



## St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church - Parish Priest - Fr. Michael Lovell

Tel 020 8616 9583 Email [michaellovell@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:surbiton@rcaos.org.uk) Web. [www.straphaelsurbiton.org.uk](http://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](mailto:office@stjosephs.rbksch.org) Web. [www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk](http://www.stjosephs.kingston.sch.uk)

Head Teacher Mrs Lorraine Flower

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> January – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am

Donald D'Souza RIP

11.30am

Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm

The Holy Souls

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

Una Annett RIP

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January

St. Anthony, Abbot

12noon

The Altar Society

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

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

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

Scholastica Rose Ezechiel RIP

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

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> January

Our Lady

10.00am

John Gibney RIP

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am

Mary Kerrigan Braben RIP

11.30am

Kristiaan Corner-Munroe RIP

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**Sunday Tea and Coffee** –After the 9.30am Mass today.

**The Wednesday Tea Group** - Meet after Mass on Wednesday.

**The Little Cherubs** – Meets on Wednesday from 1.30pm -3.00pm in the Hall.

**Children's Liturgy** – Sundays during the 9.30am Mass.

**Sunday Rosary and Benediction**- Sundays 4.00pm

**Thursday Exposition** – From after the 10.00am Mass concluding with Benediction at 11.45am.

**The Faith Formation Group** – Will meet after the 9.30am Mass on the 11<sup>th</sup> February.

**First Holy Communion Classes** –Saturday 10.30am in the Hall.

**RCIA** – The next session is on 27<sup>th</sup> January, at 10.30am in Alexander House.

### THE OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The annual Octave of prayer for Christian unity beings on Thursday and continues until 25<sup>th</sup> January. The theme for 2024 is "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself." The theme is inspired by Luke 10:25-37, which tells the story of how Jesus is asked by a lawyer, "What must I do to inherit everlasting life?" and Jesus responds, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" The lawyer responds, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." Then Jesus says to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But then in order to justify himself, the lawyer says, "And who is my neighbour?" which leads Jesus to tell the parable of the Good Samaritan.

Today's Gospel gives an account of the vocation of the first four Apostles who followed Jesus. It was a momentous event in the history of salvation. It was the beginning of a stream of vocations that would grow and spread down through the ages until the end of the world. It was momentous, firstly, in that Christ, who had come to open heaven for all men and women and who could find means of bringing them all to that eternal home without help from any of us, decided instead to let us co-operate with him in this divine task. He decreed to set up a kingdom in this world—his Church—which would be run by mere mortals for their fellow-mortals, but which would be under his protection and assisted by his divine aid until the end of time. Christ chose this very human way, in order to make his Church more acceptable to our limited, human understanding and more approachable for sinful, human nature. Christ, as God, could deal directly with everyone. He could teach the infallible truth; he could pardon sins; he could give all the graces needed to travel successfully to heaven. There would then be no need for a Church with its teaching magisterium, no need for the sacraments. Christ could do all that his Church does for the salvation of mankind, and more successfully, of course, but yet he chose the way which divine wisdom saw was best.

We know that God can speak directly to our hearts and do directly all that is done by his Church, to whom he gave the power, with its teaching magisterium and sacraments. If he were to act in this way we should be open to continuous doubts about the source of our inspirations and the objectivity of the graces we thought we were receiving. It was to remove such doubts, and the possibility of self-deception that Christ left to us the external visible kingdom to which he gave all the powers necessary for our salvation. It was for the security and peace of our consciences that he set up a visible Church founded on the Apostles, people like ourselves, but transformed by his assisting grace.

In the Church, which he founded on the lowly but solid foundation of simple fishermen of Galilee, he erected an institution against which the gates of hell, the power of all the enemies of our salvation, cannot prevail, for his divine guidance and help will be with it forever. It has had enemies and opposition from the beginning; they may be more numerous and more destructive than ever today. But the promise of Christ still holds good, his word cannot fail. Therefore, neither the opposition of materialistic enemies from without, nor the even more insidious attacks from faint-hearted and worldly-minded members from within, can affect the safety and permanence of the building which Christ built on the Rock. "If God is with us," it matters not "who is against us."

#### **THE MAYOR OF KINGSTON CLLR. DIANE WHITE WRITES –**

*'Dear Fr. Michael,  
Thank you so much inviting me to share your beautiful Carol Service and meet members of the wonderful St. Raphael's Community. It was a very special evening and especially kind of you to include a collection for the Mayors Charitable trust...'*

#### **NURSERY INTAKE AT ST JOSEPH'S - OUR 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](mailto:office@stjosephs.rbksch.org)

#### **BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE**

The Southwark Marriage and Family Team will be running a Building a Better Marriage Course throughout the Archdiocese from February 2024. The one-day course is for married couples. It seeks to help husbands and wives to make their marriage better and to improve their communication skills. For more information contact the Marriage and Family Life team through the Archdiocese of Southwark website:

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/marriage-and-family-life>

#### **THE ROSARY**

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

#### **CONFESSIONS**

**Sundays** 9.00am – 9.20am &  
4.30pm – 4.50pm  
**Saturdays** 10.30am - 11.00am

#### **CHARITY FILM NIGHT**

The Life charity is hosting a Film Show on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.30 pm in Alexander House. It is a variety show presented on film (not digital) using Super 8 and 16mm projectors. The content is nostalgic and may feature rare items that will probably never be seen elsewhere. Tickets are £7.50 per person with family concessions and can be purchased on the night. There will be an interval with refreshments, a bring and buy sale and a raffle. A date for your diaries!

#### **THE PARISH OFFICE**

Please note the Parish Office is closed until Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January.

#### **OF YOUR CHARITY**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of  
**Gerard Hope**  
who died recently.  
Details of her Requiem Mass to follow.  
May She Rest in Peace