



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



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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: 01689 872495/ Mob: 07983 660589

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

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL 2026
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' (John 20: 27)

The Easter joy continues this Sunday with the appearance of the resurrected Christ to His disciples who were gathered to celebrate their Sunday worship. Fortunately, Thomas who was yet to experience the risen Christ, was there this time around. This unique experience of seeing the risen Christ made him exclaim: "My Lord and my God" (John 20:28). Unlike Thomas, may we always believe in the power of the risen Christ, and as we continually worship the Lord every day of our lives, may we grow in intimacy with Him, and may the blessings of Easter overflow in our lives and families.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY: This Sunday is popularly known as the Divine Mercy Sunday. Between 1930 and 1938, Christ appeared to Sister Faustina, a Sister of Mercy in Poland who initiated the Divine Mercy devotion. She was canonized on April 30, 2000, the Sunday after Easter, the Feast of Divine Mercy. On Good Friday 1937, Jesus requested that Blessed Faustina make a special novena before the Feast of Mercy, from Good Friday through the following Saturday. Jesus also asked that a picture be painted according to the vision of Himself as the fountain of mercy. He gave her a chaplet to be recited and said that it was appropriate to pray the chaplet at three o'clock each afternoon (the Hour of Great Mercy). "The Lord Himself moves me to write prayers and hymns about His mercy..." St Faustina (Diary 1593).

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 2: 42-47

The believers devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the Apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they shared their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 118: 2-4, 13-15b, 22-24

Response: Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

Let the house of Israel say, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say, 'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the Lord say, 'His mercy endures for ever.' **R**

They pushed me, pushed me hard to knock me down, but the Lord was my helper.
The Lord is my strength and my song; he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and salvation in the tents of the righteous. **R**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.
By the Lord has this been done, a marvel in our eyes.
This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice in it and be glad. **R**

Second Reading: A reading from the First Letter of St. Peter 1: 3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.

Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: A reading from the Gospel according to John 20: 19-31

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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 I of Easter** and say **Eucharistic Prayer I**

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 by 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, FAITH NEWS & MISSION

Appreciation and Gratitude: I wish to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to you all for participating actively during the Holy Week and Easter celebrations. I especially appreciate the contributions of the choir & music group, floristry team, the IT team, Altar servers, Stewards, Sacristans, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers in ensuring that we had beautiful and solemn celebrations for Holy Week and Easter.

I am very grateful for your Easter cards, gifts, prayers and your generous Easter offerings. May God bless and keep you all as we continue our journey of faith in this Parish family. *Fr. Cyriacus*

Finance Meeting: There will be a meeting of the parish Finance Committee on Wednesday the 15th of April at 8pm after the evening Mass.

Pilgrimage Meeting: Those who have booked to join the parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje are invited to an information meeting on Wednesday the 22nd of April at 8pm, immediately following the evening Mass.

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

Mass in Celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage: If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th+ wedding anniversary this year, you are invited to renew your vows at a Mass in celebration of the Sacrament of Marriage on the 11th of July at St. George's Cathedral. Please contact mflse@rcaos.org.uk with your names (in the format John & Mary Smith), your home address, your parish and the anniversary you are celebrating. Spaces are limited. As the title of the email, please write your parish location e.g. Cray Valley.

Marathon: One of our parishioners, Pauline Kerali, is running the Brighton Marathon this weekend in aid of CAFOD. Please keep her in your prayers as she undertakes this challenge. If you would like to donate to her fundraising efforts you can find more details on the posters in the porch.

St. George's Chronicle: The Living Heritage: St. George's Cathedral's story has long faded from public awareness, its legacy overlooked. Yet a rich history is waiting to be rediscovered. With the launch of St. George's Chronicle: The Living Heritage, St. George's Cathedral takes a decisive step towards reclaiming that story. This quarterly flagship publication reflects both the depth of its historical foundations and the vitality of its forward-looking vision. Email cathedralenquiries@rcaos.org.uk to request a subscription.

St. George's Cathedral Guided Tours: As well as being a beautiful place of worship, St. George's Cathedral has a rich history. Enjoy this beautiful building and learn about its dramatic history with one of the Tour Guides. Home of the National Shrine of St. Oscar Romero and housing several important relics, St. George's is a vibrant intersection of worship and history. The cost is £5 per person. Please email cathedralbookings@rcaos.org.uk for details on how to book.

Building a Better Marriage – BABM: This is a one-day course for married couples to privately explore their relationship more deeply, gain valuable insights into communication, and better understand the call of the church to be married. Whether married for one year, 60 years, or anywhere in between or above, you are welcome. There is no group sharing and private information remains confidential to each couple. Booking is essential, please contact Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk. Dates available are as follows –

23 May – Wallington

13 June - Hythe

3 October - West Norwood

7 November - parish TBC

Southward Catholic Youth Service: The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has a number of upcoming events for youth and young adults. For regular updates on forthcoming events, sign up for its network at tinyurl.com/scysnetwork For queries on youth activities, email youth@rcaos.org.uk

Baptism: If you are a practicing parishioner and would like to have your child Baptised here, please contact Reverend Longinus on longinusanyanjo@rcaos.org.uk. The next Pathways to Baptism course takes place on the 21st and 28th of April.

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary meet each Sunday at 12.30pm in the altar server's room. All are welcome to join them.

St. Vincent de Paul Society: If there is anyone sick or housebound in the parish that would benefit from regular visits by the SVP, or if there are any families or individuals in need, please contact Gabriel Greenspan on 07958 369383. Confidentiality is assured in all cases.

New Parishioners: If you are new to the parish, you are very welcome. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Cyriacus on his return. If you would like to join our parish database, forms are available in the porch and can be returned to the Parish Office.

Readings For The Week Ahead:

	1st Reading	Psalm	Gospel
13/04/26	Acts 4:23-31	Ps 2:1-9	John 3:1-8
14/04/26	Acts 4:32-37	Ps 93:1-2,5	John 3:7-15
15/04/26	Acts 5:17-26	Ps 34:2-9	John 3:16-21
16/04/26	Acts 5:27-33	Ps 34:2,9,17-20	John 3:31-36
17/04/26	Acts 5:34-42	Ps 27:1,4,13-14	John 6:1-15
18/04/26	Acts 6:1-7	Ps 33:1-2,4-5,18-19	John 6:16-21

BANK DETAILS

For bank transfers to the Parish –
Account Name: RCAS Cray Valley
Account Number: 50533401
Sort Code: 60-16-03

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

LIVE STREAMING

This parish routinely livestreams the 11am Mass on Youtube between 10.30am and 12.30pm on Sundays. You may appear on camera **only** if you approach the altar without prior notice to the recording team during this time.

The camera is set to avoid capturing parishioners receiving Holy Communion.

If you have any concerns, please speak to the Priest or Communications Team.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND

Please continue to pray for: Alison Hannah, Helen Efemini, Sister Maureen Fay, Mary Mackay, Clara Soares, Jennifer Smith, Mary O’Lone, Eamon Murphy, Shelagh Murphy, File Marku, Douglas Lewis, Terry Wingfield, Salma Lamina, Titus Mwangangi, 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, Ivan Muir-Clarke and Jeanette Thompson.

CHURCH MINISTRIES

	11th & 12th April	18th & 19th April
READERS 6PM	G Winter Chima	V Martis A Dsouza
READERS 9AM	M Francis F Garber	C Meaney J Garber
READERS 11AM	W Chung T Onwudinjo	C Oliy M McEveney
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 6PM	S Fernando	N Omo-Idahosa
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9AM	T Wickenden M Abu	T Meaney K Wingfield
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 11AM	N Esong R Anseline	E Williams M Alademerin
CLEANING	Team 2 – Mary Quintavalle	Team 3 – Anne-Marie Glancy
LINEN	Ese Temeinor	Helen Coker

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<p>Sun: Apr. 12: Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)</p> <p>6pm (Sat. Vigil Mass): Noreen & George Inglis, RIP</p> <p>9am Mass: Jerome Laurent, RIP</p> <p>11am Mass: Shanika Weeraddana, TG for favours received.</p> <p>(11am Mass Livestreamed on Youtube)</p>	<p>Sat: April 18: Vigil of Third Sunday of Easter (A)</p> <p>6pm (Sat. Vigil Mass): Gerry Butler, RIP</p>
<p>Monday: April 13: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am: Connie Goes, RIP</p> <p>Tuesday: April 14: No Mass</p> <p>Wednesday: April 15: Feria</p> <p>6.45pm: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>7.30pm Mass: Anthony Nwabueze, RIP</p> <p>Thursday: April 16: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Antoinette Mendes, RIP</p> <p>Friday: April 17: Feria</p> <p>8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament</p> <p>9.30am Mass: Terry Wingfield, SR</p>	<p>Sun: Apr.19: Third Sunday of Easter (A)</p> <p>9am Mass: Pro Populo</p> <p>11am Mass: Wilson Odibo, 25th Year Death Anniversary and Forsythe Family, GB</p> <p>(11am Mass Livestreamed & available on YouTube)</p> <p>Note: 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>