



13 September 2026: 24th Sunday of the Year (A)
Extraordinary Form: 16th Sunday after Pentecost

Dear Parishioners,

This Monday, 14 September, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. At first sight, it is a curious thing to celebrate. The Cross was an instrument of suffering and death, and yet Christians place it at the centre of our churches and our homes, trace it upon ourselves in prayer, and even speak of its exaltation.

We do so because the Cross can never be separated from Christ. What was an instrument of death has become, through him, the sign of God's self-giving love and the means of our salvation: "We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, because by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world."

It is particularly fitting, then, that this week we begin our new Thursday evening series, Foundations of the Eucharist. The Eucharist cannot be understood apart from the Cross. At every Mass we are drawn into the mystery of Christ's self-offering — the sacrifice made once for all on Calvary and sacramentally made present among us.

Our first evening, on Thursday, 17 September, will explore the biblical foundations of the Eucharist. In the weeks that follow we will turn to the witness of the early Church, the Church's developing theological understanding of Christ's presence, and finally our participation in the Sacred Liturgy.

As with our previous evening series, we will gather in the Parish Hall, with time for fellowship from 6.40pm before beginning at 7.05pm. Whether you have attended one of our previous series or are joining us for the first time, you are very welcome.

These evenings will also help prepare us for our celebration of the Forty Hours Devotion, 23–25 October, when we will have the opportunity simply to remain with the Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament.

May the Cross we celebrate this week lead us more deeply into the mystery we celebrate at every Mass.

Yours in Christ

The Fathers of the Oratory

"Through his self-emptying on Golgotha, in the disgrace of the Cross and the crucifixion (at least in the human way of understanding these events) Christ receives the highest exaltation. In God's eyes, the Cross is the greatest triumph. The way of human judgement is very different from God's. God's judgement far surpasses ours. What seems to us to be failure is, in God's eyes, the victory of sacrificial love."

*Homily of St John Paul II on the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross,
Wednesday 14 September 1988*

SUBSCRIBE



Are you on our mailing list? Sign up on our website or via the parish office to receive a regular mailer with our full weekly online update.

Church Schedule: Saturday: Mass 8:30; Exposition & Confession from 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Vigil Mass 18:00 **Sunday:** Exposition at 17:00; Benediction at 17:40; Confession from 17:30; Mass 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 (EF) and 18:00 **Monday to Friday:** Mass 6:30, 8:30 daily. Rosary daily at 9:00. **Parish Office:** Open weekday mornings from 09:00 - 10:00. Kindly call or WhatsApp Ann on 073 247 1316 (09:00 - 12:00) to arrange appointments outside these hours. **Pastoral Care:** Call 073 247 1316 or 082 925 2549.

Readings: Daily Missal – 1256; Sunday Missal – 392

Psalm Response: The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Liturgical Week		Mass Intentions
Sat		18:00 Andrée Desterbecq RIP
Sun	24th Sunday of the Year	7:00 Pro Populo; 8:30 Barbara Harvey RIP (Illenberger family); 10:00 For those on our Pious List; 18:00 Ints of Petra Acho
Mon	Exaltation of the Holy Cross	6:30 For the Holy Souls in Purgatory, especially the most forsaken; 8:30 Colin Anderson RIP (His family)
Tue	Our Lady of Sorrows	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 For Mufaro Muserere
Wed	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 Fr Vales Dania RIP (Sheila Sullivan)
Thu	Feria / St Robert Bellarmine; St Hildegard of Bingen	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 For the conversion of poor sinners, especially those at the hour of death
Fri	Feria	6:30 Donor's Ints; 8:30 Claude West RIP (His family)
Sat	Feria / St Januarius; Mass of our Lady	8:30 Donor's Ints; 18:00 Alex & Gwen Pringle RIP (Clarke family)
Sun	25th Sunday of the Year	7:00 Ints of the friends & benefactors of the Oratory (The Oratory); 8:30 Cynthia Bertolani RIP (Her family); 10:00 Wilma McKay RIP (Shields family); 18:00 Pro Populo

Parish Announcements

Immaculata Chilando, daughter of Emmanuel & Sellah, was baptised on Sunday 6 September 2026.
Elizabeth Mphaliwa, daughter of Blessings & Florence, was baptised on Sunday 6 September 2026.

Parish Notices

Special Collection: The priests of the diocese are deeply grateful for the most generous contributions of the faithful to the Eastern Province Sick Priests Fund. The annual collection takes place next weekend (19/20 September). Please give your usual generous contributions to this collection as we have a lot of demands from this fund for our sick and aged Clergy. Private donations during this year to the fund are deeply appreciated as well.

Foundations of the Eucharist: Over four evenings, we will journey into the mystery at the heart of the Christian faith. All are welcome on Thursday evenings from 19:05 to 20:30, from 17 September. To register please use the Google form on the parish website, or mail peoratory@gmail.com.

Diocesan News

Dementia Support Group: The support group for family members of persons living with dementia will meet at Sacred Heart Parish on Monday 21 September at 10:00. All are welcome to attend. For details contact Kaye on 083 299 1842.

Mater Dei Market Day: Come and have fun on Saturday 26 September from 8:30 to 14:00 at Mater Dei Parish. Food stalls, games, tea garden, plants, stalls and many more. Lots of parking available. Fun for the whole family! Ticket booklets (R200 each) are available from Ann at the parish office.