



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 12th September – Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary time (B)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am Michael Dwyer RIP

5.00pm Robert Brook RIP

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 13th September

10.00am

St. John Chrysostom

Jannett Hamerton Fraser & Family RIP

Tuesday 14th September

10.00am

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Bridget Gallagher RIP

Wednesday 15th September

12.00noon

Our Lady of Sorrows

Jane Dixon

Thursday 16th September

10.00am

SS. Cornelius & Cyprian

Michael Dwyer RIP (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood. Please note this week this will conclude with Benediction at 11.15am.

Friday 17th September

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary Time

Suzanna Heath RIP

(A day of abstinence when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat)

Saturday 18th September

10.00am

Our Lady

Teresa Donaldson RIP

Sunday 19th September – Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time (B)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am Michael Dwyer RIP

5.00pm Fr. Dominic O'Sullivan and the McHugh family

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON'S VISIT

His Grace the Archbishop will make his first visit to the Parish on Sunday 10th October and celebrate Mass for us at 10.30am. (Please note this will be the only morning Mass that day) This will be followed by a reception in the Hall. More details to follow. But please save the date.

CONFESSIONS

Sundays

9.00am – 9.20am

& 4.30pm – 4.50pm

Saturdays

10.30am – 11.00am

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the Soul of.

Angela Sweeney

Her Requiem Mass will be on Monday

27th September at 12noon

May She Rest in Peace

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.

Rated Good by Ofsted

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – Takes place on Sundays during the 9.30am Mass

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT-

Sundays at 4.00pm

Thursdays following the 10.00am Mass

TEA AND COFFEE - There will be coffee after the morning Masses today. There is also tea & coffee after the midday Mass on Wednesdays. Please join us and say hello!

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.

REPOSITORY – Our repository will be open after the morning Masses today.

THE ROSARY – The Rosary is recited in the Church daily Monday – Saturday before Mass and at 4.00pm on Sundays



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – PARENTS MEETING

There will be an important meeting in Alexander House for the parents of the first Holy Communion Children, (for those who have been accepted on the course) on Wednesday 29th September at 7.00pm. Parking is available in the Church Car Park and from 6.30pm in Riverside Close. The meeting will last about an hour. For more information or in case of queries please contact Ginette galhowell@gmail.com

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

Next Sunday is Home Mission Sunday and there will be a 2nd collection for the Catholic Agency for Evangelization.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE - The Parish

Office will be closed from Friday 17th September and reopen on Monday 4th October

In today's Gospel, we need not be surprised at the slowness of the Apostles in grasping the fact that Jesus was the Messiah. He did not want the crowds who flocked to him to know this until later, after his resurrection, because they had the idea that the Messiah would be a political leader who would set them free from their subjection to pagan Rome. It was not until this occasion, near Caesarea Philippi, somewhat over a year after he had called them, that he admitted to his Apostles that he was the Messiah. He charged them not to make this fact known outside of their own limited circle. To forestall and erase any wrong ideas of a political leader which some of the Apostles might have, he immediately foretold the sufferings and death he would have to endure at the hands of the leaders of the Jews. He would be conquered and humiliated by his enemies, but their victory would be short-lived, death would not hold him, he would rise triumphant on the third day.

To the Apostles this seemed incredible and Peter, their spokesman, told him so. This outlook of the Apostles is also very understandable. They had seen him work many miracles, God was evidently very near to him: how could God let his enemies humiliate and kill him? They did not know God's plan; they were fishermen and knew little of anything of the Old Testament messianic prophecies. Had they read of the Suffering Servant in second Isaiah they would not have disbelieved the prophecy of his forthcoming sufferings, death and resurrection. And his mention of his resurrection after three days, which would prove that it was he and not his enemies who conquered, fell on deaf ears, because the idea of a resurrection of that kind was incomprehensible to them. We know how slow they were to accept his resurrection even after it had happened.

Although the message was only vaguely and dubiously grasped, Christ had forewarned his Apostles (he repeated this twice later: Mk. 9: 9-10; 31-32 and 10: 32-34), so as to prepare them for the scandal of the cross. While it did not really prepare them because they were still too worldly-minded, it did help to strengthen their faith once the facts convinced them of the resurrection. They then realized that their beloved Master was more than Messiah, that he was in fact the Son of God, who with knowledge aforethought freely accepted his humiliations and shameful death for their sakes and ours. They gladly gave their lives to bringing this news of God's great love for men to all nations. From being a scandal, the cross became the emblem and the proud standard of God's love for mankind.

We are in the happy position of the Apostles after the resurrection of Jesus. We know how much God loves us; we appreciate the humiliation that the incarnation brought on his beloved Son and the sufferings and cruel death which the sins of the world, ours included, brought on the Son of God. All of this took place because God wished to make us his adopted sons, and worthy of the inheritance he had planned for us. For a faithful and grateful Christian, however, theoretical appreciation is not enough. Atonement has been made for our sins, but we have still a very important part to play. Our sins can be forgiven but we must truly repent of them.

St. Mark adds some words of Christ which illustrate what practical form our appreciation and gratitude for Christ's sufferings should take. We must be ready to follow him on the road to Calvary. We must deny ourselves — deprive ourselves not only of sinful pleasure or gain, but even of lawful things at times, in order to be Christ-like. We must take up our cross and follow him. This does not mean that we must search for crosses — there are plenty of them in any good Christian's life — but we must gladly accept the crosses life brings us and see in them God's means of keeping us close to him.

Life on earth is very short, eternal life is endless. No thinking person, and certainly no true Christian, would risk losing the eternal life for the sake of a few paltry gains or a few extra years here below.

On Tuesday we celebrate the feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. The liturgy of the Cross is a triumphant liturgy. When Moses lifted the bronze serpent over the people, it was a foreshadowing of the salvation through Jesus when He was lifted up on the Cross. The Church sings of the triumph of the Cross, the instrument of our redemption. To follow Christ we must take up His cross, follow Him and become obedient until death, even if it means death on the cross. We identify with Christ on the Cross and become co-redeemers, sharing in His cross. We make the Sign of the Cross before prayer which helps to fix our minds and hearts to God. After prayer we make the Sign of the Cross to keep close to God. During trials and temptations our strength and protection is the Sign of the Cross. At Baptism we are sealed with the Sign of the Cross, signifying the fullness of redemption and that we belong to Christ. Let us look to the cross frequently, and realize that when we make the Sign of the Cross we give our entire self to God — mind, soul, heart, body, will, thoughts.

Here at St. Raphael's we are blessed to have a tiny fragment of the Cross, which will be exposed during Mass on Tuesday.

O cross, you are the glorious sign of victory. Through your power may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.

EDUCATION SUNDAY

Today there will be a Second Collection for the Catholic Education Service. The CES acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. There are over 2,000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England educating over 800,000 students. The Catholic Church and the Church of England together provide one-third of all of the schools in the country. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.

POSITION SOUGHT

A Catholic Teacher, Private Tutor and Personal Assistant currently living in the Richmond area is seeking one of the following positions: Private PA/Housekeeper; Private family PA which could include private tuition; Private Tutor; Family Office PA; Governess. Please call Maria on 07961 764186.

LIVE JAZZ AT 'THE PLACE,'

Laura Dudhee, who many of you will know as the tenant of our ground floor flat, will be performing with guitarist Jules Cowie at 'The Place,' 58 High Street, New Malden, Surrey KT3 4EZ on Wednesday 15th September at 7.30pm. Laura will be singing some of her favourite Jazz standards from the Great American Songbook and originals. Contact Laura on 07968 536 742 with any questions