

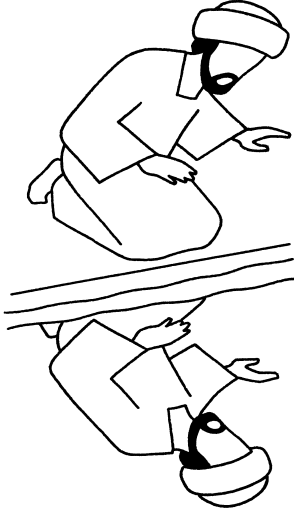
<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A) (LAETARE SUNDAY)</b> 1 Sam. 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13; Ps. 22; Eph. 5: 8-14; John 9: 1-41	
<b>Saturday 14th March 2026</b> <b>5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS</b> <b>6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY</b> 6:30pm: Minton Family RIP	<b>MOTHERING SUNDAY</b> <b>Sunday 15th March 2026</b> 8:30am: People of the Parish 10:30am: Christina Redmond (Galibardy)
<b>Mon. 16th March 2026 (Feria)</b> <b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b> 9:15am: Holy Souls	<b>ST. PATRICK, BISHOP, PATRON OF IRELAND</b> <b>Tuesday 17th March 2026</b> <b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b> 9:15am: Fr. Patrick Cannon RIP n/s 11am: Holy Mass at Shalom Sr. Marie Casey RIP (LSU)
<b>Weds. 18th March 2026 (Feria)</b> (ST. CYRIL OF JERUSALEM, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH) <b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b> 9:15am: Maureen Saunders RIP (Jim Saunders) followed by Station of the Cross 12pm: St. Paulinus Lenten Lunch	<b>ST. JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF            THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,            PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH</b> <b>Thursday 19th March 2026</b> <b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b> 9:15am: Mary Warren RIP (Pat Warren) SJS whole school attending followed by Novena
<b>Fri. 20th March 2026 (Feria)</b> <b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b> 9:15am: Holy Souls Gjoni 7:30pm: Stations of the Cross	<b>Sat. 21st March 2026 (Feria)</b> 11am: Holy Mass at Shalom 2:00pm: Baptism of Cadie Coshall
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)</b> Ezek. 37: 12-14; Ps. 129; Rom. 8: 8-11; John 11: 1-45	
<b>Saturday 21st March 2026</b> <b>5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS</b> <b>6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY</b> 6:30pm: Mark Dudley recovery and Dudley Family (Foy)	<b>Sunday 22nd March 2026</b> 8:30am: Monica Murrell RIP (K. Marshall) 10:30am: People of the Parish SJS singing
<b>ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH</b>	
Brian Shandley, Arthur Gillespie, Anne Gallogly, William Scanlon, William Hanford, Mary Donnelly, William Ryan, Len Williams, Arthur Wilkinson, Winn Miller, Elizabeth Mullane, Mercedes Rosso, Fr. Vivian St. Clare Hill, Kathleen Boulding, Albert South, Mary Kenneally, Mary Brennan, John Baillie, Florence Hackney, Jack Smith, Marilyn Bean, Archibald Gibson.	
<b>CHRIST, OUR SHEPHERD AND KING.</b>	
Christ is descended from the line of David, a shepherd, who was anointed King by Samuel. Christ is our King who guides us with the tender service of a shepherd. With Him by our side we shall want for nothing even though we walk in the valley of darkness.	



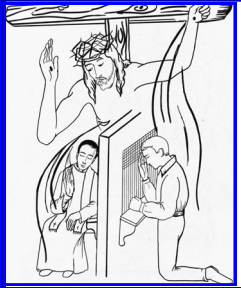
**ST MARY OF THE CRAYS  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**

114 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ  
[www.stmarycrays.org.uk](http://www.stmarycrays.org.uk)  
**“Welcome Worship Witness”**  
*(part of the Roman Catholic  
 Archdiocese of Southwark)*  
[www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

Then He anointed the man’s eyes with the mud, and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent).



So he went and washed and came back seeing.



**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](http://www.stmarycrays.org.uk)  
**Parish Email Address:**  
[crayford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.st-josephs.bexley.sch.uk)  
**Parish Hall**  
 For enquiries and bookings contact  
 01372 457 651

**SUNDAY OFFERINGS 7TH/8TH MARCH 2026:**

**Gift Aid: £245.50; Card: £78; Loose Plate: £142.00 ATTENDANCE: 218**  
**EVC Uganda Card: £33.00; Loose Plate: £326.20**

Thank you for your continuing generosity in these difficult times, *Fr. David.*

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:**

**This weekend: Easter Church Flowers.**

**Next weekend: for Poor Parishes.** This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.

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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A) (LAETARE SUNDAY)**

This Gospel is for all time and every day. At a deeper level it reminds us that we were all born blind and were groping in spiritual darkness until at baptism we began our journey of faith in the likeness of Christ. The life we receive at baptism gives us the power to bring Christ to everything we do and to every person we meet. Light is a symbol of life with Christ and darkness is the religious image for sinfulness, shameful deeds and unbelief. Each of us is meant to be a beacon of light showing others how to live and giving direction to their lives by our good example. Christ is asking us to look at our blind spots because coming from darkness into light is not an easy journey. Having been called to walk as children of the light we must keep praying: "Lord, that I may see."

**LENTEN SCHEDULE**

**Stations of the Cross: Wednesdays** after 9.15am Holy Mass and **Fridays** at 7.30pm.

**Why not visit the social club afterwards on Friday evening, where soft drinks and hot drinks compliment the alcoholic offering.**

**Something for everyone.**

**Novena to Our Lady Immaculate - The Miraculous Medal:**  
Thursdays after 9.15am Holy Mass during Lent

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICES with Individual Confessions:**

**St. Thomas More, Bostall Park:** Sunday 22nd March at 12 noon

**Our Lady of the Rosary, Blackfen:** Friday 27th March at 7pm

**St. John Fisher, Bexley:** Tuesday 31st March at 7.30pm

**Our Lady of the Angels, Erith:** Wednesday 1st April at 7pm

**LENTEN FRUGAL LUNCHES**

**St. Paulinus Church Hall:** Wednesday 18th March at 12 noon.

**St. Mary of the Crays Church Hall:** Saturday 28th March at 1pm.

**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 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?**

**ST. MARY OF THE CRAY'S COMMUNITY SOCIAL CLUB**

Please note that the next **BINGO SESSION** will be a week earlier than normal on **SUNDAY 29TH MARCH**. This is a date change to avoid Easter Sunday 5th April. Please join us for a coffee or drink at 12.15pm and play all 6 rounds for £7 with cash prizes and a chance of winning the snowball which now stands at £83.

*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.*

**Holy Week and Easter Schedule**

<b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>29th March 2026</b>	<b>6:30pm;</b> <b>8:30am;</b> <b>10:30am</b>	(Palms blessed at each Holy Mass) At 10:30am assemble in the Church Hall where palms will be blessed and then the Procession into Church.
<b>Wednesday of Holy Week,</b> <b>1st April 2026</b>	<b>8:30am</b> <b>11:30am</b> <b>7:30pm</b>	Holy Mass and Stations of the Cross Chrism Mass at St. George's Cathedral Stations of the Cross and Confessions
<b>Maundy Thursday</b> <b>2nd April 2025</b>	<b>8-9am</b>  <b>8:00pm</b>  <b>11:45pm</b>	Office of Readings, Morning Prayer, Holy Rosary and Confessions Holy Mass of the Last Supper with the washing of 12 men's feet, a collection for Mary's Meals and after Holy Communion a Procession with the Blessed Sacrament to be reserved in the Tabernacle in the Altar of Repose in the Children's Liturgy Room, 'watching and praying' with Jesus until: Night prayer/Compline.
<b>Good Friday</b> <b>3rd April 2026</b>	<b>8-9am</b>  <b>TBA</b>  <b>3pm</b>  <b>TBA</b>	Office of Readings, Morning Prayer. Holy Rosary and Confessions Walk of Witness meeting at Waterside followed by refreshments in St. Paulinus Church Hall Celebration of the Passion of the Lord with Veneration of the Cross and the Papal collection for Holy Places in the Holy Land. Stations of the Cross and Confessions
<b>Holy Saturday</b> <b>4th April 2026</b>	<b>8-9am</b>  <b>8pm</b>	Office of Readings, Morning Prayer and Confessions Easter Vigil, starting outside at sunset.
<b>Easter Sunday</b> <b>5th April 2026</b>	<b>7am</b>  <b>8.30am</b> <b>10.30am</b>	Sunrise Service in St. Paulinus Church -yard (Garden of Remembrance) Holy Mass Holy Mass