

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

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
Head Teacher Mrs Lorraine Flower

Sunday 18th December – 4th Sunday of Advent (A)

9.30am The Barlow Family
11.30am Ena O'Sullivan RIP
5.00pm Missa Pro Populo
No Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament today
6.15pm Parish Carol Service

Monday 19th December Advent Feria
10.00am Thanksgiving – The Choi Family
11.30am Requiem Mass for Honora O'Shea RIP
Tuesday 20th December Advent Feria
10.00am The Holy Souls
Wednesday 21st December Advent Feria
12.00noon The deceased members of the Berni & Martin Family & Francesca Poulter
Thursday 22nd December Advent Feria (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)
10.00am The Holy Souls
Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood concluding with Benediction at 12.00noon.
Friday 23rd December Advent Feria
10.00am The Holy Souls
A day of abstinence when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat

24th December - Christmas Eve

(No 10.00am Mass)
4.00pm - Missa Pro Populo
6.00pm – Liam Whelan RIP
Midnight – Alexander Raphael RIP

Christmas Day

9.30am – Denis Curtin RIP
11.30am – Jacinto Do Rosario RIP

(Please note there is no evening Mass or confessions on Christmas Day)

CONFESSIONS OVER CHRISTMAS

Sunday 18th December 9.00am - 9.20am. 4.30pm - 4.50pm
Friday 23rd December 10.30am – 11.30am
Saturday 24th December 10.30am -11.30am
(Please note there will be no Confessions on Christmas Day)

THE ROSARY

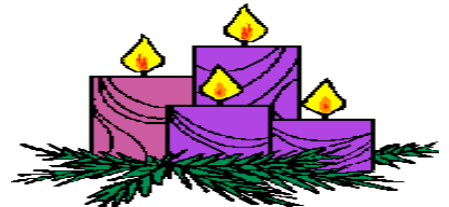
The Rosary is recited daily in the Church Monday - Saturday before Mass and at 4.00pm on Sundays.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be no Benediction this afternoon – 18th December. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday – 22nd. Exposition and Benediction will then resume on the 8th January.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

During the 9.30am Mass today. They will then resume on Sunday 8th January.



Today, we light the fourth candle on our Advent Wreath.
"The Angel's Candle"
symbolizing peace - reminding us of the message of the angels:
"Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

This is the last Sunday of our preparation for Christmas, the anniversary of Christ's birth. Like Joseph, we can all feel unworthy of the honour of welcoming him into our hearts and our homes. We are indeed unworthy, not because we have little of this world's goods, but because we have so little humility, so little charity, so little faith and trust in God's goodness. Let us try to imitate Joseph and Mary, the humblest of the humble, the kindest of the kindly, and the greatest-ever believers in God's goodness and mercy. We can never hope to equal them, but we can follow them humbly, from afar. The feast of Christmas should draw the hearts of every child of God towards the furnace of divine love. In the manger, the infinite love of God is dramatically and forcefully portrayed before our eyes. In that helpless Baby we know that the person, and the power, of the omnipotent Creator and sustainer of the universe lie hidden "He emptied himself, taking the form of a slave" for us. He became a creature, like ourselves, so that he would make us sharers in his divine nature. He came on earth to bring us to heaven. He hid his divine nature so that he could cover us with it. "Unsearchable indeed are the judgements of God, and inscrutable his ways." But though we are unworthy of his infinite love, it nevertheless stands out as clear as the noonday sun in the Incarnation. We realize that we can never make ourselves worthy of this infinite love but let us imitate Joseph and accept the honour which God is giving us, as we trust that he will continue to make us daily less unworthy.

Congratulations to Jayden and Nathaniel who were baptised here at St. Raphael's recently.

OF YOUR CHARITY,

Please pray for the repose of the Soul of
Honora O'Shea
whose Requiem Mass will be here
on the 19th December at 11.30am

**MAY SHE REST IN PEACE
AND RISE IN GLORY**

Christmas Offerings

Your offerings made at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. There are Christmas Offering envelopes available at the back of the church. 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. Thank you for your generosity.

St Raphael's Parish Carol Service



*This Sunday evening at 6.15pm
Followed by mulled wine & mince pies*

1st HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

The 1st Holy Communion programme will resume on the 7th January

TEA AND COFFEE

There is tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass today, we will then take a break until the 8th January

There will be tea and coffee after the Wednesday Mass throughout the Christmas period. This coming Wednesday will be a Christmas celebration – all are welcome

CHRISTMAS SALE

There are Christmas Cards, Cribs and other Christmas gifts for sale in the hall. All proceeds will go to Church funds.

OUR 2022 CRIBB APPEAL

This year our Cribb collection will be donated to the 'The Catholic Children's Society' which supports disadvantaged children and families across London, Hertfordshire and the South East. They work with individuals of all faiths and none; their sole aim is to help those in greatest need.

Many families are facing desperate situations due to loss of work and social isolation. So far they have helped over 2,300 vulnerable children with funding for food and basic essentials to help them through this challenging time. This has only been possible thanks to the generosity of their supporters. By making a donation you can help them reach out to more families in urgent need. Their ConnectEd counselling and therapy services support the mental health and emotional wellbeing of thousands of children each year. These services are based on-site in over 70 primary, secondary and special schools. This specialist support ensures vulnerable children and young people can develop resilience, achieve their full potential and have better chances in life. Please be as generous as you can.