



OUR LADY OF THE CRAYS RC CHURCH, CRAY VALLEY
312 High Street, St Mary Cray, Kent BR5 4AR



Tel: 01689 821749 Email: crayvalley@rcaos.org.uk
Parish Priest Email: cyriacusokafor@rcaos.org.uk
Website: www.ourladyofthecrays.com

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.ourladyspreschool.net
Manager: Anne-Marie Glancy Tel: 07983 660589

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

SUNDAY 21ST APRIL 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep (John 10:11-12)

In the Parable of the Good Shepherd, Christ establishes the harmonious relationship that should exist between Him – the Good Shepherd, and we – the sheep. In this Parable, we notice that the Shepherd has the duty of loving, feeding and taking care of his sheep; while the sheep is expected to hear and recognize the voice of the True Shepherd, and obey him. The Good Shepherd is also the door of the sheep, through which one enters and finds pasture and salvation. Most importantly, the Good Shepherd is ever ready to protect the sheep in his care with his life, and will never allow any of them to perish.



Since no domesticated animal is as defenceless as a sheep, Christ reminds us today that we are utterly vulnerable to the many challenges of life; but that He is ever ready to protect and shield us as the Good Shepherd does. Jesus the Good Shepherd is the gate that leads to life; He is the way, the truth and the life (John 14:6), and no one can come to the Father except through him. Again, most of us have leadership positions in our families and various spheres of life. Christ equally expects us to be good shepherd, to put our life on the line in protecting the interests of those placed under our authority. May God continue to protect and guide us as we imitate him, the Good Shepherd.

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 4: 8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

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

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 117: 1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

Response: The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men;
it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. **R**

I will thank you for you have answered and you are my saviour.
The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.
This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. **R**

Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes.
We bless you from the house of the Lord;
You are my God, I thank you. My God, I praise you.
Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. **R**

Response: *The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone.*

Second Reading: A reading from the First Letter of John 3: 1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord; I know my own sheep and my own know me.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: A reading from the Gospel according to John 10: 11-18

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.

'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

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 IV of Easter** and say **Eucharistic Prayer III**

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

Second Collection This Weekend: There will be a second collection this weekend in aid of the Priests Training Fund (Ecclesiastical Education). This collection helps to meet the cost of training students for the priesthood and the permanent diaconate. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy. If you donate via Gift Aid envelopes, please use the green envelope marked 'Priests Training Fund'.

Second Collection Next Weekend: There will be a second collection next weekend in aid of the maintenance of St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. St. George's is the mother church of our diocese. This collection helps meet the cost of the upkeep of the cathedral.

Pilgrimage: This Monday (22nd), Fr. Cyriacus and a number of our parishioners will set off on their pilgrimage to Italy, returning on the 1st of May. Please keep them in your prayers as they travel. We are grateful to Fr. Leo for looking after the parish during this time.

Parish Office: Due to the pilgrimage, the Parish Office will be closed until the 3rd of May. All emails and queries will be dealt with on this date.

Choir Practice: There will be a choir practice in the church on Saturday the 27th of April at 2pm. Choir members are encouraged to attend. New members always welcome.

April Birthdays: This weekend, we celebrate all our parishioners who were born in the month of April with a special blessing at the end of each Mass. Please join us in the hall after Mass for birthday cake.

Cleaning Team: As always, we are very grateful to those who volunteer to clean our church. Team 2, who are responsible for cleaning on the second Saturday of each month, are looking for more members of their team. If you are able to commit a little of your time each month, please let the parish office know.

European Day: On Sunday the 14th of July, we will be holding our European Day. We encourage all members of the European Community to get involved in this occasion. There is a list in the porch for those who want to sign up. We will have a meeting nearer the time to consolidate plans.

Food Bank: Thank you to those who generously donate to the local foodbank via the box in the porch. Please note that we can only accept food donations and not medicines. If medicines are left, volunteers must find a way to dispose of them safely, which takes up more of their time.

200 Club: We are preparing to resume 200 Club draws very shortly, but there are still a number of existing members who have not renewed their membership. If you would like to renew your membership or to join the 200 club as a new member, please let the parish office know as soon as possible.

Gift Aid Envelopes: If you are a member of the Gift Aid scheme who normally donates via an envelope and have not yet collected your new box of envelopes, please pick them up from the porch.

Young Adult Events: St George's Cathedral hosts a monthly Young Adult Mass at 6pm on the first Sunday of every month, followed by a social gathering (for those aged 18+). There are also weekly events and socials on Thursday evenings. Details can be found on the RCAOS website, Facebook, and Instagram @stgeorgesya

Parishioners in Need: If you are aware of a parishioner who is in need of support in any way, please contact Fr. Cyriacus or the Parish Secretary. This also applies to those who wish to receive the Eucharist at home.

PARISH EVENTS 2024

22 nd April-1 st May	Parish Pilgrimage to Italy
Saturday 18 th May	Outreach Group Health Awareness Day
Sunday 19 th May	Parish Pentecost Celebration
Saturday 1 st June	First Holy Communion Mass
Sunday 2 nd June	Corpus Christi Procession
Saturday 15 th June	Confirmation Mass
Sunday 14 th July	European Day
Saturday 20 th July	Parish Away Day
Sunday 15 th September	Parish Day
4 th -6 th October	Family Sessions
Saturday 7 th December	Outreach Group - Breakfast With Santa
Sunday 15 th December	Parish Carol Service

Readings For The Week Ahead

	1st Reading	Psalms	2nd Reading	Gospel
22/04/24	Acts 11:1-18	Ps 41: 2-3,42:3-4		John 10:1-10
23/04/24	Apocalypse 12:10-12	Ps 125	Romans 8:31-39	John 15:18-21
24/04/24	Acts 12:24-13:5	Ps 66:2-3, 5-6,8		John 12:44-50
25/04/24	1 Peter 5:5-14	Ps 88:2-3, 6-7,16-17		Mark 16:15-20
26/04/24	Acts 13:26-33	Ps 2:6-11		John 14:1-6
27/04/24	Acts 13:44-52	Ps 97:1-4		John 14:7-14

LIVE STREAMING

Our 11am Sunday Mass is live-streamed and available on Youtube on the channel 'Crays Parish' or via this QR code.



CHURCH MINISTRIES		
	20th & 21st April	27th & 28th
READERS 6PM	D Fufeyin P Lobo	Chima L Winter
READERS 9AM	A Garber F Garber	A Joby M Francis
READERS 11AM	M Esong L Okafor	T Ezekulie P Ajayi
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 6PM	E North	
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9AM	K Wingfield	I Floyd
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 11AM	N Esong, R Anseline, E Williams	M Alademerin, H Anseline, N Adewale
CLEANING	Team 3 – Anne-Marie Glancy	Team 4 – Chris Meaney
LINEN	Titi Obende	Funmi Obende

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, Katherine Pope, Clara Soares, Jennifer Smith, all the Sick Clergy of the Diocese and the housebound of the Parish.



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE – APRIL: We remember in our prayers: Esther Obende, Vera Ekpiteta, Darren Phelps, Elizabeth Mary Cork, Christine Ann Robison, Frances Ellen Watson, Wilson Odibo, Anne Abbott, Geoffrey Plowman, Julie Beggan, Thomas O'Malley, Donato Iorio, Ayo Izugon, Patrick Francis Ryan, Margaret Christina Gardiner, Winifred Wingfield, Grace Aikhuele, Norman George Gibbs, Ian Park, Harry Beard, Charles Frederick Badger, James McNally, Eileen Mary Emmin, Thomas Gee, Janita Viliesid, Olisaeloka Abuah, Nell James, John Lawlor, Jerome Laurent, Ademola Adewale, Simeon Odoaba, Joyce Dewar and Ivan Muir-Clarke.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<p>Sunday: Apr 21: Fourth Sunday of Easter (B)</p> <p>6pm (Vigil Mass): Anthony Goes, RIP and Mary Brophy, SR</p> <p>9am Mass: Anthony Smith and Carmelina Desouza, RIP</p> <p>11am Mass: McEveney Family, GB and Debo Adewale, BT</p> <p><i>(11am Mass Livestreamed on YouTube)</i></p>	<p>Sat: Apr 27: Vigil of Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)</p> <p>5.15pm: Confessions</p> <p>6pm Mass: Bernadette Youngs, RIP</p>
<p>Mon: Apr 22: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome</p> <hr/> <p>Tues: Apr 23: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome</p> <hr/> <p>Wed: Apr 24: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome</p> <hr/> <p>Thu: Apr 25: St. Mark, Evangelist (Feast)</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am: Holy Souls</p> <hr/> <p>Fri: Apr 26: Feria</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: Apr 28: Fifth Sunday of Easter (B)</p> <p>9am Mass: Nana Banyin Arbuah, RIP</p> <p>11am Mass: Bridget Adepoju, 50th BT</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/@craysparish7800/streams>

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