



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 30th January – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9.30am Annie King RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Bill Woolliscroft RIP

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 31st January

10.00am

St. John Bosco

The deceased relations of Maria Logue

Tuesday 1st February

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary time

Roger Morton RIP

Wednesday 2nd February

12.00noon

The Presentation of The Lord (Candlemas)

Ena O'Sullivan RIP

Thursday 3rd February

10.00am

St. Blaise

Mis Maranzaio RIP (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

The Blessing of throats will take place after Mass before Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Friday 4th February

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary time

Anna Bennett RIP

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

Saturday 5th February

10.00am

St. Agatha

The deceased relations of Maria Logue

Sunday 6th February – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am Gracia Meta Wetou

5.00pm Catalda

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



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



On Wednesday we celebrate the feast of the Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas. This feast was first observed in the Eastern Church as "The Encounter." In the sixth century, it began to be observed in the West: in Rome with a more penitential character and in France with solemn blessings and processions with candles – from where we get the name "Candlemas." The Presentation of the Lord concludes the celebration of the Nativity and now events point toward Easter.

In obedience to the Old Law, the Lord Jesus, the first-born, was presented in the Temple by his Blessed Mother and his foster father. This is another 'epiphany' celebration insofar as the Christ Child is revealed as the Messiah through the canticle and words of Simeon and the testimony of Anna the

prophetess.

Simeon and Anna were two venerable elderly people dedicated to prayer and fasting and their strong religious spirit rendered them able to recognize the Messiah. In this sense we can see in the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple an extension of the 'Pro Orantibus Day' (For those who pray) that is celebrated on the 21st November, the feast of the Presentation of Mary. On this day, the Church demonstrates its gratitude to all those in the community that dedicate themselves in a privileged way to prayer, to those who have a particular religious vocation to the contemplative life. In the figure of the venerable Simeon, Jesus' presentation in the temple also reminds us that prayer and contemplation are not just a waste of time or an obstacle to charity. On the contrary, time could not be better spent than in prayer as true Christian charity is a consequence of a solid interior life. Only those who pray and offer penance, like Simeon and Anna, are open to the breath of the Spirit. They know how to recognize the Lord in the circumstances in which He manifests Himself because they possess an ample interior vision, and they have learned how to love with the heart of the One whose very name is Charity.

At the end of the Gospel Simeon's prophecy of Mary's sufferings is emphasized. Pope St. John Paul II taught that, 'Simeon's words seem like a second Annunciation to Mary, for they tell her how Jesus is to accomplish his mission, namely, in misunderstanding and sorrow.' This is in contrast to the archangel's announcement which was a fount of incredible joy.

Simeon's prophecy also announces that Christ will be 'a sign of contradiction'. St. Cyril of Alexandria interpreted the words 'sign of contradiction' as the cross. St. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that the cross is 'a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles'. It is a sign of contradiction in the sense that to those without faith it appears as foolish while to those who recognize its power, the cross reveals salvation and life.

FEAST OF ST. BLAISE – BLESSING OF THROATS

On Thursday we keep the feast of St. Blaise. Each year on this feast day, after Mass, the priest blesses the throats of those present with the following prayer. "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit".

Due to current covid restrictions The Priest will say the blessing aloud once before people come up to the Altar and will not physically place the candles around people's throats.



CONFESSIONS

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

THE ROSARY

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

TODAY IS RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

There will be a 2nd collection to support the work of the Church in promoting racial Justice in our parishes, schools and wider society.

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 mornings. 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.

FAITH FORMATION GROUP

Our next Faith Formation session will take place next Sunday, 6th February, after the 9:30am Mass in the library.