



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 24th December - 4th Sunday of Advent - (B)

5.00pm (Saturday Evening)

9.30am

11.30am

The Holy Souls

Missa Pro Populo

Ena O'Sullivan RIP

Sunday 24th December - Christmas Eve

4.00pm

6.00pm

12midnight

For Peace

Alexander Raphael RIP

Don Cocks RIP

Monday 25th December - Christmas Day

9.30am

11.30am

NO EVEING MASS

Donald D'Souza RIP

Missa Pro Populo

Tuesday 26th December

10.00am

Wednesday 27th December

12noon

Thursday 28th December

10.00am

Friday 29th December

10.00am

Saturday 30th December

10.00am

St. Stephen

Peggy Lovell RIP

St. John The Apostle

The Holy Souls

The Holy Innocents

Victor Donaldson RIP (Latin Mass - Novus Ordo)

St. Thomas of Canterbury

William & Ethel Larkin RIP

Sixth day in the Octave of Christmas

The Rupa, Park & Tangri Families



Sunday 31st December - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (B)

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

Antonio & Franca Castagnino RIP

Missa Pro Populo

The Holy Souls

Monday 1st January

10.00am

Tuesday 2nd January

10.00am

Wednesday 3rd January

12noon

Thursday 4th January

10.00am

Friday 5th January

10.00am

Saturday 6th January

10.00am

Mary Mother of God

The Holy Souls

SS. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

The Holy Souls

Christmas Feria

The Holy Souls

The Beatified Martyrs of the Diocese

The Holy Souls (Latin Mass - Novus Ordo)

Christmas Feria

The Holy Souls

Christmas Feria

Billy & Margaret Doyle RIP

Sunday 7th January - Epiphany of the Lord (B)

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

Michael O'Brien RIP

Missa Pro Populo

The Holy Souls



Archbishop John Wilson Christmas Message

Dear friends,

The past year has, once again, been tragically filled with conflict and war. With innocent lives lost in Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, the Holy Land and other places where bloodshed has blighted peace.

In the face of war, we pray for peace and urge the international community to find lasting solutions. We remember that the Gospel is the Good News of Peace. It comes to us, through Mary's 'yes' to God's will. It comes to us through the Lord Jesus, the new-born Prince of Peace.

Dear brothers and sisters, we must all be missionaries of peace, proclaiming the Good News of God's love for every person and honouring the dignity of every person.

Christ comes to us as our Saviour. Our Saviour from sin and death. Christ comes to us with the gift of peace for our hearts, our families, communities and our nations.

We look to the coming New Year to be one of peace and we pray, give, and receive this precious gift.

In preparation for the Jubilee year of 2025, our Holy Father Pope Francis has designated next year, 2024, as the year of prayer.

The call to prayer is one we all can and should embrace. Often – too often – we think of God as distant or indifferent. We can put up barriers between ourselves and between God, shutting him out, not trusting his love, and not seeking his mercy.

Instead, let's use prayer to come close to God. Let's turn again to his Son, the Lord Jesus, with our hopes, our dreams, our worries and our thanks. From now, looking forward to next year, let's give prayer a go.

Because prayer is strength for the weak. It will never make things worse, and can only make them better.

The biggest challenge to praying is just beginning.

You can only learn to ride a bicycle by trying it out. It's the same with prayer. Even just praying the Our Father when we wake up and as we go to sleep at night will make a difference to our lives.

If we ask, we will be heard. If we seek, we will be found. If we knock, the Lord Jesus will open the door. Prayer builds peace.

So next year, pray, pray to welcome Christ into your heart. Go on, give prayer a go.

I pray that everyone who hears this message will have a blessed and wonderful Christmas, and I ask God to bless you, and all those you love in the year to come.

May the Lord's peace be upon us, that His Kingdom may come.

NURSERY INTAKE AT ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, KINGSTON

- We are holding an open morning for our September 2024/January 2025 intake to our nursery on Wednesday 24th January 2024. Places can be reserved by contacting the school office at office@stjosephs.rbksch.org

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

Most of our Parish Groups have now taken a break for the Christmas period

Sunday Tea and Coffee – This will resume on Sunday 7th January

The Wednesday Tea Group - will meet after Mass on Wednesday 27th December as normal

The Little Cherubs – Our play group will meet again on Wednesday 10th January

Children's Liturgy – This will resume on Sunday 7th January.

Sunday Rosary and Benediction- will resume on the 14th January

Thursday Exposition - will resume on the 11th January

The Faith Formation Group – will meet on the 14th January after the 9.30am Mass

First Holy Communion Classes – resume Saturday 13th January

OUR 2023 CRIB APPEAL - This year our Crib collection will be donated to the 'The Catholic Children's Society' which supports disadvantaged children and families with funding for food and basic essentials to help them through this challenging time. This has only been possible thanks to the generosity of their supporters. By making a donation you can help them reach out to more families in urgent need. Please be as generous as you can. If you would like to Gift Aid your donation, there are envelopes available by the crib.

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC DIRECTORIES - Copies of this year's directory are available at the back of the Church. They cost £6.75.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS - Your offerings made at the Masses on the evening of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. There are Christmas Offering envelopes available at the back of the church. However, if you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, please use the special Christmas Offering Envelope in your packet. Thank you for your generosity.

CONFESSIONS

Sundays 9.00am – 9.20am,

4.30pm – 4.50pm (Not Christmas Eve)

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

THE PARISH OFFICE - Please note the Parish Office is closed until 2nd January 2024. Our next newsletter will be issued on the 7th January

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - Today at the vigil and morning Masses we will have the annual collection for Christmas flowers.

Congratulations - to Helena who was Baptised here at St Raphael's recently.