

St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell
Chaplaincy to Kingston University
Tel 020 8616 9583 Email 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 7th March - The Third Sunday in Lent (B)

9.30am Patricia Van der Linden RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Rita Souter

Monday 8 th March	Lenten Feria
10.00am	Peter Bingham-Daly RIP
Tuesday 9 th March	Lenten Feria
10.00am	Jeffrey March RIP
Wednesday 10 th March	Lenten Feria
12.00noon	Melanie Flory
Thursday 11 th March	Lenten Feria
10.00am	Neil & Julie
Friday 12 th March	Lenten Feria
10.00am	Jozef & Karolina Baumgart RIP
Followed by Stations of the Cross	
(A day of abstinence when Catholics should abstain from eating meat)	
Saturday 13 th March	Lenten Feria
10.00am	Stephen Clarke - welfare

Sunday 14th March - The Fourth Sunday in Lent Laetare Sunday (B)

9.30am Gill Taylor

11.30am Bridie McCahill RIP

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

For the present there is no Sunday or Thursday Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and the Mass on Thursday mornings will be celebrated in English.

**FACE COVERINGS MUST BE WORN IN PLACES OF WORSHIP,
UNLESS YOU ARE EXEMPT. THIS IS NOW LAW.**

CONFESSIONS

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

MARRIAGES, BAPTISMS AND FUNERALS

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

THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will open Monday – Thursday this week

The Church will open 15 minutes before Mass and close promptly afterwards for sanitation. There is normally plenty of 'safe seating' available at all our Sunday Masses, particularly at the 11.30am and 5.00pm. There is also an overflow available in the Hall where Mass is live streamed.

COVID 19 VACCINES

There have been some concerns expressed about the processes involved in creating of the vaccine. The Bishops' Conference has shared information issued by the Vatican, which states that "all vaccinations recognized as clinically safe and effective can be used in good conscience with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with the abortion from which the cells used in production of the vaccines may have derived." The full text of the Bishops' Conference statement is online: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/vatican-cdf-says-use-of-anti-covid-vaccines-morally-acceptable/> The Bishops' Conference message goes on to explain that we have a duty to protect our own health and especially to protect the weakest and most exposed. In the absence of other means to stop or prevent the epidemic, the vaccination is recommended.



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

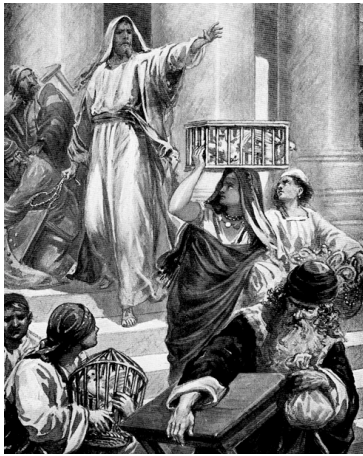
Web. www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk

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

Head teacher – Mrs Sarah Keefe

Rated Good by Ofsted

HOSPITAL - If you, or a member of your family, are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform ward staff that you are a Roman Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. If you are calling on behalf of someone in the hospital, please call the hospital main switchboard - 0208 546 7711. The Switchboard will contact the Roman Catholic Chaplain. If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Michael.



In the Gospel today we hear the account of Jesus cleansing the Temple because the activity there was focused not on worship on worldly things. The Temple was a holy place, a pilgrimage site where the Israelites went to pray and make sacrifices to God. However, the busy-ness and cacophony of the money changers dealing with foreign coins and vendors exchanging animals for money was not drawing pilgrims closer to God, but instead keeping them from the proper reverence required of a place where the Israelites knew that the Most High God dwelled. By chasing everyone and everything from the Temple, Jesus was clearing out all that distracted them from reverence for God.

During the season of Lent, we might consider how we might do the same. What in our lives is distracting us from our proper worship of the Lord? Part of our daily worship should be time for prayer. It is fitting during Lent to fast from an activity such as time spent on social media or watching television to make more time for prayer. In this way, we turn our eyes toward the Lord and sanctify our daily routine.

We call Sunday the Lord's Day, but for many of us this, too, is a day in need of some cleansing and reorganizing. While many of us try to squeeze in Mass between many other activities each Sunday, we are called to make the celebration of the Holy Mass the cornerstone around which other events should be planned. It is the most important activity in which we and our families will participate each week, so we should treat our Sunday schedule as such.

Perhaps, this Lent we can look at our practices of worship, such as our individual prayer and even our routine for Sunday Mass. How is the Lord calling us to disrupt our normal routine and make the changes that lead to an experience that is less cluttered and more focused on the fact that we are in the presence of God. We might consider spending some quiet time reflecting on the readings, the homily, or the intimate encounter we share with Our Lord in Holy Communion.

Finally let us make that extra effort to rearrange our schedules in order to cleanse our lives and overturn all the distractions that prevent us from turning towards him.

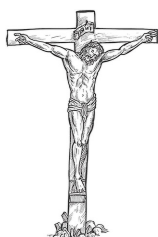
POPE FRANCIS

This coming Saturday is the anniversary of the election of Pope Francis which took place in 2013. Please pray for our Holy Father on this day.

ONLINE LENTEN RETREAT

Archbishop John and the Diocesan Spirituality Commission are offering a Retreat for Lent, which you can follow in your own home. Using the link below, you can watch a short video reflection each week, download prayer materials and other resources which can help you make the best use of whatever time and opportunity you may have during your week.

There are also additional materials for use by parish and other groups, either in person or via Zoom/Teams or similar. If you are looking for a way to deepen your life of prayer this Lent, click on <<http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme>> where you can also sign up to receive materials directly to your email.



**During Lent there will be
Stations of the Cross every
Friday morning following the
10.00am Mass**

LENTEN PROJECT



For obvious reasons we are unable to run a Lenten Project this year – however we would like to raise some money for The Manna Society. If you would like to donate to this cause you can donate online to our parish bank account

A/C Name St Raphael's Catholic Church
A/C number 36110469
Sort Code 60-50-01
Bank Natwest, Croydon, Whitgift Centre Branch.

Please mark your payment 'Lent'

Tom and Catherine Morrell are holding fun, family online bingo sessions from 7.30pm - 8.30pm each Sunday during Lent in aid of this. You can make a donation on line to the parish bank account marking your payment 'Bingo'. Everyone is welcome. Please register at lenten.bingo@gmail.com.

If anyone else would like to organise a safe event, please speak to Fr. Michael or the Parish Office.

The Manna Society is a Catholic charity, which has run the Manna Day Centre since 1982, supporting homeless people in the heart of London. On average, they cater for around 120-150 people per day – Approximately 50% of these sleep rough, 25% are in socially rented accommodation and the other 25% are in hostel or stay with friends. What they all share in common is poverty and loneliness. The Manna Centre is open from 8.30am to 1.30pm, seven days a week, for 51 weeks in the year. Services are available every day. For more information, please visit <https://www.mannasociety.org.uk/> Please be as generous as you can.

**There will be a 2nd collection
next Sunday for Easter Flowers**

