

St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

Tel 020 8616 9583 Email 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

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 26th March – 5th Sunday of Lent (A)

9.30am Patricia Single RIP

11.30am James Lee RIP

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Stations of the Cross

Monday 27th March

Lenten Feria

10.00am

Margaret Garvey & Pat Hierlehy RIP

Tuesday 28th March

Lenten Feria

10.00am

Martin John Goddard's welfare

Wednesday 29th March

Lenten Feria

12noon

Punniyalangam Subramaniam RIP

Thursday 30th March

Lenten 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 11.45am.

Friday 31st March

Lenten Feria

10.00am

Sylvia Dainty RIP

Followed by Stations of The Cross.

12noon

Requiem Mass for Anna Abascal RIP

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

Saturday 1st April

Lenten Feria

10.00am

In reparation for the sin of abortion

Sunday 2nd April – Palm Sunday (A)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am Ena O'Sullivan RIP

5.00pm John Boyle RIP

4.00pm Stations of the Cross



There are Stations of
The Cross every
Sunday during Lent at
4.00pm and on Friday
mornings following the
10.00am Mass.

CONFESSIONS

Sundays 9.00am - 9.20am.
& 4.30pm - 4.50pm

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

THE ROSARY - The Rosary is recited in the Church
Monday - Saturday before Mass.

**EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE
BLESSED SACREMENT** – Thursdays after Mass
concluding with Benediction at 11.45am

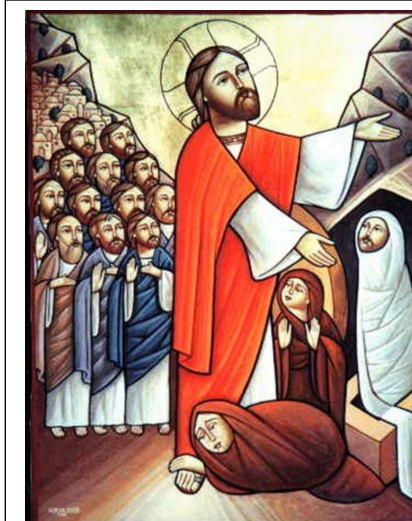
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - The First Holy
Communion programme continues Saturday mornings
at 10.30am

TEA AND COFFEE - There is tea and coffee after the
9.30am Mass on Sundays and after Mass on
Wednesdays

A BIBLICAL JOURNEY THROUGH LENT

Our pilgrimage concludes this week in Alexander House on Wednesday evening with our final reflection on the Lenten themes of evangelisation, justice, and our commitment to living our faith in community. As pilgrims, we will draw on the wisdom of the books of Psalms, Proverbs and Ruth and reflect on Jesus' example of sacrifice and his role as King. The pilgrim's way, "The Augustine Camino" (Ramsgate to Canterbury) will link our biblical studies to the saintly men and women who lived the gospel and shared their faith with this country and the world. The talk starts at 7.30pm, there is tea and coffee available from 7.00pm.

Why are we preparing to celebrate Easter? Why are we Christians? Why are we here now? Because we believe that Jesus gives us life. We believe we have that life already by our Baptism and by our baptism we believe we've already died with Jesus. Even now we live with his own life, filled by his own Holy Spirit. We know that the end of that will be the fullness of life with God in heaven for all eternity. The raising of Lazarus is a revelation, a sign, a pledge of the power Jesus has over death. In today's Gospel we see Jesus at the tomb of his friend: distressed, anguished, weeping. This a sign and foretaste of his own passion, which is clearly imaged in the details of the tomb with a stone over its entrance and in the burial cloths of Lazarus. The reaction of Jesus shows also that suffering and death come not from God, but from sin. God's response to our suffering is seen in Jesus: in his tears, his prayer, his grief and in the horror of his own death. Jesus came to us as a lover, rather than as a philosopher. So our religion is not at all the same as Stoicism, or Buddhism. We are not asked to despise strong emotion, whether of joy or of grief. On the contrary. A Christian should not be able to pass over beautiful things, or horrible things, unmoved and indifferent. We are supposed to feel pain, and to hate it. We are also allowed to be baffled at God, and even angry with him, when dreadful things occur. All that is summed up for us next Sunday, in the Passion of Jesus. But then we have the Sunday that follows: the centre of our year, and of our life; the focus of our hope, and our joy; the ultimate answer to all life's questions: which is the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.



DONATIONS FOR OUR LENTEN PROJECT

- If you wish to donate to our Parish Lenten Project, you can do so via the black iron collection box at the back of the church. There will also be a 2nd Collection on Palm Sunday – 2nd April in aid of the project.

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE - Our next Baptism Preparation Course will be this coming Saturday 1st April in Alexander House from 2.00pm - 4.00pm. All parents wishing their children to be Baptised need to attend a course prior to the Baptism. Please apply for a place via Fr. Michael.

EASTER CARDS - There is a selection of Easter Cards in the card rack in the hall.

THE FAITH FORMATION GROUP - Our Confirmation group will be meeting today after the 9.30 Mass.

THE CATENIANS - There will be a speaker from the Catenians making an appeal for members at all Masses today.

ARCHDIOCESAN YOUTH DAY - A youth day for (10–16-year-olds) will take place at St. George's Cathedral on Saturday 22nd April. The day will include a mixture of faith input, food, prayer and sport/crafts. Please see our website at <https://tinyurl.com/aprilyouthdayfor> for further details and how to register. Please contact youth@rcaos.org.uk for further information.

GIFT AID – If you are a member of the Gift Aid scheme and use weekly envelopes, please collect your new set from the back of the Church today. If you currently have, but no longer wish to use envelopes please advise the Parish Office

THANK YOU – To all those who organised and supported our St. Patrick's Day celebration last week. £404.80 was raised and to all those who supported last Sunday's Cake Sale £166.00 was raised. Both these amounts will go towards our Lenten Project.

Thank you also for £226.39 in last week's 2nd Collection for the Poor Parishes.

2ND COLLECTIONS - Today there will be the annual collection for the Easter flowers for our Church. Next Sunday there will be a 2nd collection in aid of our Lenten Project.

TONIGHT - LENTEN TALK – THE EARLY PARISH PRIESTS AND CHAPLAINS OF ST. RAPHAEL'S - As you go into the Church, on the right-hand side of the vestibule is a white marble tablet which lists the Chaplains and Parish Priests of St. Raphael's. Have you ever wondered about these men? For example, what is known about the first six who are listed, Fathers Donovan, Clark, Doyle, Ainsworth, Morley and du Plerny? Tonight at 6.00 pm, parishioner David Kennedy will be giving an illustrated talk on them as part of our Lenten fundraising project in support of our Lenten appeal. The suggested donation is £10 to include a glass of wine.

NEXT SUNDAY IS PALM SUNDAY AND THE START OF HOLY WEEK – Palms will be blessed at all Masses, the 9.30am Mass will begin with a procession from the garden into the Church. Times of all the Holy Week services will be in next week's newsletter.

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES – This year's pilgrimage will take place between the 8th-25th August. Bishop Paul writes '*After the restrictions of the past few years, I'm delighted that we are now once more able to include support for pilgrims who need assistance for medical or mobility reasons. In Lourdes, those who are often marginalised are placed at the centre, and we who travel with them are blessed by their presence. I warmly invite you to join us.* For details, please see <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/southwark-ca>