



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University

Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

Tel 020 8616 9583 michaellovell@rcaos.org.uk

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 9th August 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Stan Conley RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Chris Mooney RIP

Monday 10 th August	St. Lawrence
10.00am	The deceased members of the Woolliscroft & Roberts families
Tuesday 11 th August	St. Clare
10.00am	David & Ethel Larkin RIP
Wednesday 12 th August	St. Jane Frances de Chantal
12.noon	Conor Hanley RIP
Thursday 13 th August	Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am	Mary Keenan
Friday 14 th August	St. Maximilian Kolbe
10.00am	Wendy Savoy
Saturday 15 th August	Our Lady
10.00am	Olga Delgado de Villena RIP

Sunday 16th August 19th The Assumption of Our Lady

9.30am Antonio de Menezes and the deceased members of the de Menezes and Adamsom families

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Angela Woolliscroft RIP

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

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT FACE MASKS MUST BE WORN WHEN IN THE CHURCH

Supervision and Sanitising will need to remain in place 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.

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

Fr Michael

FR. PETER SEBASTIAN

Congratulations to Fr. Peter who was recently ordained priest. Unfortunately, it is not possible at present to have a proper celebration for Fr. Peter in the Parish however, once this pandemic is over we will invite him back to the Parish for a Mass and a party. When this happens we would like to present a set of Marian Mass Vestments to him. If you would like to contribute towards the cost of these, please place your offering in an envelope with "Fr. Peter's presentation" written on it. These can be put in the collection buckets after Mass, or be handed in to the Sacristy or Parish Office. In addition you can make a donation online directly to our bank account - A/C Name St Raphael's Catholic Church A/C number 36110469 Sort Code 60-50-01

NatWest, Croydon, Whitgift Centre Branch. Please mark the payment 'Fr. Peter's presentation.'

From now until the end of August, Fr. Peter will remain in the Parish helping out with Masses before taking up his appointment as assistant priest at the Parish of St. Mary's, West Croydon. Whilst he is still with us he will be happy to give "First Blessings" on request.

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 that for the time being the Parish Office is only open two days a week – usually Mondays and Thursdays. 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/>

Of your Charity, please pray for the Repose of the Soul of **George Hayes** who died recently. May He Rest in Peace

In today's Gospel we here how Our Lord sent His disciples to row across the lake, knowing that they would meet strong, gale-force head-winds and be in danger. He did this because He wanted to strengthen their faith and trust in Himself. He intended to come to them at the right moment, working two miracles — walking on the water and calming the storm. This He did and the result was as He had intended — their faith in Him was strengthened, they declared He was the Messiah, the Chosen of God. Peter, already the recognized leader and always the most daring among them, showed himself ready to risk drowning in order to prove his trust and confidence in Christ. While he trusted in Christ, all went well, but when his faith weakened he would have been lost were it not for the outstretched helping hand of his master. This was also a very necessary lesson in the education of Peter and his companions.

For us, this shows that we must continue to trust in Christ and his loving Father, even when God seems to have deserted us. Most of the troubles and trials of our lives are caused either by the injustice and lack of charity of our fellowmen or our own defects, sins or weakness. God foresees all these and can prevent them – however he lets them take their course, because they can and should be the means of educating us in our knowledge of life's true meaning and they should draw us closer to him.

Christ foresaw the storm and the risk His Apostles would run when He sent them off across the lake. That trial and the grave danger taught them to realize that He was from God and they could always trust Him. Our trials and our earthly ailments are also foreseen by God and permitted by him (even if inflicted on us by a sinful fellowman), so that they will draw us closer to Him and help us on the road to heaven.

This they will do, if we accept them and bear with them until He comes to our aid. Our troubles in life are like the growing pains of our youth — they are necessary if we are to arrive at our full stature as sons of God. They form, mold and shape our religious character and bring us closer to God — if we allow them to do so. For the lukewarm Christian who rebels against God because of his earthly sufferings, they can do the opposite. He cannot see the purpose and value of suffering because he has never seriously pondered or grasped the real meaning of this life and God's loving plans for him.

As in the first reading today, God may not be in the tornadoes or earthquakes or roaring fires, nor does He cause them - He is ever near to His children when such calamities occur. He has a purpose in every trial or tribulation which crosses the path of our lives, a purpose always to our eternal advantage if only we will see and accept his will in these trials.