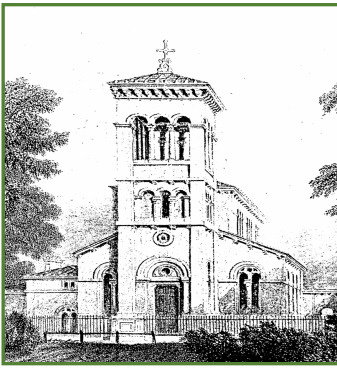




St. Raphael's Church

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 30th June – SS. Peter & Paul – (B)

9.30am

The Holy Souls

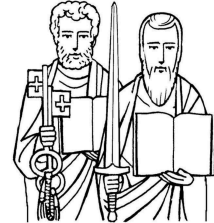
11.30am

Megan Micaela Barbosa RIP

5.00pm

Missa Pro Populo

No Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament today.



Monday 1st July

St. Oliver Plunket

10.00am

The Holy Souls

(We welcome the children from years 5&6 from St. Joseph's School to Mass this morning)

Tuesday 2nd July

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Wednesday 3rd July

St. Thomas, The Apostle

12noon

The Holy Souls

Thursday 4th July

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today.

Friday 5th July

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

The Holy Souls

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

Saturday 6th July

St. Maria Goretti

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Sunday 7th July – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am

Camilo Fernandes RIP

11.30am

Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm

Kathleen Pritchard RIP

No Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament today.

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACREMENT – Our Sunday Rosary and Benediction and Thursday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume in September.

CONFESSIONS – Sundays 9.00am – 9.20am and 4.30pm – 4.50pm.
Saturdays 10.30am – 11.00am

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

TEA AND COFFEE – There is tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass today and after the 12noon Mass on Wednesday.

THE LITTLE CHERUBS – Our parish play group meets on Wednesdays from 1.30pm - 3.00pm in the Hall.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – Sundays during the 9.30am Mass.

THE FAITH FORMATION GROUP – The meeting of the Faith Formation Group that was planned for the 7th July has been cancelled.

Thank you so very much.

'I would like very much to express my deepest thanks to you my friends for sharing with me the occasion of my Silver Jubilee of Ordination to the Priesthood last Sunday. The joy of Holy Mass with all it means and to have concelebrated it with Fr. Michael, Fr. Peter and Fr. David and all of you! It was, so special and if that were not enough wonderful music as well. To top it off then, to have had wonderful weather as well and to have been surrounded by and with one's friends for a Parish luncheon was very amazing and special. So many thanks go to all those involved, with every Blessing Fr. Geoffrey.'

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE GREAT FEAST OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL

Both died as martyrs for the faith in Rome, in the early 60's A.D. just thirty years after the death of Jesus. St. Peter was crucified upside down where St. Peter's Basilica now stands and St. Paul was beheaded between Rome and the sea, in a place now called Tre Fontane – Three Fountains.

Each of these two saints is important for different reasons.

St. Peter is important because he was the first Pope and kept the church united as it grew rapidly in the years following Pentecost. St. Paul spread the Christian message beyond the Jewish world to the Gentiles. Three times St. Paul set out from Syria where he was based and preached all over what we now call Turkey. During his second and third journeys he preached all over Greece. Although not one of the Twelve Apostles, we call him the apostle of the nations.

Whenever you see statues of St. Peter and St. Paul – like the ones in our Church over the sacristy door – St. Peter is usually depicted holding keys, reminding us that Our Lord said to him “I will give you the keys to the Kingdom of Heaven, those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven, those whose sins you retain, they are retained”. St. Paul is usually shown holding a book. This is because he was a great preacher of the word of God and because he wrote so many of the epistles we hear at Mass. They both had very strong personalities. St. Peter was impetuous, telling Jesus that he would die with him on Holy Thursday night if necessary but later that night he denied he even knew him. We also remember St. Peter's objection to Jesus' prediction that he would suffer and die in Jerusalem and Jesus said ‘Get behind me Satan because the way you think is man's way and not God's way’. Yet what made St. Peter a suitable candidate for Jesus' call was his love. Three times Jesus asked him if he loved him, three times without hesitation he replied he did.

St. Paul was a controversial character in his own way. He had a fiery personality. In his early life he channelled that fire towards persecuting the Christians in Jerusalem, even witnessing the death of St. Stephen, the Church's first martyr. After his conversion, St. Paul's preaching was fiery and upset some of the early Christians. In Acts we read that when he returned to Tarsus “The churches throughout Judea, Galilee and Samaria were left in peace”.

Why did God call St. Paul? He was a highly educated Pharisee and it would be only someone like him who could see that faith in Jesus demanded a totally new relationship with God. It was his strong personality which helped the Jews to accept that Jesus was the Saviour and furthermore the Saviour of all men - Jew and non-Jew alike.

As we look at the personalities of these two men, we see that God called them to use their personalities to spread the Gospel. St. Peter to use his impetuous love to look after the flock. St. Paul to use his training as a Pharisee and his strength of character to ensure that the non-Jews would be welcomed into the church. It is a reminder to us that our talents and our weaknesses too can become God's means of helping others, if we allow. We don't have to be perfect for God to work through us, God can work through us, faults and all, as he did with St. Peter and St. Paul.

Next Sunday we welcome Deacon John-Simon Lawson, a Permanent Deacon from St. Joseph's Parish New Malden. He will preach at all Masses about the role and vocation of Permanent Deacons in the Church.

This will be the last full newsletter until September. During the months of July and August we shall have a smaller news sheet. During this time please check the Parish Website for any important updates.

MASS INTENTIONS - We have various free slots available for Mass intentions at the moment. If you would like a Mass to be said for your intentions or a deceased loved one, please complete one of the Mass Offering Envelopes that can be found at the back of the Church and either hand it in to the sacristy or parish office.

2ND COLLECTIONS - Today there will be the annual world-wide collection for **Peter's Pence**. This ancient collection is used by the Pope to support his various charitable projects around the world. Next Sunday is 'Sea Sunday' and we will hold the annual 2nd collection for **Stella Maris – The Apostleship of the Sea**.

RICHARD CHALLONER SUMMER FAIR - Richard Challoner School in New Malden will be holding their summer fair on Sunday 7th July – please see the poster in the porch for details.

CONCERT IN AID OF LIFE - The Kingston Friends of Life Charity will be hosting a recital with Michael Bevan on piano playing Chopin, Brahms, Grieg, Poulenc, Rachmaninoff and Beethoven, on Saturday 20th July at 7.30 pm, in Alexander House. Admission is free, with a retiring collection, and light refreshments will be served. Doors open at 7.00 pm.

ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW

IN NEED OF A CARER? - An experienced carer from Our Lady Immaculate parish seeks new clients and can offer personal care. For more information please contact Irene on 07966698331.

SUMMERTIME 2024: 29TH JULY – 1ST AUGUST: ALTAR SERVERS TRIP TO WESTMINSTER

PASTORAL CENTRE - For aged 11-16. We commend this excellent residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. In an event that has now gone on for more than 20 years, it is a few days for deepening one's Catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. The cost is £189. For more details see Fr. Michael.

THE GENERAL ELECTION - With the General Election looming, here are a few links to sites which can help you make a more informed & ethical decision:

<https://ccstp.org.uk/articles/general-election-resources>;
<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/election24/>;
columbans.co.uk/justice-peace/colpreparing-for-the-election/

Message from SPUC : The threat of abortion being decriminalised was averted when this election was called, but these extreme proposals are sure to return. The next Parliament will also likely see a big push to legalise assisted suicide. It is therefore vital that we elect MPs who will oppose these threats to life. To contact your candidates, and to check their voting intentions, please go to www.spuc.org.uk/General-Election-2024.

CATHOLIC MOTHERS - Join us at the Catholic Mothers group on Friday mornings from the 19th July from 9.30am -11.00 am. We will meet for fellowship, faith discussion and formation. We will be studying spiritual texts, welcoming visiting speakers and praying together. We embrace the chaos of having children present and they are very welcome. Breakfast will be provided. For more information, contact Emily Hudson & Hannah Collins at catholicmotherssurbiton@gmail.com