the other servant, who received the least talent and buried it, was reprimanded for being a lazy and wicked servant. The vision that Christ makes apparent in this narrative is none other than faith. Today, in a special way, Jesus focuses on a particular element of faith - risk. As Christ sees it, risk is no less essential to the life of faith than it is to successful investment; an investor always risks what he presently enjoys for a share in a better but unrealized future. The believer, likewise, exchanges his present security for a share in the divine promises - a share that he now possesses only “in hope”.

Given the complaints of this third servant against his master, the crucial question is: was he fairly treated given that he received only one talent? The truth is that God has given each and every one of us our individual talents and most times, they may not be equal. What matters is our ability to maximize our talents however big or little. Our world is riddled with either gross misuse or neglect of our talents. Let us not complain about the size or nature of our gifts, but rather ask God for the grace to use our talents to benefit the lives of those around us.

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 Book of Proverbs 31: 10-13,19-20,30-31

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hands to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 127: 1-5

Response: O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be happy and prosper. **R**

Your wife will be like a fruitful vine in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive, around your table. **R**

Indeed thus shall be blessed the man who fears the Lord.

May the Lord bless you from Zion all the days of your life! **R**

Response: *O blessed are those who fear the Lord.*

Second reading: A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians 5: 1-6

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 25: 14-30

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"

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 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 V of Sundays in Ordinary Time** and say **Eucharistic Prayer II**

The Mystery of Faith

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, 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

Second Collection Next Weekend: There will be a second collection next weekend in aid of the Catholic Youth Services. The collection, taken on National Youth Sunday, supports youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

Parish Council Meeting: There will be a meeting of the Parish Council on Monday the 20th of November at 7pm in the Parish Meeting Room.

November Dead List: November is the month of Holy Souls. This month we remember and pray in a special way for the deceased members of our families, our relatives and friends. Please put the list of the names of the deceased in a special envelope placed by the font together with your offering and place it in the Holy Souls box. We will place all those names on the Altar and say at least one Mass for those souls every day in the month of November.

November Birthdays: On the weekend of the 25th & 26th of November, we will be celebrating all our parishioners who were born in the month of November. If you have a November birthday and your name is not already on the list in the porch, please add it on.

Healing Masses: We are resuming our parish Healing Masses on the last Saturday of each month, beginning next Saturday, the 25th of November.

School Admissions September 2024: If you would like Fr. Cyriacus to sign a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for a school application, please put this form and a copy of your child's baptism certificate in an envelope and post them through the presbytery door as soon as possible. Completed forms and your documents can be collected from the parish office from Friday 24th November.

A Day With Jesus: We will be holding 'A Day With Jesus' on Saturday the 9th of December. Further details will follow shortly, but please put the date in your diary.

Youth Group: The last Youth Group session of 2023 will take place next Friday, the

24th of November, from 6.30-8pm. All parish children over the age of seven are welcome.

Christmas Hampers: We are collecting donations for the Christmas Hampers. Donated items can be left in the box in the porch.

Christmas Raffle Tickets: We are now selling Raffle Tickets for the Parish Christmas Draw. Please see representatives of the Outreach Group after Mass.

South East Christmas Carol Concert: Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South East, warmly invites you to the Christmas Carol Service of the South East Pastoral Area. The concert will take place on Sunday the 17th of December (Gaudete Sunday) at Corpus Christi Catholic Church, Brixton Hill, 11 Trent Road, London, SW2 5BJ. Start time 7.30pm. The principal celebrant is The Right Reverend Philip Moger, Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Southwark.

CAFOD Gifts: If you are looking for an alternative Christmas gift that will have a positive impact on those in need, please take one of the CAFOD World Gifts brochures from the porch.

Latin in the Mass: On the first Sunday of each month, certain elements of the Mass will be spoken or sung in Latin. Booklets will be available showing the correct wording, with the English translation. This will begin on the weekend of the 2nd & 3rd of December.

Bereavement Group: We are hoping to restart the Parish Bereavement Group. If you are interested in joining this group, please contact Fr. Cyriacus or the Parish Office.

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.



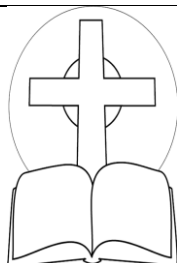
Readings For The Week Ahead

| | 1st Reading | Psalm | Gospel |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| 20/11/23 | 1 Maccabees 1:10-15,41-43,54-57,62-64 | Ps 118: 53,61,134, 150,155,158 | Luke 18:35-43 |
| 21/11/23 | 2 Maccabees 6:18-31 | Ps 3:2-7 | Luke 19:1-10 |
| 22/11/23 | 2 Maccabees 7:1,20-31 | Ps 16:1,5-6,8,15 | Luke 19:11-28 |
| 23/11/23 | 1 Maccabees 2:15-29 | Ps 49:1-2,5-6,14-15 | Luke 19:41-44 |
| 24/11/23 | 1 Maccabees 4:36-37,52-59 | 1 Chronicles 29:10-12 | Luke 19:45-48 |
| 25/11/23 | 1 Maccabees 6:1-13 | Ps 9A:2-4,6,16,19 | Luke 20:27-40 |

| CHURCH MINISTRIES | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | 18th & 19th November | 25th & 26th November |
| READERS 6PM | L Winter V Martis | A Dsouza E Fitzgerald |
| READERS 9AM | C Meaney I Joby | L Anyanjo M Quintavalle |
| READERS 11AM | M Esong L Okafor | T Ezekulie J Smith |
| EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 6PM | E North | D Ekpoudom |
| EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9AM | M Abu | J Laurent |
| EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 11AM | R Anseline, J Smith, E Williams | M Alademmerin, H Anseline, M McEveney |
| CLEANING | Team 3 – Tom Fernandes | Team 4 – Chris Meaney |
| LINEN | Funmi Obende | Theresa Akagbosu |

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND

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



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE – NAMES FOR NOVEMBER

We remember in our prayers: Catherine Morrell, Martin Morrissey, Perry Cook, Derek Barrowclough, Molly Harris, Rita Sally Clifford, Michael McEveney, Elizabeth Jowah, Vera Ekpateta, Harry Stevens, Katherine Doonan, Charles Wenham, Olive Stevens, Robert Mojola Anjorim, Steven Spiller, Errol Cunningham, Michael Hickling, Uju Otuogbodo, William Eyre, Martin Morrissey, Derek Beadle, Michael Esenwah, Margaret Mills, Delia Ball, Eileen Morris, Janet Perera, Michael Hurley, Jerzy (George) Grun, Joseph Fay, Patricia Hobbs, Peter Howes, George Frisby, Beatrice Knight, Deirdre Boswell, Kay Frances May, Christy Gahan, Antonio Dos Santos, Mary Cannon, William Forsythe, John Rye, Margaret Drysdale, John van der Luit, Lilly Lockhurt, Jonathan Rye, Eddie Hebenhan, Damian Crowley, Mimi Viliesid, Ligory Osuuzu, John McCulla, Kitty Quirk, Monica Okonkwo, Patrick Dunford, Gladys Beard, Mark Daly, Irene Stone and Teresa Hanks

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

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|---|---|
| <p>Sunday: Nov. 19: Thirty-Third Sunday (A)</p> <p>6pm (Vigil Mass): Mary Brophy, SR and Orlando Botelho, RIP</p> <p>9am Mass: Pro Populo</p> <p>11am Mass: Winnie & Victor Keogh, GB and Derek Tilley, RIP</p> <p><i>(11am Mass Livestreamed on YouTube)</i></p> | <p>Sat: Nov. 25: Vigil of The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)</p> <p>11am: Healing Mass</p> <p>5.15-5.45pm: Confessions</p> <p>6pm Mass: Mary Teresa Carney, RIP and Maura Parris, RIP</p> |
| <p>Mon: Nov. 20: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am: Fredrick Okafor, RIP and Fr. Stanley Anaedo, RIP</p> <hr/> <p>Tues: Nov. 21: No Mass</p> <hr/> <p>Wed: Nov. 22: St. Cecilia, Virgin & Martyr (Memorial)</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>7.30pm Mass: Holy Souls</p> <hr/> <p>Thu: Nov. 23: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>12pm: Sylvia Lucas, RIP</p> <hr/> <p>Fri: Nov. 24: St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions, Martyrs (Memorial)</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9am: Divine Mercy Novena</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Holy Souls</p> | <p>Sun: Nov. 26: The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (A)</p> <p>9am Mass: Pro Populo</p> <p>11am Mass: Angela Halstead, RIP</p> <p><i>(11am Mass Livestreamed & available on YouTube)</i></p> <p>Note:</p> <p>SI means Special Intention SR means Speedy Recovery Bl 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> |

CONTACT & FOLLOW US

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

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

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

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