



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell
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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 22nd January – 3rd Sunday in Ordinary time (A)

9.30am Gina Biancotto

11.30am Kristiaan Corner – Munroe RIP

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 23rd January

Feria in Ordinary time

10.00am

Anna Patricia McCarthy RIP

Tuesday 24th January

St. Francis de Sales

10.00am

Martin David Goddard - welfare

Wednesday 25th January

The Conversion of St. Paul

12noon

The Holy Souls

Thursday 26th January

SS. Timothy & Titus (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 27th January

Feria in Ordinary time

10.00am

The Holy Souls

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

Saturday 28th January

St. Thomas Aquinas

10.00am

Bill Woolischoft RIP

Sunday 29th January – 4th Sunday in Ordinary time (A)

9.30am Dymphna de Menezes

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm Doreen Law RIP

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

FIRST CONFESSION

Please pray for the children making their 1st Confession on the 4th February as part of their preparation to receive Jesus in the best possible way at their 1st Holy Communion later this year.

BISHOP HENDRICKS

Our Auxiliary Bishop, who had special responsibility for this part of our Archdiocese, has after some 16 years moved to Kent where he will take over responsibility for that part of the Archdiocese. A collection is being organised to thank him for his ministry here in the Southwest part of the Archdiocese, if you would like to contribute you will be able to do so at the end of Mass today.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARCHBISHOP JOHN

On Wednesday it will be the 7th anniversary of Archbishop John's episcopal ordination as a bishop. He was ordained as an auxiliary bishop of Westminster by Cardinal Vincent Nicholas on the 25th January 2016 in Westminster Cathedral. We remember him especially in our prayers on Wednesday.

The prophet Isaiah announced a future of liberation and great joy for all of Galilee, through the image of light that dispels the darkness in which the people walk. The Gospel, quoting verbatim the same passage of the prophet Isaiah, presents Jesus as the Light thus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy. He is the light that was promised to dispel the darkness of sin and to free man from the obscurity in which he is enclosed.

The light becomes an efficacious means to express God's involvement in human history. God manifests Himself as 'The Light' that disperses the darkness. The light illuminates, encircles, defines things, emphasises the colours and gives depth to space. The light heartens and comforts: to be in an enlightened place helps us to accept reality for what it is and makes one feel happier, more certain and protected.

God's initiative with regard to men permits them to have a renewed relationship with reality. In God's light everything assumes a new significance, its authentic and definitive meaning. A light which illuminates gives strength and permits the disclosure of the universe and man. This is why, after saying, 'on those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone' (Is 9:1), the text adds, 'you have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing' (Is 9:2).

A joy and happiness that became real in Jesus' presence. He is the promised light that has come into our midst, His physical presence that expresses the definitive arrival of the Light. The light that shines brightly marks God's initiative performing His first merciful and free step towards a wounded humanity.

This dynamic is expressed through Jesus call of the first Apostles. He chooses them with an unequivocal call, 'Follow Me'. Faced with God's sudden interruption in their lives He invited them to abandon the nets and trust themselves totally to the Lord for a new 'catch', a new definitive horizon. At the Last Supper, the end of His earthly life, Jesus reminds His disciples 'you did not choose me, no, I chose you' (Jn 15:16).

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to remember that our personal vocation is founded on God's original and absolutely free choice. His invitation towards us, therefore, is an invitation to make a final decision to let Him conquer or re-conquer us to mark a turning point in our lives.

Let us ask the Lord, for us and the whole Church, for the gift of a true conversion of our hearts enabling us to receive Christ as the only Light to follow. Christ is the only one that really dispels the darkness within and around us.

CONFESSIONS

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

THE ROSARY

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

The First Holy Communion programme continues on Saturday mornings at 10.30am

MASS INTENTIONS

Please be aware that Mass bookings get booked up very quickly – particularly for Sundays. If you have any Mass Intentions for specific dates for 2023, please book them as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

VACANCY - ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

St Joseph's School, are looking to appoint a Deputy Headteacher/Sendco for Easter 2023 or earlier. Further details can be found on: <https://www.eteach.com/job/deputy-headteachersendco-1294383> Visits to the school are welcome and can be arranged by contacting Julie Lynch on 020 8546 7178 or by email office@stjosephs.rbksch.org

READERS FOR MASS

We are very short of readers for the Sunday Mass, especially the 5.00pm - having lost two volunteers in the last couple of months and trying to recruit some new ones. If you would be interested in this very important role and would like to volunteer, please speak to Michael in the Parish Office or email surbiton@rcaos.org.uk

STRICTLY MINUETS

Our Tuesday dance sessions start again this week with a Scottish Burns Night theme. £5 at the door. If you want to attend and bring friends please contact Kate: 07747 464046.

THE PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the Parish Office is closed until Monday 30th January

HELP WITH FOOD, FUEL AND UTILITY BILLS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLDS

The Department of Work and Pensions have made additional funding available for low-income households in Kingston who meet the criteria and who are struggling to afford food, fuel, utility bills and other essentials.

For more information go to <https://www.kingston.gov.uk/covid-19-kingston/household-support-fund>

ESCORTED PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE,

15th March 2023. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Special St. Patrick's Day Celebrations. Single supplement £150.00. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.