



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University

Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

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Parish Office -(Mon. - Fri. 9.00am - 4.00pm)

St. Raphael's Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 - 2NA

Church Manager Tel 020 8541 - 4999

Email surbiton@rcaos.org.uk Web. www.straphaelsurbiton.org.uk

Sunday 19th July 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am The Holy Souls

5.00pm Mary Frank RIP

Monday 20 th July	Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am	Denis Curtin RIP
Tuesday 21 st July	St. Lawrence of Brindisi
10.00am	The Holy Souls
Wednesday 22 nd July	St. Mary Magdalene
12.noon	Tyrone Freeman
Thursday 23 rd July	St. Bridget
10.00am	Peter Fox RIP
Friday 24 th July	Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am	Michael Lucey RIP
Saturday 25 th July	St. James
	NO MASS TODAY

Sunday 26th July 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Bernard Barlow

11.30am Babu RIP

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

Please note for the present

- There will be no Sunday or Thursday exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
- To avoid handing out booklets, Mass on Thursday will be celebrated in English.

CHURCH OPEN FOR MASS

Supervision and Sanitising will need to remain in place as at present with opening for private prayer. Social distancing will be **2 metres**.

Extra Masses are not permitted at the moment on Sundays and numbers will need to be restricted by Stewards. We have a total of 40 individual places available in the Church, hall and Private pew. (This can be increased with households sitting together.) Mass will be streamed into the Hall.

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass is removed at this time and if possible please come to a weekday or Saturday Mass instead of a Sunday Mass.

- Everyone attending Mass must give their names and telephone number to the stewards on arrival. (These will be kept for 21 days as part of the government's 'Track and Trace' system).
- Everyone must Sanitise their hands on arrival and follow the instructions of the Stewards, who will show them to a seat.
- Seating will be allocated strictly on a 'first come first served basis'. Please note the stewards act in Fr. Michael's name and with his authority.
- Once all the allocated seats in the church and hall are filled, **there will be no further access to the church.**
- Holy Communion must be received in the hand.
- There will be no choir or singing (but a Cantor is permitted.)
- Readers must wear gloves or sanitise their hands before and after reading (gel will be available by the pulpit.)
- **There will an opportunity to give to the parish through a static collection box or as you leave stewards will be holding open buckets.**
- The toilets and kitchen are out of use to all.
- There are no votive candles available to light at present.
- At the end of Mass everyone must remain seated until asked to leave by the stewards – at this point please leave the building promptly, and please make sure you Sanitise your hands before leaving

Fr Michael

Please do not visit the Church - if you have a high temperature or a new continuous cough or a loss of or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell.



DEACON PETER'S ORDINATION TO THE SACRED PRIESTHOOD

Deacon Peter will be ordained to the Priesthood by His Grace Archbishop John Wilson next Saturday in St. Georges Cathedral. Sadly, because of the current situation numbers are strictly limited and by invitation only. Therefore, the event is not open to the public / parish.

Of course, this is not how Deacon Peter or the parish would have liked it – we would have had a beautiful Mass in a packed Cathedral and a huge parish celebration the following day. However, when things get back to normal we will invite Fr. Peter – as he then will be, back to St. Raphael's for a special Mass and a parish celebration. Please remember Peter in your prayers not only on the 25th July but in these days leading up to his ordination.

Confessions - Confessions can be heard on request but will normally take place in the church grounds.

Marriages, Baptisms and Funerals – Please email Fr. Michael for details michaellovell@rcaos.org.uk

The Parish Office – Please note, Michael our Parish Manager is furloughed until further notice and the Parish Office is closed. Please email any inquiries to surbiton@rcaos.org.uk and someone will respond in due course. (For any urgent matters, please telephone Fr. Michael on 0208 541 4999).

Mass Intentions – We now have many spare slots available for Mass Intentions both on Sundays and weekdays. If you would like to book a Mass for an intention please either take one of the envelopes from the back of the church and return it through the letterbox of the Parish Office or email the Parish Office (Payment can be made on line). The suggested amount for a Mass, as advised by the Archdiocese, is £10.00

Offertory Collection - Please be as generous as you can with the offertory collection. The parish has had no income for three months and bills still need to be paid.

For the present, after all Masses – Sundays and Weekdays - the stewards will be holding buckets at the end of Mass as people leave. There is also an iron collection box at the back of the church – Thank you for your generosity.

The easiest way to help the church is to set up a standing order to the Parish Bank account. (Forms are available to email from the Parish Office) or can be downloaded from the Parish Website

<https://straphaelsurbiton.org.uk/support-us/gift-aid-scheme/>

Today's Gospel is Christ's answer to the question so frequently asked: "Why does God permit evil to triumph so often in this world, why are the wicked allowed to prosper?" The triumph of the wicked is short-lived, the reward of the Christian who suffers from their wickedness is everlasting. The very wickedness and injustices of evil-doers are one of the ways that God uses to perfect his elect. It is only on a battlefield that a true soldier can be proved.

In the parable, the weed does not destroy the wheat - It only makes it more difficult for the wheat to grow to maturity. So it is with the Christian - no one can take his faith from him however, living up to it is made more difficult by the evil influence and bad example of sinners. If some succumb to this evil influence and give up the practice of their faith, the fault is theirs. God forces no man to serve him.

The patience of the farmer in letting the weed grow on until harvest time, exemplifies the infinite mercy of God toward sinners. The weed could not change its nature, but the sinner can change his ways and God gives him every chance and every help to do this, up to his last moment of life. No sinner will be excluded from heaven because of the sins he committed but because he did not repent of these sins while he had the opportunity.

We must learn a double lesson of patience from this parable. First, to be patient with those who make our spiritual progress more difficult for us—they are actually helping us to be better Christians if we bear with patience the injuries they inflict on us. Second, we must try to imitate the patience God shows in his dealings with sinners. While we must not approve of their evil deeds, or their sins, we must still look on them as our brothers and do all in our power to put them back on the right road to heaven. We can do this by good example and by fervent prayer for their conversion. This is not easy for human nature - but we can be certain that God will give us the necessary grace and strength to subdue our natural weakness and aversion - if we try to act with charity and true brotherly interest toward our erring fellowmen.

By acting thus, we will not only be helping a weak brother on the rugged road to heaven, we will also be making doubly sure of our own arrival there - for God will never be outdone in generosity.