



NEWSLETTER 13th September 2026

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH, SUTTON GREEN

Holy Family Presbytery, 9 The Green, Sutton, Surrey, SM1 1QT

Parish website: holyfamilysutton.org.uk | General Parish Email: suttongreen@rcaos.org.uk |

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Cycle A: The readings today speak with one voice: **because we have received God's mercy, we are called to become merciful people.** The Responsorial Psalm gives us the foundation: *"The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger and rich in compassion."* Sirach reminds us that if we seek God's forgiveness, we cannot cling to anger, resentment, or vengeance towards others. God's mercy is not simply something we receive; it is something that should transform the way we live and relate to one another. St Paul deepens this understanding when he reminds us: *"Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's."* Our lives therefore do not belong entirely to ourselves. Because we belong to Christ, our relationships, attitudes, and responses to others should increasingly reflect the mercy of the Lord. In the Gospel, Peter asks Jesus how often he must forgive someone who sins against him: *"As many as seven times?"* Jesus replies, *"Not seven times, but seventy-seven times."* Jesus is not asking us to keep a record of how often we forgive; rather, he teaches us that forgiveness cannot be reduced to calculation. Through the parable of the unforgiving servant, Jesus shows us the contradiction of receiving God's immense mercy while refusing to extend mercy to another. The servant has been forgiven an enormous debt, yet he refuses to forgive a much smaller debt owed to him. His failure is that he has **received mercy without allowing that mercy to transform his heart.** Forgiveness does not mean ignoring injustice or abandoning the need for accountability and justice. Rather, it means refusing to allow another person's wrongdoing to control our hearts through hatred or resentment. We can acknowledge our wounds, seek justice, and still choose the freedom of forgiveness. The challenge for us today is therefore not simply, *"Have I forgiven someone?"* but rather, **"Has God's mercy changed my heart?"** Every time we pray, *"Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us,"* we acknowledge both our need for mercy and our responsibility to extend that mercy to others. At the Eucharist, we come before God as recipients of his mercy, and we are then sent into the world to become instruments of that mercy. Perhaps we might ask ourselves today: **Who is the person I need to forgive? Where have I received God's mercy but failed to extend it to another?** The Christian life is not about counting how many times we have forgiven; it is about becoming more like the God who has forgiven us. **God is merciful; we belong to him; therefore, we are called to become merciful.**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING 13TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Day	Time	Liturgical Celebration	Intention
Sat 12 th	9:30 am 6:00 pm	The Most Holy Name of Mary. Confessions after 9:30 am Mass. Vigil of Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Paulo Silva Carmal Olive Lichtblau
Sun 13 th	9:30 am 11:00 am	Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – St John Chrysostom	Tony Kennedy People of the Parish
Mon 14 th	9:30 am	The Exaltation of The Holy Cross	Christopher Thevakulendran
Tue 15 th	9:30 am	Our Lady of Sorrows	Edgar DeSa RIP
Wed 16 th	9:30 am	Saints Cornelius and Cyprian	Carl & Jane Williams
Thur 17 th	9:30 am	St Robert Ballernine & St Hildegard of Bingen	Holy Souls
Fri 18 th	9:30 am	St Edith of Kemsing	Alice Leonie
Sat 19 th	9:30 am 6:00 pm	Our Lady. Confessions after 9:30 am Mass. Vigil of the Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Arta Kola & Zoraida Linarez People of the Parish

...Excerpt from Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* ("Magnificent Humanity"), No. 12. Secondly, building for the common good means accepting the limits and weakness of humanity without considering them an error to be corrected. Today, the human desire for fullness of life is at risk of being misled by deceitful goals, such as the prospect of a technology that promises to free us from all weakness, and models of wellbeing that leave behind entire populations. All too often, we place our hope in unlimited "upgrades," in forms of progress that exacerbate inequalities, and in immediate solutions incapable of healing people's wounds. As a result, while some pursue the illusion of unlimited self-assertion, many are deprived of basic necessities. The Church reminds us, with a firm yet humble voice, that true fulfilment is not achieved by eliminating weakness but through harmonious growth. It is found where freedom and responsibility are intertwined with mutual care and true solidarity, and where progress is measured by the dignity of each person and the good of all peoples.

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for September: For the care of Water. For a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have access to it.

PARISH INFO: New Parishioners - Welcome to Holy Family Parish!
Parish Office Hours This Week: Tuesday & Thursday 10 am – 1 pm

PARISH LEDGER: Thank you for your faithful and generous support of our parish. Your contributions enable us to sustain our mission and continue serving both our parish community and the wider neighbourhood. If you have not yet done so, please consider supporting the parish through a Standing Order, which provides a reliable source of income and helps us plan responsibly throughout the year. For your convenience, online giving is now available, so there is no longer any need to write cheques. Last weekend's offertory: Plate £504.65; Contactless £368.50. Standing Orders £615.00. Hong Kong Mass £184.72. *Ira, Gift Aid Organiser & Bookkeeper* (suttongreengac@rcaos.org.uk). Donations to the Building Fund can be made using the contactless giving machine at the back of the church. Every gift, however large or small, helps us move these important projects forward and is sincerely appreciated. Thank you once again for your generosity and continued commitment to the life and mission of our parish. May God bless you and your families.

Dates for Your Diary: (1) Today: International Meal with a Difference. Sunday, 13 September | After the 11:00 am Mass. Food, culture, friendship, and fellowship as we celebrate the diversity of our parish family. All are most welcome! Raffle: £1 per ticket or £5 per strip, with wonderful prizes, including a special hamper.

(2) Fr Patrick's Presentation: Date to be confirmed. A parish gathering to give thanks to Fr Patrick and offer our prayers and good wishes. Further details will follow.

First Holy Communion Preparation – Parents and guardians of children in Year 3 are warmly invited to register their children for preparation for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2026. PLEASE REGISTER YOUR CHILD NOW.** Registration forms are available at the back of the church or on the parish website. Complete the form and bring it to the first meeting on Sunday, 27 September 2026, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass in the church. The preparation programme will begin on Sunday, 11 October 2026. The celebration of First Holy Communion is scheduled for June 2027. We warmly encourage all parents and guardians to register promptly and to take an active part in supporting their children throughout this important journey of preparation and faith formation.

A Gentle Reminder About the Kneelers: Several parishioners have kindly brought to our attention that the kneelers can sometimes make considerable noise when being lowered or raised. We therefore ask everyone, where possible, to adjust the kneelers gently and quietly, particularly during the celebration of Holy Mass, so that we may preserve a prayerful and reverent atmosphere for all.

Parish Surgery: Fr Michael will be available without prior appointment every Monday from 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm for parishioners who wish to: have school forms signed; discuss the reception of the Sacraments; raise any pastoral or personal matter or seek pastoral guidance. All parishioners are warmly welcome to come along during these hours.

RCIA & Synodality at Holy Family Parish. **RCIA – 6.00–7.00 pm:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults meets on the second Thursday of each month. These sessions are for those who wish to explore the Catholic faith, deepen their relationship with Christ and His Church, prepare for the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, or discern a journey towards full communion with the Catholic Church. All who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith are warmly welcome. **Synodality – 7.00–8.00 pm:** This session invites parishioners to reflect together on communion, participation and mission, and on how we can listen to one another and contribute more fully to the life and mission of the Church. All parishioners are warmly invited to take part. May the Holy Spirit guide and enlighten us, leading us ever more deeply into communion with Christ and His Church.

Education Sunday: This weekend we celebrate Education Sunday, when we pray for all involved in Catholic education and give thanks for the work of our schools and universities. We ask the Lord to bless all who support the education and faith formation of our young people. We also pray for the Catholic Education Service (CES), which supports Catholic education and works on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference. There will be a Second Collection this weekend to support the work of the CES, including financial assistance for schools undertaking Catholic education projects. Thank you for your prayers and generosity.

HUMOUR: Forgiveness is wonderful...especially when you're the one who needs it! Forgiving others? That's the hard part! 🙏😊

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