### Parish Priest. Fr. Neil Vincent

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Reflection by Fr Ky—"If anyone comes to me without

children, his brothers and sisters, indeed his very

self, he cannot be my follower,".

Did Jesus really mean that we should hate our families in order to follow Him? Not really. Rather he used poetic expression to emphasize the kind of dedication He expected from His followers. In other words, He meant that God must come first no matter what. God is above anyone else. We must love God more than others, even more than our parents, family, brothers and sisters. This is a very serious matter. If we meet a conflict between our loved ones and Christ, what should be our priority, our family or God?

God is not in competition with our family, parents, brothers and sisters for our love. He states very clearly, however, that God comes first in our lives, nobody and nothing that become His rival. Giving God the first place, on the other hand, assures us that we practice true love to all people and give each person his rightful place. Jesus has often taught that our love for neighbour is the real test of our love for God. It is mainly in our caring and serving attitude to our neighbour that we cooperate with God's plan. If we disregard this to please people, it will be a very questionable kind of love we express. Our love for people can never be an excuse to surrender our love for God. I wish you a blessed week Fr. Ky.

### *†††*

Faith, Freedom & Politics — Christians & Public Life— Keynote addresses and topical workshops at the Emmanuel Centre, Westminster on Saturday 20th September—see post**er in the porch** for further information.

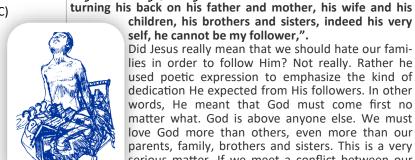
Annual Diocesan Day for Catechists - Saturday 20 September – Registration now open! You are invited to join us for a day filled with teachings and prayer and a chance to meet fellow Catechists. Join us at St George's Cathedral, SE1 6HU from 10am. Registration and choice of workshops can be found at aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025 See poster in porch

### **†††**

**Bereavement Ministry Training** The next Bereavement Ministry Training Course will take place in Aylesford Priory on Saturday 27 September from 9am to 5pm. Donation of £50 per person. Candidates need to bring their own lunch and their parish priest is to agree their application for the course. Please contact Barbara Salamonczyk for a booking form on: mflbereavement@rcaos.org.uk

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2025 - 21st – 25th October- Cost £399: A pilgrimage trip with a number of places left. Costs include return flights from Stansted half board accommodation, transfer from/to Lourdes £70 single supplement. Children under 16 go for £199. For more details contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, <a href="mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk">dartford@rcaos.org.uk</a>, Tel: 01322 220075. Fr. Heny Mukasa will also be leading the pilgrimage. See poster in the porch.

> The Church is open every day for prayer from 8:30am to 8.00pm.



## Mass Intentions

Sunday 7th September - TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (C)

9.00am Holy Mass—Linda Lyons—Wellbeing

Readers: Kayla and Millie 10.30am - 10.45am Confessions

11.00am Holy Mass

Readers: Ekeoma and Akuchi 5:30pm - 5:50pm - Confessions

6.00pm Holy Mass - People of the Parish Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament after all Masses

Monday 8th September - Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9.00am Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament

9.30am Holy Mass

### Tuesday 9th September - Feria

**9.00am** Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament 9.30am Holy Mass

Followed by refreshments in the Presbytery for the Faith Group

Wednesday 10th September - Feria

**10.00am** Holy Mass—Funeral Mass—Margaret Mary Warren

Thursday 11th September - Feria **NO MASS** 

### Friday 12th September - Feria

11.30am Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament 12.00 Noon Holy Mass—Maria Rosa Passarella—Wellbeing Followed by lunch in the Parish Hall

Saturday 13th September - St. John Chrysostom

**9.30am** Adoration of the Lord Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am Holy Mass-

# Sunday 14th September - EXHALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

(C) 9.00am Holy Mass—Shirley Jago RIP Readers: Simon and Veronica 10.30am - 10.45am Confessions

11.00am Holy Mass

Readers: Jeremy and John K **5:30pm - 5:50pm -** Confessions

6.00pm Holy Mass - People of the Parish

Second Collection—Catholic Education Service

Please DO NOT disturb the Priest before Mass. If you would like items blessed or need to speak to the Priest please do so when Mass is finished.

Fr. Neil will be on holiday for the month of September.

Collections: 31stAugust 2025 GA Envelopes: £100.00, Loose: £309.56 **DCP:** GA £411.43, Loose £9.84, D/D: £239.18

Total weekly income: £1070.01

Catholic Education Service—We negotiate with the UK and Welsh Governments and other national bodies in order to safeguard and promote Catholic education. We also offer a Catholic contribution to English and Welsh educational debates, seeking to ensure the principles of Catholic teaching are reflected in all aspects of national education policy.



