



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 27th September 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9.30am	Hilda Barlow RIP
11.30am	Mary Sebastian RIP
5.00pm	Missa Pro Populo
Monday 28th September	The Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church
10.00am	Mary Sebastian RIP
Tuesday 29th September	S.S. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
10.00am	Alexander Raphael RIP
Wednesday 30 th September	St. Jerome
12.noon	Katherine Cox RIP
Thursday 1 st October	St. Térésa of the Child Jesus
10.00am	Antonio de Menezes & family & the Adamson Family
Friday 2 nd October	The Holy Guardian Angels
10.00am	Lawrence Hutchinson RIP
(A day of abstinence when Catholics should abstain from eating meat)	
Saturday 3 rd October	Our Lady
10.00am	Mary Flory - welfare



	Sunday 4th October 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Rosary Sunday
9.30am	Mrs Maria Collini
11.30am	Rosa & Henry McGarry 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.

Our Parish, Our Needs, Our Responsibility – Planned Giving Appeal

'Each one should give as much as he has decided on his own initiative, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver' – 2 Corinthians 9:7

Over the last couple of weeks you have heard about Stewardship and Planned Giving. We have asked that all parishioners prayerfully reflect on what they contribute to our parish, having taken into consideration the needs of our parish and having reflected on the message of stewardship.

This weekend there will be another opportunity to complete a pledge form, which is stapled to this newsletter. These Pledge Forms will remain private and confidential. Please provide your full contact details and select the method of offertory giving best suited to you. If you pay UK income tax, please sign the **Gift Aid** declaration (in one name only) so that the parish can claim 25p back from the government for every £1 that you donate, at no extra cost to yourself.

When you have completed this form please return it to the parish by either posting it in the collection boxes at the end of next week's mass, or post to :St Raphael, St Raphael's Cottage, Portsmouth Road, Kingston-Upon-Thames, Surrey KT1 2NA. The form can also be emailed to surbiton@rcaos.org.uk

Finally, we thank you for all that you already do for our parish. Without your continued support, this wonderful, living church would not continue to be the spiritual centre it is today.

If you have any questions, there shall be volunteers available after Mass.

Thank you.

St. Joseph's – Our Catholic Primary and Nursery School

The Fairfield, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 2UP.

Tel. 020 8546 7178 E.mail office@stjosephs.rbksch.org Web. www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk

Boys & Girls Aged 3-11. Breakfast Club & After School Club.

Head teacher – Mrs Sarah Keefe

Rated Good by Ofsted



First Holy Communion Course 2020/2021

The First Holy Communion course will begin on 28th November and end on 1st May. There will be 15 sessions in all on Saturday mornings. In order to comply with COVID-19 restrictions the course will be limited to 10 children in Year 3 or above. Acceptance will be on a first come first served basis with priority given to St Raphael's parishioners. The application form is available to download from the Parish Website <https://straphaelsurbiton.org.uk/sacramental-life/sacraments/holy-eucharist/>

Completed forms along with a copy of the child's Baptism Certificate and the course fee of £10.00 must be handed in to the Parish Office by the 31st October.

In November (date to be announced) there will be an introductory meeting for all parents in Alexander House. Please keep an eye on the Parish Newsletter for details.

Please contact Ginette Howell on 07815919530 or galhowell@gmail.com or Kate Freeman on 07757031310 for further details.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Please note that for the Parish Office is currently only open for 2 days a week. This week it will be open on Monday and Thursday.

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.

GIFT AID

If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, please collect your new set from the back of the Church.

CONFESSIONS

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

NEWSPAPERS

Please help yourselves to the Catholic Papers at the back of the Church – for the time being they are free – although of course you are most welcome to pay for them if you wish!

MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS

Please email Fr. Michael for details michaellovell@rcaos.org.uk



Congratulations to Gabriella, Daphne & Samuel who were baptised recently. May the Lord continue the good work he has started.

This week we celebrate two very important solemnities in our Parish. On Monday we celebrate the solemnity of the Anniversary of the Consecration of the Church which took place in 1912. On Tuesday we celebrate our patronal feast – SS. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael.

Our beautiful Church was commissioned and paid for by Alexander Raphael in fulfilment of a vow he made to Our Blessed Lady. He was an Armenian immigrant from India, a great philanthropist and entrepreneur. It was designed by the eminent architect Charles Parker and completed in 1848. Alexander was Member of Parliament for St. Albans and the first Roman Catholic to be elected Sheriff of London since the reformation. He was also a Bailiff of Kingston. Alexander died on 17th November 1850 aged 75. His obituary described him as "...a magnificent benefactor whose liberality in the cause of religion and education has been conspicuous for many years not only in England - but also in Germany, Italy, Austria and Transylvania where he founded and supported many poor schools". During his lifetime it is estimated that he gave over £100,000 (nearly 6 million pounds in today's money) to Catholic causes. In recognition of this he was made a papal knight of the Order of St. Sylvester by Blessed Pope Pius IX, a few months before his death.

There is a memorial tablet, erected by his family, over the entrance to the church. It attests to his "generous financial assistance for the education of poor young people", to his "unshakeable faith" and "great love of country, justice and freedom".

Following his death, the estate passed to his nephew Edward, who, in accordance with Alexander's wishes, opened the church to the public as the first Catholic place of worship in Kingston since the Reformation. A small school for deprived children was also opened next to the Church. Following Edward's death in 1889, the estate passed to his sister Agnes, Countess of Mexborough.

Agnes' daughter, Princess Anne Lowenstein Wertheim was a pioneer aviatrix, who died in an attempt to fly the Atlantic and is commemorated on a plaque in the church. The estate later passed to Captain The Hon. George Savile, brother of the Sixth Earl of Mexborough. Following the Second World War it was sold to the Catholic Diocese of Southwark and officially became the Catholic Parish Church for Surbiton. Beneath the High Altar there is a family vault that contains the bodies of Alexander Raphael and other members of the Raphael & Savile Families, along with those of and Canon Bernard Grady - Parish Priest from 1955 to 1986, who died in 1992 and Fr. John Ainsworth – one of the early chaplains.

Following the French Revolution of 1848, King Louis Philippe together with his family settled at nearby Claremont House in Esher. Four of their Royal Weddings took place in the Church between 1863 and 1899.

Emperor Napoleon III's widow, the Empress Eugenie, lived in New Malden for a time during 1881. She worshipped at the church while a home was being prepared for her at Farnborough. She was also very popular locally and The Surrey Comet reported one of her visits to the church: "The Empress looked careworn and sad, but pleasantly acknowledged the respect shown to her as she entered her carriage." The Church, now a grade II* listed building, is of local and national architectural interest and is regarded as one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture in the country.

Our Mass on Tuesday will be offered for the repose of the Soul and in thanksgiving for all Alexander Raphael did for our Parish.
May he Rest in Peace.