



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church

Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

Tel 020 8616 9583 email michaellovell@rcaos.org.uk

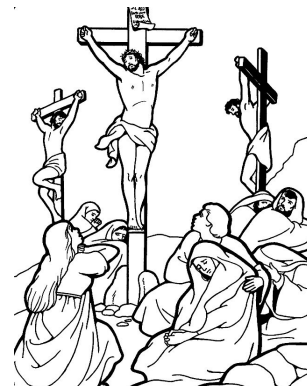
Parish Office - (Mon. - Fri. 9.00am - 4.00pm)

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

SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER



Sunday 10th April - Palm Sunday (C)
9.30am Frances Boyle
11.30am Fr. David
5.00pm Missa Pro Populo
4.00pm Stations of the Cross
Confessions 9.00am - 9.20am & 4.30pm - 4.50pm

Monday 11th April - Monday in Holy Week

10.00am - William Morin

Tuesday 12th April - Tuesday in Holy Week

10.00am - Ivan Flanagan RIP

Wednesday 13th April - Spy Wednesday

12.00noon - Jackie Woolliscroft RIP

(The Chrism Mass takes place at St. George's Cathedral at 11.30am)

Thursday 14th April - Maundy Thursday

8.00pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper - Vocations to the priesthood

11.45pm Compline

Friday 15th April - Good Friday

(A day of Fasting and abstinence)

10.00am - Children's Stations of the Cross

10.30am - 11.30am Confessions

3.00pm Solemn Liturgy of the Passion

7.00pm Stations of the Cross and veneration of the relic of the True Cross

Saturday 16th April - Holy Saturday

10.30am - 11.00am Confessions

8.00pm Solemn Easter Vigil - Alexander Raphael RIP

17th April - Easter Sunday (C)

9.30am Beryl Sims RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

(No 5.00pm Mass, Confession or Rosary & Benediction today)



EASTER OFFERINGS

The collection taken at the Easter Vigil and on Easter Sunday is your personal offering to our Parish Priest, Fr.

Michael. This collection forms part of his income to support his personal needs and expenses during the year ahead. Easter Offering envelopes are available for your use at the back of the Church.

(If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme, please use the special envelope in your packet.) Thank you for your kind and generous support.

THE ROSARY IS RECITED - Monday to Saturday before Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES - Resume Saturday 23rd April at 10.30am in Alexander House.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - There will be Children's Liturgy today. The group will then take a break for Easter and resume on Sunday 1st May.

SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE - There will be tea & coffee after the 9.30am Mass today. Please note no tea & coffee on Easter Sunday.

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

We shall have the Divine Mercy Devotions here at St. Raphael's. The afternoon will begin at 3.00pm with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Prayers, Confessions and Rosary. Concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3.50pm.

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

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Sunday the 1st May we will welcome the Mayor of Kingston

Cllr Sushila Abraham to the 9.30am Mass. During this Mass a presentation will be made to Mrs Sarah Keefe, the former Head Teacher of St. Joseph's, our parish primary school

Dear friends

You may have seen Mel Gibson's film 'The Passion of the Christ.' For some, it's a moving portrayal of our Lord's suffering and death. For others, a too violent depiction of His journey to the cross. When I first saw it, it moved me to tears, partly because the contrasts are so great: between the love of the Lord Jesus, not least for His mother, and the punishment He received; between His faithfulness to His Father's will and the violence towards Him; between His compassionate gaze, through blood-stained eyes, and the cruelty of His torture and crucifixion. Holy Week announces God's remedy in Christ for the damage of sin and the destruction of death. Because we have free will, the tensions are still alive within and around us. But sin and death no longer have the last laugh. These tensions and contrasts fill the 'Hosanna' of the Gospel and the 'Crucify' of the Passion. They're there in the question 'The Passion of the Christ' places on the lips of Pontius Pilate: 'Is this not the prophet who, only five days ago, you welcomed into Jerusalem?' How often we say one thing and do another.

Palm Sunday opens a week of tension and contrast, of paradoxes and contradictions. For so many people this past year has done the same. But the events that unfold in Holy Week are not some casual string of haphazard inevitabilities. The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem a king. 'Hosanna,' shouts the crowd, 'Blessings on him who comes in the Lord's name.' He sets His face like flint, not by clinging to equality with God, but by emptying Himself, becoming a servant who humbly accepts death on a cross. The Scriptures foretold it was necessary that the Son of Man should suffer, and die, and rise again. But the steps are His own. He makes no resistance. He doesn't turn away. The Lord riding in majesty becomes, almost overnight, a 'dead man walking.'

Years ago I visited a small Greek Island. A commotion began and the tourists became excited as a distant procession made its way down the Island's main road. Two priests were at the front, led by somebody swinging incense. Cameras came out and someone speculated it was a ceremony to bless the fishing boats. But it wasn't. As the people came closer, many were crying. Further back was a weeping woman with her children. Behind her was carried the coffin of her dead husband. With my friends, we felt utterly stupid not to have realised what was going on. We'd simply joined the crowd, misunderstanding and misinterpreting.

Today we are close to the Mount of Olives. In a few days we will stand on Mount Calvary. Today the Lord Jesus is carried by a beast of burden. In a few days He will carry the burden of the cross. Today people spread their cloaks before Him. In a few days every garment will be stripped from His body. Today there are cries of blessing, soon it will be curses. Today His disciples can't keep quiet. In a few days there will be no words to express how they feel. So many emotions will be in each of our hearts.

We all misunderstand and misinterpret. We struggle to accept the Lord's love and forgiveness. We forget the promise that He is always with us. We're caught up in the tensions and contrasts of life, of doubt, of sin. The pandemic has brought burdens for everyone, some more visible, others hidden. Everything we are, all our experiences of success and failure, of love and hurt, find a place in the heart of the Lord Jesus this week. And so, follow Him. We open our own hearts, and all that's within us, to what He says and does. We watch. We listen. We follow. We fall silent. We rise and rejoice.

'Is this not the prophet who, only five days ago, you welcomed into Jerusalem?' Today we welcome the Lord Jesus as king. This week, we accompany Him, our suffering and crucified Saviour. Next Saturday evening and Sunday we greet Him as our Risen Lord. All our misunderstandings and misinterpretations, our weeping and rejoicing, our wounds and our dreams, are caught up into the power forever released by His resurrection. If we remember nothing else, let us carry forward these words into Holy Week: in Jesus Christ there is hope and healing for today, for tomorrow, and for eternity.

Archbishop John Wilson

HELP FOR UKRAINE - During Lent the Parish is collecting money in aid of the people of the Ukraine. We will send this to 'Aid To The Church in Need' who have launched an appeal for this to support the People of Ukraine. The black iron collection box at the back of the church will be used to collect money. You can also put donations in envelopes marked 'Ukraine' in the normal Sunday collection bags, or hand them into the sacristy or Parish Office. For more details of Aid to the Church in Need's appeal go to acnuk.org/our-campaigns/emergency-appeal-for-ukraine/ St. Mark's Church, on St. Mark's Hill in Surbiton are collecting items of aid with the local Ukrainian community to be sent via a lorry to Ukraine.

For more information, please call St. Mark's Parish Office on 020 8390 9129

LENT TALK – BLESSED WILLIAM WAY – The talk on Blessed William Way, who was martyred in Kingston during the reformation, that was due to be held last Sunday will take place tonight. Join us for a glass of wine at 6.00pm followed by the talk at 6.30pm - a suggested donation of £8.00. All profits will go to our appeal on behalf of Aid To The Church in Need for Ukraine.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

- Our Baptism Preparation Courses are restarting. All parents wishing their children to be Baptised need to attend a course prior to the Baptism. The next course will be on Saturday 30th April from 10.00am in Alexander House – the Parish Hall. Please apply for a place via Fr. Michael.

GIFT AID BOXES - If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly collection envelopes, your new box of envelopes are available at the back of the Church. If you previously used envelopes but no longer require them, could you please advise the Parish Office. It will be assumed that any boxes remaining after Mass today are not required and they will be cancelled. Many thanks.