



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



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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: 01689 872495/ Mob: 07983 660589

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

SUNDAY 21ST JUNE 2026
TWELFTH SUNDAY

'And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul... even the hairs on your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.' (Matthew 10:28, 30-31)

The Christian life is riddled with challenges and persecution, and in the midst of these realities, God continually reminds us not to be afraid for "every hair of your head has been counted" (Matthew 10:30). In the First reading, Prophet Jeremiah experienced a fair share of frustrations, rejection and persecution; but he was convinced that God was on his side. Thus, he retorted: "But God is at my side like a mighty hero; my persecutors will stumble, they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed..." (Jer.20:11). Similarly, in the Gospel, Christ tells us not to be afraid and to be assured of our value and uniqueness before God. He uses the analogy of the Sparrow to remind us of our worth before God: "As for you, every hair of your head has been counted; so, do not be afraid of anything. You are worth more than an entire flock of sparrows" (Matthew 10:30-31).

These words of Jesus are really consoling and reassuring, and give us the courage to continue to defend our Christian faith, especially our belief in the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Christ equally reminds us not to be afraid of the persecution and difficulties that will meet us in life, but to be confident that He will be with us in our greatest moment of need

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 Prophet Jeremiah 20: 10-13

Jeremiah said: I hear many whispering. Terror is on every side! 'Denounce him! Let us denounce him! say all my close friends, watching for my fall. 'Perhaps he will be deceived; then we can overcome him and take our revenge on him,' But the Lord is with me as a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble; they will not overcome me. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, who sees the heart and the mind, let me see your vengeance upon them, for to you have I committed my cause.

Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

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

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 69: 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

Response: In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.

It is for you that I suffer taunts, that shame has covered my face.

To my own kin I have become an outcast, a stranger to the children of my mother.
Zeal for your house consumes me, and taunts against you fall on me. **R**

But I pray to you, O Lord, at an acceptable time.
In your great mercy, answer me, O God, with your faithful salvation.
Lord, answer, for your mercy is kind;
in your great compassion, turn towards me. **R**

The poor when they see it will be glad, and God-seeking hearts will revive;
for the Lord attends to the needy, and does not spurn his own in their chains.
Let the heavens and the earth give him praise,
the seas and everything that moves in them. **R**

Second Reading: A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans
5: 12-15

Brothers and Sisters: Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned – for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law. Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgressions of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come. But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for many.

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

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord, and you also will bear witness.

Alleluia!

THE GOSPEL: A reading from the Gospel according to Matthew 9: 36-10: 8

At that time: Jesus instructed his Apostles: 'Have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both body and soul in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father knowing. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.'

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 II of Sundays in Ordinary Time** and say **Eucharistic Prayer III**

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)
what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.***

PARISH INFORMATION, FAITH NEWS & MISSION



Father's Day: Today we celebrate all the fathers, grandfathers and Godfathers in the parish and commend them to the special blessings of God. We wish you a very happy Father's Day.

Second Collection This Weekend: This weekend there will be a second collection in aid of the Day for Life. This is the day in the

Church's life dedicated to celebrating the sacredness of life. The proceeds from the Day for Life collection provide core funding to assist other life-related activities supported by the Church.

Second Collection Next Weekend: There will be a second collection next weekend in aid of Peter's Pence. By reason of the bond of unit and charity, the bishops of the Church, with their people, join together to produce these means which the Holy Father and the Apostolic See need to exercise works of mercy and charity and its service of the Universal Church. The faithful's offerings to the Holy Father are destined to church needs, humanitarian initiatives and social promotion projects, as well as to the support of the Holy See. The Pope, being pastor of the whole Church, is attentive to the material needs of poor dioceses, religious institutes and faithful in grave difficulties: the poor, children, the elderly, those marginalised and the victims of war and natural disasters. Concrete aid is thus made available to bishops or dioceses in need, to Catholic education, assistance, to refugees, and immigrants.

Confirmation: Next Saturday, nineteen of our young people will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation from Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for the South-East region of the Archdiocese. Please keep them in your prayers as they take this important step in their journey of faith.

Father Cyriacus' Farewell and Thanksgiving Mass: Ahead of his departure from the parish this summer, will be holding a Farewell and Thanksgiving Mass for Fr. Cyriacus on Friday the 17th of July at 7pm. This will be followed by a Bring and Share supper, where parishioners are invited to bring a plate of food to share with the parish family. There are *two* lists in the porch related to the Mass and supper – one for people to pledge their food/drink donations, the other for those who can help on the evening. Please add your details to the relevant list.

Choir Practice: In preparation for the Farewell and Thanksgiving Masses, choir practices will take place on the following dates – Sunday 5th July from 3-5pm and Thursday 16th July from 7pm. All choir members are encouraged to attend.

Message Book: If you would like to leave a personal message for Fr. Cyriacus to mark his time in the parish, there is a book in the porch which will be presented to him as a memento before he goes.

Afro-Caribbean Day: On Sunday the 12th of July we will be celebrating all members of the Afro-Caribbean community in our parish. If anyone would like to be involved in helping with this event, please add your details to the relevant list in the porch.

June Birthdays: On the weekend of the 27th & 28th of June we will be celebrating all our parishioners who were born in the month of June. If your name is not already on the list in the porch, please add it on.

Retreat: The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group UK are holding a weekend retreat and picnic in Dorset from the 14th-16th of August 2026. Please see the poster in the porch or speak to Reverend Longinus for more details.

Divine Mercy Novena: The Divine Mercy Novena will be said at 9am each Friday, before the morning Mass.

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.

Mass Offerings: If you would like to request a Mass in the parish, please take one of the brown envelopes available in the porch and fill in the details on the front. Once complete, you can include your offering and pass the envelope to Fr. Cyriacus or add it to the offertory bag. Please submit your requests in good time.

Legion of Mary: The Parish Legion of Mary group meet each Sunday at 12.30pm in the Altar Server's Room. All are welcome to join them.

Cray Young Adults Network: CYAN, the parish Young Adults group meets every second Sunday of the month in person and the last Friday of the month virtually. If you are aged between 18 and 30 and would like to be involved in this group, please email craysyoungadultsnetwork@gmail.com

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.

Legal Advice: Legal advice is available to Our Lady of the Crays parishioners. Please contact Pedro on 07888 691332.

Children's Sheets: The parish provides special sheets to help our younger parishioners understand the liturgy of the week. If your child is aged 9 or over, they should take a copy of the 'Icthus' sheet. If you have a younger child, they should take the 'Look' sheet.

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

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.

Readings For The Week Ahead:

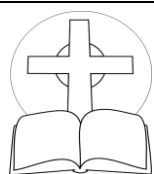
	1st Reading	Psalm	2nd Reading	Gospel
22/06/26	2 Maccabees 6:18,21,24-31	Ps 126:1-6		Matthew 24:4-13
23/06/26	2 Kings 19:9b- 11,14-21,31- 35a,36	Ps 48:2-4,10-11		Matthew 7:6,12- 14
24/06/26	Isaiah 49:1-6	Ps 139:1-3,13-15	Acts 13:22-26	Luke 1:57-66,80
25/06/26	2 Kings 24:8-17	Ps 79:1-5,8,9		Matthew 7:21-29
26/06/26	2 Kings 25:1-12	Ps 137:1-6		Matthew 8:1-14
27/06/26	Lamentations 2:2,10-14,18-19	Ps 74:1-7,20-21		Matthew 8:5-17

CHURCH MINISTRIES

	20th & 21st June	27th & 28th June
READERS 6PM	G Selvaraj P Lobo	D Fufeyin L Winter
READERS 9AM	T Wickenden M Francis	F Garber C Meaney
READERS 11AM	N Boateng A Ollie	P O'Halloran M Adepoju
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 6PM	S Fernando	N Omo-Idahosa
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 9AM	I Floyd K Wingfield	T Wickenden T Meaney
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS 11AM	E Williams M Alademmerin	H Anseline M McEveney
CLEANING	Team 3-Anne-Marie Glancy	Team 4 - Chris Meaney
LINEN	Theresa Akagbosu	Ann Kane

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, Julie Langford, Alzira Miranda, Stella Hawker, all the Sick Clergy of the Diocese and the housebound of the Parish.



BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE – NAMES FOR JUNE

We remember in our prayers: John Wait, Margaret Plowman, Brigid Colond, Jeanette O'Connor, Julius Okoye, Raymond Parry, Terrence Jarrold, Rolundo Manangan, John Butamanyan, Assunta Freeman, Sheila Edith Lewis, Maureen Gahan, Jim Delaney, Barbara Lynch, Alice Wright, Margaret McCulla, Mary Ashton, Margaret Jackson, Mary Dunleavy, Kathleen Fitzsimons, Dominic Egbukwu, Anne Marie Kearney, Mary-Theresa Lynch, Alice Darla, Gladys Okoye, Susanne Mubi, Paolo Fanucci, Olive Bagust, Gladys Wells, George O'Brien, Angela Spiteri, Thomas Elliott, Bernard Cobley, Gabriel Bello, Joyce Lee, Mary Southgate, Moses Shofowuru, Ann Joyce Lee, Mary O'Donnell, Louisa Lobo, John Cafferkey and Mary (Janet) Storer.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK

<p>Sun: June 21: The Twelfth Sunday (A) 6pm Mass (Sat. Vigil): Irene Williams, BT 9am Mass: Patrick Oligbo, BT and Theresa Yembra, BT 11am Mass: Paul Keogh, RIP <i>(11am Mass Livestreamed on YouTube)</i></p>	<p>Sat: June 27: Vigil of the Solemnity of Ss Peter and Paul (A) 5.15-5.45pm: Confessions 6pm Mass (Sat. Vigil): Jacky Jonson, BT</p>
<p>Mon: June 22: Ss. John Fisher, Bishop and Thomas More, Martyrs (Feast) 8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament 9.30am Mass: Tony Cronin, RIP (1st Death Anniversary)</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Tues: June 23: No Mass</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Wed: June 24: Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist 6.45pm: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament 7.30pm Mass: Carmen Ugaz De Guerra, RIP</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Thu: June 25: Feria 8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament 9.30am Mass: Holy Souls</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: 0;"/> <p>Fri: June 26: Feria 8.45am: Exposition of the Bl. Sacrament 9am: Divine Mercy Novena 9.30am Mass: Elizabeth Campbell, RIP</p>	<p>Sun: June 28: The Solemnity of Ss. Peter and Paul (A) 9am Mass: Kenneth Highland, RIP (1st Death Anniversary) 11am Mass: Tom Geraghty, RIP (3rd Death Anniversary) and Nicole & Skye Felix, BT</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>