

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Zeph. 2: 3, 3: 12-13; Ps. 145; 1 Cor. 1: 26-31; Matthew 5: 1-12	
Saturday 31st January 2026 5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS 6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY 6:30pm: Rita Pearce RIP (V. Hull)	Sunday 1st February 2026 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: Dennis Murphy RIP (Galibardy)
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD [CANDLEMAS] Monday 2nd February 2026 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Betty Pereira RIP (D. Govia) 7:30pm: Candlemas Mass	ST. LAWRENCE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP Tuesday 3rd February 2026 (ST. BLAISE, BISHOP AND MARTYR) 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Allan Moore RIP (J. Moore) <i>followed by Blessing of Throats of St. Blaise</i> 4.30pm: Educator's Mass
Weds. 4th Feb. 2026 (Feria) (ST. HENRY MORSE, PRIEST AND MARTYR) 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Deacon Jim Sheahan RIP n/s 11am: Holy Mass at Shalom David Jessop RIP (Sr. Rosie LSU)	ST. AGATHA, VIRGIN AD MARTYR Thursday 5th February 2026 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Holy Souls
STS. PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS First Friday Friday 6th February 2026 8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration 9:15am: Maureen Saunders RIP (Jim Saunders)	First Saturday Sat. 7th February 2026 (Feria) 7:30am: First Saturday Devotions 8:30am: Private Intention (DG) 11am: Holy Mass at Shalom
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Is. 58: 7-10; Ps. 111; 1 Cor. 2: 1-5; Matthew 5: 13-16	
Saturday 7th February 2026 5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS 6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY 6:30pm: Renato Petrino and Luigina Guala RIP	Sunday 8th February 2026 DAY FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING 8:30am: Thanksgiving (Uchendo) 10:30am: People of the Parish
ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH	
Christina Gleeson, Sr. Harrison, Ellie Hesson, Mary Houlahan, Bridie Griffin, Violet Coward, Leslie Cope, Charlie Riley, John Lynch, George Fielder, John Goffrey, Peter Berzolla, John Gavin, Henry Finch, Patrick Foley, Sr. Ursula Innocent, Anne Murray.	
HOW HAPPY / BLESSED / FORTUNATE - ARE THE POOR IN SPIRIT!	
Jesus gives us the Beatitudes and tells us how happy we would be if we were poor in spirit because then the kingdom of heaven would be ours. Poverty of spirit means having a correct standard of values in which we put Christ first and everything else is subordinate to Him. We are rich in Christ because we know that everything of lasting value comes from Him.	

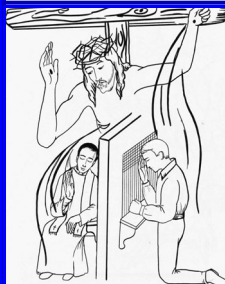


**ST MARY OF THE CRAYS
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
114 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ
www.stmarycrays.org.uk
"Welcome Worship Witness"
*(part of the Roman Catholic
Archdiocese of Southwark)*
www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

Seeing the crowds,
Jesus went up on the mountain,
and when He sat down
His disciples came to Him.



And He opened His mouth
and taught them, saying;
"BLESSED ARE
THE POOR IN SPIRIT,
FOR THEIRS IS
THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ..."



**SACRAMENT OF
PENANCE -
CONFESSION -**
**SATURDAYS
5PM TO 6PM**
**also, WHENEVER
THE CHURCH
IS OPEN, and
ON REQUEST**

Postal Address:
111 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DN
Parish Website:
www.stmarycrays.org.uk
Parish Email Address:
crayford@rcaos.org.uk
Facebook:
Stmary Crays
Telephone:
01322 523 492
Parish Mobile 'Phone:
07485 151 159
Parish Priest
Fr. David Gummert
davidgummert@rcaos.org.uk
Parish Secretary
Vanessa Barker
Monday to Friday: 8am-11am
Parish Office: 01322 551 257
Parish School
Executive Head Teacher:
Mr. M. Hannon
Head of School:
Mrs. A. Truss
St. Joseph's Primary School
Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ
01322 524 162
www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk
Parish Hall
For enquiries and bookings contact
01372 457 651

SUNDAY OFFERINGS 24TH/25TH JANUARY 2026:

Gift Aid: £197.50; Card: £143; Loose Plate: £263.94 ATTENDANCE: 254
St. Georges Cathedral: Gift Aid: £10; Card: £33; Loose Plate: 218.95
Thank you for your continuing generosity in these difficult times, *Fr. David.*

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

This weekend: for **RACIAL JUSTICE.**

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and in wider society.

Next weekend: for **THE BUILDING FUND.**

Gift-aiders please use one of the envelopes from the back of your box/bundle.

14th/15th February: for **THE CLERGY SUPPORT FUND.**

This collection enables the Archdiocese of Southwark to care for clergy in their retirement, old age, and at their time of ill health, after their lifetime of service and devotion to Christ, His Church and His people.

Gift-aiders please use the one of the envelopes from your box/bundle.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

The Beatitudes give us cause for reflection as they turn our normal value system upside down, forcing us to confront whether we are guided by the Gospel or by the pattern set by society. They are the guidelines of Christ to us on how to spend this life, in order one day to enjoy eternity with Him in heaven.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD: MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026

Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful Feast of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we recall the holy day on which He was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses and at the same time going to meet His faithful people. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognised Christ as their Lord, and proclaimed Him with joy.

United by the Spirit, may we now go to the House of God to welcome Christ the Lord. There we shall recognise Him in the breaking of bread until He comes again in glory.

THE BLESSING OF THE THROATS

The Blessing of the Throats is celebrated on the 3rd February, the Feast day of St. Blaise of Sebaste. St. Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia during the Fourth Century. According to various accounts he was a physician before becoming a Bishop. His religion spread throughout the entire Church in the Middle Ages because he was reputed to have miraculously cured a little boy who nearly died because of a fishbone in his throat. From the Eighth Century he has been invoked on behalf of the sick, especially those afflicted with illnesses of the throat. *Blessing of the Throats will follow the 9.15am Mass on Tuesday 3rd February.*

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST: A CATHOLIC APOLOGETICS RESOURCE.

The Archdiocese of Southwark has launched an exciting apologetics project to provide evidence-based answers to questions such as "Is Jesus God?" or "does prayer work?" **AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST** is designed to equip you with a deeper understanding of your faith, so you can confidently answer questions and be a joyful witness for the Lord Jesus and his Church. **Every Monday**, a new video will be posted on **YouTube**, along with a worksheet to enable parishes, schools, youth groups and families to use them as part of their faith formation. To watch the videos and take part in this exciting project, please visit: rcaos.org.uk/ambassadorsforchrist.

ST. MARY OF THE CRAY'S COMMUNITY SOCIAL CLUB

The next **BINGO SESSION** will be on **SUNDAY 1ST FEBRUARY at 12:15PM**.
The club is open 7.30pm to 11pm on Friday and Saturday nights and 12noon to 4pm on Sunday. We look forward to seeing you and your family there.

THE SEASON OF LENT

We will begin the Season of Lent on Ash Wednesday, 18th February, and this is a penitential period when we prepare for Easter. It is a time to renew our lives. The things we are to do are to pray, fight evil, fast and help the poor, sick and lonely. In the first place we pray to ask God to give us courage to turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel.

LENTEN SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross:

Wednesdays after 9.15am Holy Mass and **Fridays at 7.30pm.**

Novena to Our Lady Immaculate - The Miraculous Medal:

Thursdays after 9.15am Holy Mass during Lent

SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

LENTEN REFLECTIONS

The Spirituality Commission will be sending daily reflections during Lent featuring Scripture, thoughts and prayers. You can sign up to receive them directly into your inbox each morning visit:
<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/lent>

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY IS DEDICATED TO THE HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH

Here is a bedtime prayer to prepare us to see God "face to face" in glory, through the intercession of the Holy Family of Nazareth:

V/: Jesus, Mary and Joseph:

R/: I give you my heart and my soul.

V/: Jesus, Mary and Joseph:

R/: Assist me in my last agony.

V/: Jesus, Mary and Joseph:

R/: May I sleep and take my rest in peace with You. Amen.

POPE LEO XIV'S PRAYER

INTENTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026

invites us to pray for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

PALMS FOR ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Please bring in your Palms from last year's Palm Sunday so that we can burn them and create the Ashes for **ASH WEDNESDAY:**

18TH FEBRUARY 2026

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK ST. VALENTINE'S DAY BALL

The Good Counsel **BLACK TIE BALL** will take place at 6pm on St Valentine's Day, Saturday 14th February 2026 in Kensington, London.
Please see notice board for further details.

Please pray for the members of our Parish Family who are sick:

Anita Claridge, Anna Idahosa, Barry Alfred Colville, Bernie Francis, Bridget Whitaker, Carmella "Nina" Stafford, Catherine Edmeades, Chandra Rawal, Chloe Mutimer, Christina Redmond, Clare Cooney, Erin, Fr. Morty O'Shea, Felicity Dyer, Jackie Dawson, Joan Veronica McCormack, Linda Rawlinson, Liz Algar, Luc Fitzpatrick, Margaret Harrington, Marie Rogerston, Pat Goodwin, Pat McGrory, Patrick Taylor, Pauline White, Richard Hilsden and Sean Tansey.

PLEASE, DO YOU KNOW OF ANY ONE ELSE WHO, WITH THEIR PERMISSION, OUGHT TO BE ON THIS LIST?