



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 7th May – 5th Sunday of Easter – (A)

9.30am

Mary O'Brien RIP

11.30am

Shirley de Lord - welfare

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

No Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 8th May

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Mina Cawley RIP

Tuesday 9th May

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Fr. Michael

Wednesday 10th May

Feria in Eastertide

12noon

The Holy Souls

Thursday 11th May

Feria in Eastertide (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

10.00am

Ada Freeman RIP

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

Friday 12th May

Feria in Eastertide

10.00am

Roxi

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

Saturday 13th May

Our Lady of Fatima

10.00am

Vernon Freeman RIP

Sunday 14th May – 6th Sunday of Easter – (A)

9.30am

Imelda Qualter RIP

11.30am

Genny DeLord

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

3.00pm Annual May Procession in Honour of Our Blessed Lady

PRAYER FOR THE KING TO BE RECITED AT THE END OF MASS TODAY



V O Lord, save Charles, our King.

R And hear us on the day we call upon you.

V O Lord, hear my prayer.

R And let my cry come before you.

V The Lord be with you.

R And with your spirit.

Almighty God, we pray, that your servant Charles, our King, who, by your providence has received the governance of this realm, may continue to grow in every virtue and that, imbued with your heavenly grace, he may be preserved from all that is harmful and evil and being blessed with your favour may, with his consort and the royal family, come at last into your presence, through Christ who is the way, the truth and the life and who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

Reading today's Gospel from *St. John*, we may well wonder at the slowness of the Apostles in seeing in Christ nothing more than a man—a great man, a man with power from God, yes, but still a mere man. That He was the Messiah, they were convinced, but their idea of the Messiah was wrong. They thought He would free Israel from foreign domination and set up a new kingdom of God—a prosperous, earthly kingdom with God guaranteeing peace and plenty for all. If, therefore, He allowed His enemies to put Him to death, all their hopes would be dashed to the ground. But we must not judge them too harshly. Christ had indeed often claimed to be God, but His words fell on deaf ears. It was only after His resurrection that they began to understand that He had spoken literally—it was only then they believed He was indeed the Son of God, in human nature. For us today, the Incarnation is still a mystery, but it is not the "how" that should trouble us, we know that with God all things are possible. It is rather the "why" that should cause us amazement. Why should God go to that length for our sake—mere creatures, and sinful, ungrateful creatures at that? The infinite goodness and the infinite love of God are the answer, but still an answer which is mysterious to us. For we, with our limited capacity for love, can form no idea of infinite love. God created us "in His own image and likeness" and intended us to share in His eternal life and glory. To do this, the Incarnation of the second Person of the Holy Trinity was God's plan. There must have been other ways of doing this, but God, we can be sure, chose the best way. Sin entered the world of man, as God had foreseen, but notwithstanding this ingratitude on our part, God's Son came in our lowly, human nature and suffered, even though sinless, all the effects of men's sins. He suffered in our name, and because He was God, His sufferings in His human nature made infinite atonement for the sins of all mankind. His Incarnation had made us His brothers and co-heirs to heaven. His death on the cross wiped out, and gave us the means of wiping out, our sins, so that we would be capable of possessing our inheritance. As the psalm says "What return can I make to the Lord?" All the mortifications and good works of all the holy men and women that ever lived, or will live, would not be adequate a return to God for the miracle of love He has shown toward us. But He accepts the widow's mite, the little acts of love, the little proofs of gratitude, the willing acceptance of the crosses He sends us, to purify us. In one word, all He asks in return is that we try to live our Christian life day after day, ever thanking Him for the gift of Christ and the Christian faith.

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

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

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - Children's Liturgy takes place during the 9.30am Mass on Sundays

CONFESSIONS

Sundays 9.00am – 9.20am, 4.30pm – 4.50pm

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Next Sunday we will have our annual May Procession in honour of Our Blessed Lady around the grounds of the Church at 3.00pm

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED YOU MAY BE CALLED TO THE PRIESTHOOD OR THE RELIGIOUS LIFE?

Southwark Vocations will be hosting a 60-minute webinar on Tuesday 9th May at 7pm entitled *The Good Shepherd Calls* where different presenters will share their experiences about discovering God's plan for each one of us. Please join us by registering for this event in advance by using the following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/register/tZUpdOuPrDMtH9wKUQ777ddSSjLBucMtsONt>

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT - The Life in the Spirit Seminars provides an opportunity to find out more about a life lived in the power of the Holy Spirit and to take the first steps into a new relationship with Our Lord. Run from St George's Cathedral and at 'hubs' across the Archdiocese of Southwark. Meetings will be held at the New Malden Hub at St Joseph Church Hall on Tuesdays from 7.30 starting on Tuesday 2nd May for 6 weeks. To learn more about the course please go to

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liss>.

MASS INTENTIONS- COELHO - Would the person who handed in the Mass Intentions for John & Ruby Coelho, please contact Michael in the Parish Office. Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS - Congratulations to Elonna who was baptised recently here at St. Raphael's

THE EARLY PARISH PRIESTS OF ST. RAPHAEL'S

The well researched talk that Dr. David Kennedy gave on the history of the early Parish Priests of St. Raphael's parish as part of our Lenten fundrasing is now available on his website www.kingstonhistoryresearch.co.uk If you missed this facinating talk it is well worth reading it on line.