



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 16th April – 2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy Sunday (A)

9.30am

Stan Conley RIP

11.30am

Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm

Denis Spalding RIP

3.00pm

Divine Mercy Devotions

Monday 17th April

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Laurence RIP

Tuesday 18th April

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Ethel Shore RIP

Wednesday 19th April

Feria in Eastertide

12noon

Denis Curtin RIP

Thursday 20th April

Feria in Eastertide (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

10.00am

Maria del Carmen Macedo RIP

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood concluding with Benediction at 11.45am.

Friday 21st April

St. Anselm

10.00am

Jannett Hamerton Fraser and family RIP

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

Saturday 22nd April

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Tom Kelleher RIP

Sunday 23rd April – 3rd Sunday of Easter – (A)

9.30am

Fr. Geoffrey

11.30am

The Holy Souls

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm

Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

THE ROSARY

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The First Holy Communion programme resumes next Saturday at 10.30am

TEA AND COFFEE - There is no tea and coffee today. There is tea and coffee after after Mass on Wednesdays

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy takes place during the 9.30am Mass on Sundays

THE FAITH FORMATION GROUP

The next meeting of our Confirmation group will be on Sunday 30th April after the 9.30 Mass.



TODAY IS

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Afternoon devotions here at St. Raphael's.

3.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Prayers, followed by Confessions & Rosary concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3.45pm.

Easter has always been a celebration of the great love that God has for His Creation. A love that was shown when the Divine Son became incarnate and dwelt among us, sharing in our lot, showing us the way to the Father and making the perfect offering in atonement for our sins.

On the First Sunday after Easter the Church celebrates Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast based upon the private revelations of Jesus to St. Faustina. In extending this Feast to the entire Church, Pope St. John Paul II re-emphasized the resurrection context of Easter, citing St. Faustina's diary: "Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to Divine Mercy." In describing this feast, Pope St. John Paul II says: "Divine Mercy! This is the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ, a gift which it offers to all humanity."

The first epistle of St. John declares to the entire world that "God is love;" and in his encyclical letter *Rich in Mercy*, Pope St. John Paul II wrote "Mercy is love's second name." If we understand mercy in the Biblical sense, then without any fear of error contrary to the faith, it can be said that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. This Biblically formulated relationship between love and mercy is expressed by St. Faustina when she says: "Love is the flower, mercy the fruit."

Divine Mercy is the form that God's eternal love takes when He reaches out to us in the midst of our misery and our brokenness. Whatever the nature of our need might be — sin, guilt, suffering, or death — He is always ready to pour out His merciful, compassionate love for us, to help us. Where there was only despair, loneliness, and heartache before, comes joy, fruitfulness, and abiding love.

The message of Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us and wants us to approach Him in constant prayer, repenting of our sins while asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world. He wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others, extending our love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

We must realize that God does not do anything in portions. He is infinite and the amount of His Divine Mercy available to us is infinite. The only limiting factor is us. The more we trust in Jesus, the more graces we will receive and the more all will come to share His joy. This is the message Jesus is giving us through today's devotion to his Divine Mercy, a mercy which he tells us is unfathomable and which he wants us to spread throughout the world through our own actions and love for others.

2ND COLLECTION - There will be a 2nd collection next Sunday for the maintenance of St. George's Cathedral, the mother church of our Archdiocese. This collection helps with the costs of its running and maintenance.

CONGRATULATIONS – To Christy Shaw, who received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil and is now a Catholic and a member of our parish.

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.

HINCHLEY WOOD AND THE DITTONS

PROBUS CLUB - We are retired chaps who meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, enjoy a speaker then have a meal. The club meets, which meets at Imber Court, East Molesey. The subjects of our upcoming talks are:
18th April - Sharon Sains - What are Care Proceedings and should we care?

16th May - Roger Barton - Trip to Ukraine with medical aid

For further information please contact. Dick Moore Tel: 020 8224 2061

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>

VISITS TO LONDON'S NATIONAL GALLERY, LOOKING AT SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI -

The St Francis Leprosy Guild are organising free visits to the National gallery to view the forthcoming exhibition on St. Francis of Assisi. These will be on Saturday mornings at 11.00am on May 13th, 27th June 3rd, 24th July 1st, 8th and 29th Eileen Murray their newly appointed community fundraiser will guide people through the first major art show in the UK of St Francis of Assisi and explain why this saint remains a figure of enormous relevance to our time due to his spiritual radicalism, commitment to the poor, and love of God and nature, as well as his powerful appeals for peace, and openness to dialogue with other religions. There will also be an opportunity to update people on the important work they do. Please email Eileen if you would like to join for a free guided tour of the exhibition.

Email: eileen.murray@stfrancisleprosy.org

St. Francis Leprosy Guild, Tel: 07542817869

Website: <https://www.stfrancisleprosy.org/>