

# Holy Cross Catholic Church

## Newsletter



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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Andrew Arhin ofm

May 2021

Year 26 – No. 5

### SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES (For Sunday)

- 4:00 pm Polish: *Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month*
- 4:00 pm Spanish: *Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month*
- 4:00 pm English (Children/Families)
- 6:30 pm English

### SUNDAY MASSES

- 8:00 am English
- 9:30 am Greek
- 10:30 am English
- 12:00 nn French: *Every 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month*
- 12:00 nn Tagalog: *Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month*
- 12:00 nn Indian: *Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month*
- 12:00 nn Sinhala: *Every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month*
- 6:30 pm English

### WEEKDAY MASSES

- 7:30 am Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday - English
- 7:30 am Tuesday - Greek  
*St. Anthony Devotion*
- 6:30 pm Every day - English

### MASSES IN NORTH CYPRUS

- 12:00 nn St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Kyrenia - *Every Sunday* - English
- 7:00 pm Famagusta - *Every Sunday* - English

Happy Easter to all my Catholic faithful.

Easter wishes for family and friends. Easter is a herald of spring. This joyful holiday mixes a Christian holiday with traditional celebrations. This holy occasion is about sending wishes and messages, watching the parade in Easter, hunting Easter eggs, and eating food.

Easter spread love, spirit, and hope among us. Let's celebrate the positive vibes and divide Easter's joy to everyone through Easter wishes for family and friends.

In this Easter season, let your family, friends, and loved ones know your love and share happiness with them by sending special Easter wishes for family and friends.

Fr. Andrew Arhin ofm  
Parish Priest



Christ  
is  
Risen!

Alleluia

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of May 2021  
**The World Of Finance**



Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

*It is truly right that with full hearts and minds and voices*

**Saturday 1 May**  
**St. Joseph the Worker**



**Thursday 13 May**  
**Our Lady of Fatima**



**Friday 14 May**  
**St. Matthias, Apostle**



**Monday 31 May**  
**Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary**



## ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Joseph is a figure in the canonical gospels who was married to Mary, mother of Jesus, and was the legal father of Jesus. The Gospels name brothers of Jesus; the Gospel of James, an apocryphal work of the late 2nd century, theorized these as the sons of Joseph from an earlier marriage. This position is still held in the Orthodox churches, but the Western church holds to Jerome's argument that both Joseph and Mary must have been lifelong virgins and that the "brothers" must have been his cousins. Perspectives on Joseph as a historical figure are distinguished from a theological reading of the Gospel texts.

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children at Fatima in Portugal on the thirteenth day of the month for six consecutive months in 1917. She brought a message of peace, repentance and reparation for sin, encouraging devotion to her Immaculate Heart and the recitation of the Holy Rosary.

The Fatima Prayer: *O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, and lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Your Mercy.*

## SAINT MATTHIAS

St. Matthias was chosen by lot to take the place of Judas Iscariot among the Twelve (*Acts 1:15-26*). He was present at the first Pentecost and, according to various traditions, went on to preach in Judea, Cappadocia and Ethiopia. He was martyred by means of the axe or halberd with which he is often depicted in art.

## VISITATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The Visitation is the visit of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who was pregnant with Jesus, to St. Elizabeth, who was pregnant with John the Baptist, as recorded in the Gospel of Luke, Luke 1:39-56. It is also the name of the feast day commemorating this visit, celebrated on 31 May in Western Christianity .

### Readings for Sunday Masses

02/05	09/05	16/05	23/05	30/05
<b>Easter Sunday</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Easter</b>
Acts 10:34 37-43	Acts 4:32-35	Acts 3:13-15 17-19	Acts 4:8-12	Acts 9:26-31
Ps 118:1-2 6-17 22-23	Ps 118:2-4 13-15 22-24	Ps 4:2 4 7-9	Ps 118:1 8-9 21-23 26 28 29	Ps 22:26-28 30-32
Col 3:1-4 or 1Cor5:6-8	1Jn 5:1-6	1Jn 2:1-5	1Jn 3:1-2	1Jn 3:18-24
Jn 20:1-9 or Mk 16:1-7	Jn 20:19-31	Lk 24:35-48	Jn 10:11-18	Jn 15:1-8

*Let us should praise the unseen God, the all powerful Father, and his only Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.*

# PARISH NEWS

APOSTOLIC LETTER

**PATRIS CORDE OF THE HOLY FATHER FRANCIS**

ON THE 150<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF SAINT JOSEPH AS PATRON OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

Now, one hundred and fifty years after his proclamation as *Patron of the Catholic Church* by Blessed **Pius IX** (8 December 1870), I would like to share some personal reflections on this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience. For, as Jesus says, “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” (*Mt* 12:34). My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how “our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history. Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers, cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working to provide essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so very many others. They understood that no one is saved alone... How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all”.<sup>[6]</sup> Each of us can discover in Joseph – the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence – an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.

## 1. *A beloved father*

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, “at the service of the entire plan of salvation”.<sup>[7]</sup>

**Saint Paul VI** pointed out that Joseph concretely expressed his fatherhood “by making his life a sacrificial service to the mystery of the incarnation and its redemptive purpose. He employed his legal authority over the Holy Family to devote himself completely to them in his life and work. He turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home”.<sup>[8]</sup>

To be continued

## Holy Cross Parish Council News & Messages

XPICTOC ANECTH! CHRIST IS RISEN! TRULY RISEN!

This year we all had a totally different experience again, for the Lenten season, Holy Week and the celebrations of the Passover of the Lord, the Easter Triduum. We could not come together as we used to, and were hoping at the Parish Council, at the liturgical celebrations in our church without restrictive measures, we could not have the Lenten Pilgrimage, the Movie Nights, the Good Friday Way of the Cross Drama, the Pascal Vigil at the Holy Cross as we have been accustomed for so long, to celebrate freely our greatest feast in our church, overflowing with all the faithful.

Nevertheless, as every time, the paramount call we have as Christians remains exactly the same: to live the faith, to trust in the Lord always, even more strongly at this time of the pandemic, to experience the Paschal Mystery, beyond our reason, unconditionally and without limits to trust God with all our being - like Jesus Christ on the cross, crying out in prayer in this crisis and all in the crises in our lives, trusting God beyond the fears, with hope, announcing that we do not need to be afraid, because we are not alone, the Risen Lord is with us! With this faith, we can thank the Lord more at this time, for His call for us during the coronavirus crisis too, which pushed us to reconsider many things in this world to bring us closer and deeper in the faith in many ways, calling us to turn to God more strongly. This crisis will certainly pass also, as many others in the history of the world and we will come together again without restrictions, only stronger than before, at the Parish Council also, appreciating more, so many things we took for granted for so long, all the graces and the innumerable gifts the Lord is giving us, grateful for His protection in our lives.

Some more good news at this time is that the Holy Cross website which suffered a serious server crash and a major loss of data due to hacking has been recovered and is working again - at [www.holy-cross-nicosia.com](http://www.holy-cross-nicosia.com) - although it still needs to be fully restored. So now, on our website are posted the monthly Holy Cross Newsletter, the link of the YouTube Channel of our Parish which transmits live the liturgies from the Holy Cross, as well as a specific reference to the Life of a Saint each month (instead of the Movie Nights which we cannot have at present), with an appropriate video, as well as other news and articles, to inspire us in the faith, the hope and the love we are called to live as Christians.

May the light of the resurrection be our guide, consolation and strength every moment of everyday, in all the issues we face, today and throughout our lives. We pray for you and wish you once more, abundant blessings from the Risen Lord for our Parish, our priests and religious, our families and children and every parishioner - we also pray for the work of the Parish Council too! We pray that the Risen Lord may fill you with His Holy Spirit, every day, with His power, His Light and His mercy! Pray for us too! XPICTOC ANECTH once more!

Akis Hjiiossif (Chairman of the Parish Council - email: [holecrossparishcouncil@yahoo.com](mailto:holecrossparishcouncil@yahoo.com))

*For Christ has ransomed us with his blood,*

## MORE NEWS



**Χριστός ανέστη!»**

My beloved sisters and brothers.

Let Easter bring new life to all of us despite whatever tragedy we may face in the world or in our own personal situations. Let this Easter celebration break open our tombs of fear, sin, worries, difficulties, problems, and fill us with Hope – with life. Let Christ rise in YOU TODAY.

«Καλό Πάσχα, Χριστός ανέστη!»

*Fr. Jerzy Kraj OFM*

Happy Easter, Everybody! This has been a difficult year for all of us, but each of us knows and feels how bad it was for Jesus during His last months on earth. Our faith will get us through this pandemic and with the help of one another, it will even become a stronger faith. Community is Family and our fidelity to the call of the Risen Lord Jesus gives power to each of us to move forward toward our common goal as brothers and sisters in His Family.

I'll see you on May 10<sup>th</sup> as we pick up our common prayers and fellowship together. We are one in the Spirit of the Risen Lord! Love you all.

*Fr. DanieleMose Schroder OFM*

In the First Letter of St Peter chapter 1, we read how newly baptized believers in Jesus discover a joy in their hearts which words cannot express: "Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

I remember the first time that I experienced that joy – about 40 years ago. This is Christian hope, and it does not depend upon news reports from around the world today. There is another world, a better place, where Jesus is the King, and we have been made citizens of that Country. May our hearts long for that Country, and receive patience and strength to learn to be good citizens, both of there and of here. And may we be given grace to persevere until the time known by God when we will be able at last to go to our true Home, the source of that joy which has already begun to be felt deep in our heart of hearts.

May God bless us all!

*Fr. Peter Ashton OFM*

*"He is not here, He has risen".*

My Sisters and Brothers after His burial the tomb did not hold the glorious body of Jesus. That is why the angel announced to Mary Magdalene and to other women that Jesus is not there, He has risen as he promised.

The empty tomb and the stone rolled away is a sign of hope for all of us that after so many hardships in this life we will together with the risen Lord overcome our imperfections, sufferings, trials and even this pandemic.

With the risen Lord and our faith in the resurrection the tomb and the stone cannot hold us inside our traumas but strengthen us with God's power to go beyond our struggles.

Amid the many hardships we are enduring, let us never forget that we have been healed by the wounds of Christ. In the light of the risen Lord, our sufferings are now transfigured. Where there was death, now there is life. Where there was mourning, now there is constellation. In embracing the cross, Jesus bestowed meaning on our sufferings and now we pray that the benefits of that healing will spread throughout the world.

Happy, Holy and serene Easter. Καλό Πάσχα, Χριστός Ανέστη !

*Fr. Zacheusz M. Dulniok, OFM*

*You can receive the Parish  
Newsletter electronically.*

*Send Email to Berna  
bernadette@cytanet.com.cy*

### **Notices, Contributions, etc. for Parish Newsletter**

Please send your notices and other contributions for the next newsletter to Berna (bernadette@cytanet.com.cy) and/or to the Parish priest (holcross@cytanet.com.cy), or leave them in an envelope in the Church Library.

**Deadline for submissions: 24 May 2021**

### **NO COFFEE MORNING**

**IN THE LIBRARY**

**ATTENTION!!!**

**DURING THE TIME OF THE  
PANDEMIC MORNING COFFEE IS  
SUSPENDED!!!**

*and paid for us the price of Adam's sin to our eternal Father!* [Exsultet—Easter Proclamation]