



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 - (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 12th December Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday (C)

9.30am Stan Conley RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Ray Board RIP

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 13th December

10.00am St. Lucy
Colin Foster RIP

Tuesday 14th December

10.00am St. John of the Cross
Vjollco

Wednesday 15th December

12.00noon Advent Feria
Fr. John Moth RIP

Thursday 16th December

10.00am Advent Feria
Pat Amanpour RIP (Latin Mass - Novus Ordo)

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

Friday 17th December

10.00am Advent Feria
Pat Amanpour RIP

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

Saturday 18th December

10.00am Advent Feria
Antonia de Menezes

Sunday 19th December Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

9.30am Denis Curtin RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Eddie Hillier RIP

6.15pm Parish Carol Service (No Rosary & Benediction today)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

Friday 24th December

Masses at 4.00pm, 6.00pm &
Midnight

Christmas Day

Saturday 25th December

Masses at 9.30am & 11.30

The Feast of the Holy Family

Sunday 26th December

Masses at 9.30am, 11.30am &
5.00pm

Parish Carol Service

Sunday 19th December at 6.15pm
followed by mulled wine and mince
pies.

For more information, please visit
the Parish Website

www.straphaelsurbiton.org.uk

FACE MASKS -With the current threat of the Omicron Variant, we suggest that everyone wears a face mask during Masses, until further notice. This is a Government recommendation in crowded spaces, where not everyone is known to one another. Accordingly, we can reduce the possibility of infection and help to protect each other. Thank you.

If you are over the age of 40 and not yet had your Covid booster Jab – for the sake of everyone, please book it.

CRIB OFFERINGS - Our Christmas crib will be erected during the week. This year our crib offerings will be donated to the 'Friends of the Holy Land'. This is a non-political Christian Charity. Their mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the Holy Land. At the beginning of the 20th century, Christians made up roughly 29% of the overall population of the Holy Land. Today they account for less than 2%. Without support, the Holy places of the Bible, the birthplace of Christianity, could become cultural museums with no Christian presence at all. The focus of their work is providing practical help directly to the most needy and vulnerable of our Christian brothers and sisters through a balance of funding immediate relief of emergency needs and practical small projects to help create a sustainable future in the Holy Land – most importantly to give them hope. They work with a team of locally based lay and clerical professionals who identify and verify all the cases they support.



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

The Third Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy, with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

Rejoice: "The Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Saviour means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. If we were to read Luke's Gospel continuously, we would learn about John the Baptist challenging the crowds who came to him and calling upon them to show evidence of their repentance. John tells his listeners that they cannot rely on their lineage as Israelites because children of Abraham can be raised up from stones. Repentance, rather, must be observable in one's actions. Here, Luke is continuing to set up two important themes of his Gospel message: the Christian faith is expressed in one's actions, and the call to salvation is extended to everyone, Jews and Gentiles.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – 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. There will be no tea and coffee after the 11.30am Mass for the time being. 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 – 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.



Today we have our 2nd collection for Flowers to decorate the Church this Christmas. Please be as generous as you can

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 our director of music after the 9.30am Mass

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS -Your offerings made at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are your personal gift the Parish Priest. There are Christmas Offering envelopes available at the back of the church for these. However if you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, please use the special Christmas Offering Envelope in your packet.

THE CATENIANS -Today there will be an Appeal for Membership at all Masses by some members of the Catenian Association. Some of you are members already, and others will know about the Catenians and their work in parishes as a contribution to Catholic life and a building up of fraternity between members. We welcome the visiting Catenians to St Raphael's.

FAITH FORMATION GROUP - We will be starting a new group of Faith Formation for children who have already received first communion. We will meet once a month after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday until 12pm. We will be following the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and from this group we will prepare our children for confirmation. If you would like your children to participate please see Dymphna after the 9:30am Mass on Sunday.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the soul of
Jane Daly. Her funeral will be at Kingston Crematorium on the 30th December at 11.30am. There will be a memorial Mass for her celebrated on the 27th May next year – her birthday.
May She Rest in Peace



St. Raphael's Parish Carol Service

Next Sunday, 19th December
at 6.15pm

Followed by mulled wine
& mince pies

In the presence of Mayor of Kingston Cllr Sushila Abraham
And her consort Dr. Mathew Abraham

All are welcome