



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 21st January – 3rd 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

Monday 22nd January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Tuesday 23rd January

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

Patricia McCarthy RIP

Wednesday 24th January

St. Francis de Sales

12noon

Peter Freeman

Thursday 25th January

The Conversion of St. Paul

10.00am

Mable Ezechiel RIP (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

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

Friday 26th January

SS. Timothy & Titus

10.00am

The Holy Souls

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

Saturday 27th January

Our Lady

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Sunday 28th January – 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am

Janet Wilson RIP

11.30am

The Holy Souls

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Sunday Tea and Coffee –After the 9.30am Mass.

The Wednesday Tea Group - Meet after Mass on Wednesday.

The Little Cherubs – Our Parish playgroup 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 11th February.

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

RCIA – The next session is this coming Saturday, 27th January, at 10.30am in Alexander House.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The annual Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity concludes on Thursday this week.

The Pope has said that to advance along the path of faith we also need ecumenical dialogue with other religious confessions and different Christian denominations. He emphasized that these conversations cannot be seen as something that confuses or bothers, but as a gift that God gives to the Christian community so that it may grow as one body, the Body of Christ.

To live this gift, we must allow ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit, Thanks to him, we remember that above all we are God's beloved children. We are all equal in God's love and all different. For this reason, The pope commends Catholics to pray that the Holy Spirit "will help us to recognize the gift of different charisms within Christian communities and to describe the richness of the different ritual traditions within the Catholic Church."

Today's Gospel is from the Gospel of Mark 1:14-20. Jesus came to announce to all men the good news of God's eternal plan for them. He spent his public life convincing the Jews of the truth of this message and he died on the cross because he claimed to be that he was God's divine Son, who had come in human nature to raise all men to the standing and status of adopted sons of God. That very death, cruel and unjust though it was, was part of the divine plan. He conquered death and was raised from the grave to prove that we too, if we accept his divine gospel and live by it, will be raised from the dead and reign with Christ in the kingdom of his Father forever. It is the doctrine for which he gave his human life and which he gave to his Apostles to hand down to all future generations. This is the self-same doctrine preached by Christ's Church to all men and women today. It is the good news of God's mercy and love toward us weak, mortal creatures. To some it seems too good to be true; it would indeed be so if God were a limited, finite being like us, but he is Being itself. He is without limit, his goodness and love are limitless as is his nature. What God can see in creatures has ever been a puzzle to thinking men and women. One of the psalm-writers said centuries ago: "What is man that you should spare a thought for him, the son of man that you should care for him" (Ps. 8 :4)? Many a saint too, has repeated this remark ever since.

We cannot hope to fathom the mind of God, nor do we need to. He has gone to such a length as the humiliation of his divine Son in the incarnation in order to give us a new standing in relation to himself and a new mode of eternal living after death. We are still God's creatures, "the work of his hands," but through accepting Christ and his gospel—his message of divine truth—we are no longer mere mortals. We shall die, but death is the beginning of the true life which God has arranged for us. It is no wonder that St. Paul could cry out: "O death where is your victory, O death, where is your sting?"

We Christians should be the happiest people on earth. We know why we are here, we know where we are going and we know how to get there. There are trials and troubles which beset us on our journey; there are rough parts of the road and weaknesses in our human nature which often lead us off the right road, but we are not left to our own human resources. We have help from above to strengthen and comfort us on our journey. We have divine aids in the Church which Christ set us and we have the guarantee of our Good Shepherd that he will keep us in his fold or bring us back should we foolishly wander from it (Jn. 10: 14; Lk. 15:4-7).

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 visit :

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

CONFESSIONS

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

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

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

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

DISABLED PARKING

Please observe the convention regarding the leaving of disabled parking bays to those who must use them because they are disabled. Thank you.

CHARITY FILM NIGHT

The 'Life' charity is hosting a Film Show on Friday 9th 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 29th 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