

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 9th April - Easter Sunday (A)

8.00pm (Saturday Evening) Alexander Raphael RIP

9.30am Nora Tierney RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

(No 5.00pm Mass, Confessions or Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament Today)

Monday 10th April

10.00am

Monday in the Octave of Easter

George Stevens RIP

Tuesday 11th April

10.00am

Tuesday in the Octave of Easter

James Ezechial RIP

Wednesday 12th April

12noon

Wednesday in the Octave of Easter

Jannett Hamerton Fraser and family RIP

Thursday 13th April

10.00am

Thursday in the Octave of Easter (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

Andreina da Silva Kayall RIP

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today.

Friday 14th April

10.00am

Friday in the Octave of Easter

Caroline Brady RIP

(As all days in the Octave of Easter are solemnities – the church does not ask us to abstain from eating meat today)

Saturday 15 April

10.00am

Saturday in the Octave of Easter

Alison Nary RIP

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

THE ROSARY

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The First Holy Communion programme resumes on the 22nd April at 10.30am

TEA AND COFFEE - There is no tea and coffee today. There is tea and coffee 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.



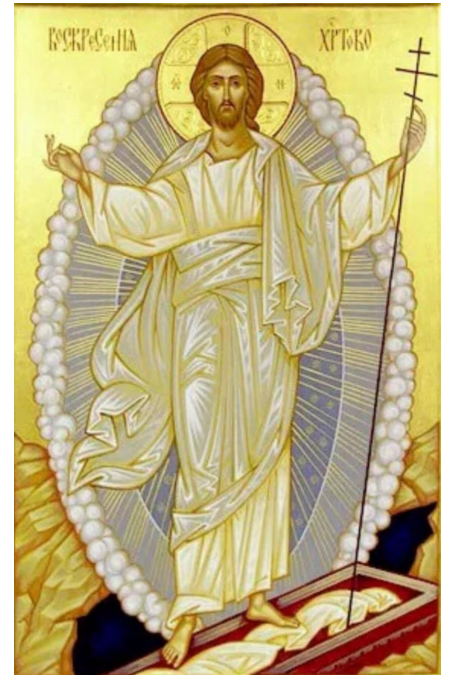
NEXT SUNDAY IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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 is the Solemnity of Solemnities, the centre and climax of the Church year. All the mysteries that we have commemorated from Advent until now have pointed toward Easter; all that we shall yet celebrate in the weeks that follow has its foundation in the mystery of Easter and receives its meaning and importance from this mystery. In the very centre of the Mass, the great prayer of thanksgiving, from the first words of the Preface, expresses the unrivalled motive for this joy: if it is right to praise You, Lord, at all times, how much more so should we not glorify You on this day when Christ our Passover was sacrificed, for He is the true Lamb who took away the sins of the world, who by His Death destroyed our death and by His Resurrection restored our life. Easter means, then, Redemption obtained — sin destroyed, death overcome, divine life brought back to us, the resurrection of our body which is promised immortality. With such a certitude, we should banish all trace of sadness.

Haec dies quam fecit Dominus: "This is the day which the Lord has made." Throughout the octave we shall sing of the unequalled joy which throws open eternity to us. Every Sunday will furnish a reminder of it, and from Sunday to Sunday, from year to year, the Easters of this earth will lead us to that blessed day on which Christ has promised that He will come again with glory to take us with Him into the kingdom of His Father.

"He is risen." The resurrection of Christ is a pledge of our own resurrection. It is the foundation upon which our faith rests. It is the guarantee of our redemption and God's assurance that our sins are forgiven and that we are called to eternal life. "This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us be glad and rejoice therein. Give praise to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever. Alleluia."



FR MICHAEL WRITES:

A Happy Easter to everyone, with many Blessings. Thank you to those who have sent greetings and gifts to me.

This time last year I wrote about the delay to the new car park. It is good to note that the job is now complete, with the planting of the new trees heralding the final stage. In my view, it is a good result, complementing our Listed Building with a construction and quality which is pleasing. Certainly, it has been regularly used in recent months and I hope you have found that parking here is now less problematic. Some work is now due on the piers and perimeter walls, which we hope will also be in keeping with the beauty of the site.

Recent talks have included Lucy Underwood-Healy on her historical novel, and David Kennedy on the early parish priests and chaplains here. It is a fascinating history which David hopes to write up and place on his web site. Janet Croggon spanned Lent with her Biblical pilgrimage on Wednesday nights in the hall. This course was widely praised and seemed to meet a need among so many of you. Our thanks go to all three speakers.

The number of Mass attenders counted in October showed that our numbers have returned to pre-Covid levels and we have many helpers in a variety of roles in the parish for which we are grateful. We have three catechetical 'Leads' in line with Archbishop John's plans. This year, a group of young people will be Confirmed by Canon Gerard. Please pray for them.

Congratulations to everyone for supporting our Lenten Project. We collected £1,801.69 for Fr John Perrotta's 'Bread of Life' charity and I will pass this on to him in the coming days.

God bless you,
Fr Michael

TEACHING AND LEADING IN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS -

Are you a Catholic and a teacher, middle or senior leader in a community school or academy and interested in taking up a role in Catholic education? If so, the Archdiocese of Southwark Education Commission would like to invite you to a twilight session: Teaching and Leading in Catholic Schools. The session will include opportunities to meet current leaders and the education team, find out about Catholic schools and tips in relation to the application process. This event will be held on Thursday 27th April 2023 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at Amigo Hall, Lambeth Road SE1 6HR. If you are interested in attending, or if you have any queries please contact Sharon Docherty, RE Team Leader and Professional Learning Manager Email. sharondocherty@rcaos.org.uk Tel: 01689 829 331.

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.