



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University

Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

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Parish Office - (Monday - Thursday. 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 28th November First Sunday of Advent (C)

9.30am Charmaine Lee & family

11.30am The Holy Souls

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 29th November

10.00am

Advent Feria

Elizabeth Mary Harrison RIP

Tuesday 30th November

10.00am

St. Andrew

The Sheridan and Horrocks family

Wednesday 1st December

12.00noon

Advent Feria

Gerald Sheridan

Thursday 2nd December

10.00am

Advent Feria

Katya Ivanova (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood concluding with Benediction at 12.00noon.

Friday 3rd December

10.00am

St. Francis Xavier

Francis Rodricks

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

Saturday 4th December

10.00am

Advent Feria

In reparation for the sin of abortion

Sunday 5th December Second Sunday of Advent (C)

9.30am Brendan and Sheila Kinsella RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Fr. Chris O'Brien RIP

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

THE SYNOD

Thank you to all those who attended the two parish meetings and shared their thoughts about the forthcoming Synod in Rome.

You can still make your view known by sending comments on-line through the diocesan website <aec.rcaos.org.uk/synod>

The three main points to consider are

- 1 How is the Holy Eucharist the main focal point for our parish?
- 2 How does our parish effectively identify and use the gifts of its people?
- 3 Given what you see of the Church (words and actions), in the parish and beyond, what would you say is the Church's mission?



*The first candle is the
'Prophet's Candle' -
Hope*



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

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith - the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Luke will be the primary Gospel we will hear. Today's Gospel is taken from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. We hear Jesus speak to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. The community for whom Luke wrote his Gospel may have believed that they were already experiencing some of the events Jesus described. Most scholars believe that Luke's Gospel was written after the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in 70 A.D. At the time, many Christians interpreted this event as an indication that Jesus' second coming was near. Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, Jesus indicates that others will be frightened; Jesus' disciples are not to fear, but are to stand tall. Yet Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. The early Christian communities did not find consolation in the promise of a utopia, nor should we. Instead, we find in our Christian faith the means by which we witness to God's unfailing love for us in all circumstances. Jesus' predictions about the end times may sound dire, but in the next paragraph Luke tells us that people woke early to listen to Jesus' teaching in the Temple area. In his person and in his message, those who heard Jesus found strength and consolation. Like the first Christians, we may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, however, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY –

Takes place on Sundays during the 9.30am Mass.

EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT –

Sundays at 4.00pm and Thursdays following the 10.00am Mass concluding with Benediction at 12noon.

TEA AND COFFEE –

There is tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday morning and after the 11.30am Mass as announced. There is also tea & coffee after the midday Mass on Wednesdays.

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.

THE ROSARY –

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

CONFESSIONS –

Sundays - 9.00am – 9.20am & 4.30pm – 4.50pm
Saturdays -10.30am – 11.00am.

OPEN DAY FOR ENTRY TO RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2022 ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

This coming Thursday, 2nd December at 2.00p.m. To book a place please email the school office: office@stjosephs.rbksch.org

ADVENT READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY'

Advent copies of 'My Day by Day' are available at the back of the Church, they cost £1.00 (Please put money in the box marked Newspapers.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during advent and is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas.

CAN YOU SING – IN TUNE!

We urgently new members to sing in our Choir at the 9.30am Mass and on other special occasions, if you are intrested please speak to Marguerite or director of music after the 9.30am Mass

Today we light the first Candle on our Advent wreath. As part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas, the use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding tradition. The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, a circle, has no beginning or end and symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because violet is a liturgical colour that signifies a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice.

The first candle symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the 'Prophecy Candle' in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle represents faith. It is called the 'Bethlehem Candle' as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the 'Shepard's Candle' and is pink because rose is a liturgical colour for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour.

This candle is called the 'Angel's Candle' and symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels - "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

On Christmas Eve we light the white candle. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The colour white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.