

| <b>TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b><br><b>Jer. 20: 7-9; Ps. 63; Rom. 12: 1-2; Matthew 16: 21-27</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <b>Saturday 29th August 2026</b><br><b>5:00 - 6:00pm: CONFESSIONS</b><br><b>6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY</b><br>6:30pm: James Alfred Saunders<br>RIP FM                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Sunday 30th August 2026</b><br>8:30am: People of the Parish<br>10:30am: George, Hermine and<br>Robert Galibardy RIP                                                                   |
| <b>BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY</b><br><b>Mon. 31st August 2026 (Feria)</b><br>(ST. AIDAN AND SAINTS OF LINDISFARNE)<br><b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b><br>9:15am: Rev. Fr. John Ryan MBE<br>RIP (Barker)                                                                                                                                                                | <b>Tuesday 1st Sep. 2026 (Feria)</b><br>(ST. EDMUND ARROWSMITH, PRIEST AND MARTYR)<br><b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b><br>9:15am: Donald Ukwunnah RIP                              |
| <b>Weds. 2nd Sep. 2026 (Feria)</b><br><b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b><br>9:15am: Mgr. James Joyce RIP n/s<br>11am: Holy Mass at Shalom<br>Intentions of Sr. Rita Rafferty LSU                                                                                                                                                                                   | <b>ST. GREGORY THE GREAT,</b><br><b>POPE AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</b><br><b>Thursday 3rd Sep. 2026</b><br><b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b><br>9:15am: Holy Souls                   |
| <b>FIRST FRIDAY</b><br><b>Friday 4th Sep 2026 (Feria)</b><br>(ST. CUTHBERT, BISHOP)<br><b>8:00: Holy Rosary and Adoration</b><br>9:15am: Private Intention<br>(L. Quadros)                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>FIRST SATURDAY</b><br><b>Sat. 5th Sep. 2026 (Feria)</b><br>7:15am: First Saturday Devotions<br>8:15am: Private Intention (DG)<br>No Holy Mass at Shalom<br><b>MARCH for LIFE 2026</b> |
| <b>TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)</b><br><b>Ezek. 33: 7-9; Ps. 95; Rom. 13: 8-10; Matthew 18: 15-20</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Saturday 5th September 2026</b><br><b>MARCH FOR LIFE: NO CONFESSIONS</b><br><b>6:00 - 6:20pm HOLY ROSARY</b><br>6:30pm: Mark Dudley recovery<br>and Dudley Family (Foy)                                                                                                                                                                                             | <b>Sunday 6th September 2026</b><br>8:30am: Donald Ukwunnah RIP<br>10:30am: People of the Parish                                                                                         |
| <b>ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Barry Wilson, Ernie Carpenter, Winifred Cox, Molly Boshell,<br>Mary Hadfield, Eric Gray, William Stevens, Fr. John Ryan MBE,<br>John Arrowsmith, James Loughrey, Thomas O'Connell,<br>Elizabeth Greatorex, Mgr. James McGettrick, D. Carroll, Kate Canning,<br>Mabel Coligan, Kay Gillespie, Helga Connors.                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>TAKE UP YOUR DAILY CROSS.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Suffering shows us how much we are prepared to sacrifice in our following of Christ. He tells us to take up our cross daily and follow Him. It is in losing our lives that we will find them in a newer, deeper way and then we shall be rewarded according to our behaviour. This approach will never be easy but it is the only path to real holiness and happiness. |                                                                                                                                                                                          |



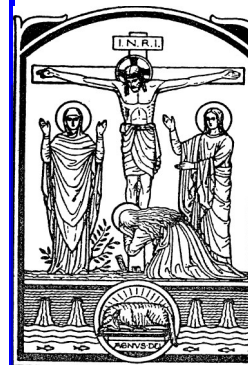
**ST MARY OF THE CRAYS**  
**CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 114 Old Road, Crayford DA1 4DZ  
[www.stmarycrays.org.uk](http://www.stmarycrays.org.uk)  
**"Welcome Worship Witness"**  
*(part of the Roman Catholic*  
*Archdiocese of Southwark)*  
[www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

*'IF ANYONE WOULD*  
*COME AFTER ME,*



*LET HIM DENY HIMSELF*  
*AND TAKE UP HIS CROSS AND*

*FOLLOW ME.*  
*Matthew 16:24*



**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)  
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**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 22ND/23RD AUGUST 2026:**

**Gift Aid: £172.61; Card: £55; Loose Plate: £180.85 ATTENDANCE: 215**

As always, **thank you** for your generosity, **Fr. David**.

**SECOND COLLECTION:**

**Next weekend:** for the **Building Fund**.

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

**12th/13th September:** for the **Catholic Education Service**.

The Catholic Education Service (CES) acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education, and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.

**19th/20th September:** for **Home Missions (Evangelii Gaudium)**

This collection provides the Bishops of England and Wales with resources to support 'Home Missions', the spread of the Gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelisation.

**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

In the grand scheme of things we are set a whole series of tests. The road is never a straight one and suffering is a reality of human life.

Being a Christian is a demanding honour because God's way of doing things is contrary to human expectations.

In the Gospel, Christ tells us plainly that discipleship involves denying ourselves, taking up the cross in trust and confidence and following His footsteps across the hill of Calvary. It is a hard teaching but the measure of greatness in the kingdom of heaven is the standard of the cross. This is an occasion to reflect on our own commitment to Christ because it is easy to lose sight of our final goal in life.

**The Blessed Virgin Mary grants seven graces to the souls who honour her daily by saying seven 'Hail Mary's' and meditating on her tears and dolours (sorrows).**

**The devotion was passed on by St. Bridget of Sweden (1303-1373).  
HERE ARE THE SEVEN GRACES:**

1. I will grant peace to their families.
2. They will be enlightened about the divine mysteries.
3. I will console them in their pains and I will accompany them in their work.
4. I will give them as much as they ask for as long as it does not oppose the adorable will of my divine Son or the sanctification of their souls.
5. I will defend them in their spiritual battles with the infernal enemy and I will protect them at every instant of their lives.
6. I will visibly help them at the moment of their death, they will see the face of their Mother.
7. I have obtained from my divine Son, that those who propagate this devotion to my tears and dolours, will be taken directly from this earthly life to eternal happiness since all their sins will be forgiven and my Son and I will be their eternal consolation and joy.

*Of your Charity, please pray for the repose of the Soul of*

**MARGARET BALA**, who died on the 24th August 2026.

**RECEPTION OF HER BODY INTO CHURCH:** Monday 21st September at 4pm.

**REQUIEM MASS:** Tuesday 22nd September at 10am.

**COMMITTAL:** Eltham Crematorium at 11.30am.

**Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual Light shine upon her. May she rest in Peace. May her soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.**

**THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER**

The month of September is dedicated to the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Devotion to the sorrows of the Virgin Mary dates from the twelfth century, when it made its appearance in monastic circles under the influence of **St. Anselm** and **St. Bernard**. The **Cistercians** and then the **Servites** undertook to propagate it. It became widespread in the fourteenth and especially the fifteenth centuries, particularly in the Rhineland and Flanders, where **Confraternities of the Sorrowful Mother** sprang up. It was in this context that the first liturgical formularies in her honour were composed. A provincial council of Mainz in 1423 made use of these in establishing a "**Feast of the Sorrows of Mary**" in reparation for Hussite profanations of her images.

**THE SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY**

- ◆ The prophecy of Simeon. (St. Luke 2:34, 35)
- ◆ The flight into Egypt (St. Matthew 2:13, 14)
- ◆ The loss of the Child Jesus in the temple. (St. Luke 2: 43-45)
- ◆ The meeting of Jesus and Mary on the Way of the Cross.
- ◆ The Crucifixion.
- ◆ The taking down of the Body of Jesus from the Cross.
- ◆ The burial of Jesus.

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

The next **BINGO** session will be on **SUNDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER** from **12.15PM**. Just £7 gets you into all 6 games, with the snowball now at **£157**.

Join us on **SATURDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER** from **7.30pm** for the **LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS** on the big TVs. We will be open until the end of the show that night.

Advance Notice: **FISH AND CHIPS** + Entertainment on **SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER** - more details next week.

Please come and enjoy the social side of the Parish.

The club is open **8.30pm to 11pm** on Friday, **7.30-9.30pm** on Saturday and **1pm-3pm** Sunday. We look forward to seeing you and your family there.

**PARISH DIY TEAM**

We are looking to set up a **Parish DIY Team** to help to carry out the necessary repairs and renewals in the Church and Parish Centre as and when they occur. **If you have 'Trade', or good DIY skills**, please, can you be a part of this essential and very important team? Please make yourself known to: **Alex Rees, Alan Hughes and Dexter Pereira. Thank you.**

**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, Felicity Dyer, Jackie Dawson, Joan Veronica McCormack, Linda Rawlinson, Liz Algar, Lorraine Bradley, Luc Fitzpatrick, Margaret Harrington, Marie Rogerston, Pat McGrory, Patrick Taylor, Pauline White, Richard Hilsden, Sean Tansey, Sue Towers and Tricia Farrelly.

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