



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 22nd September – 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am The Braganza- Gomes-Fernandez, The Avgousti-Cox families & The Holy Souls.

5.00pm Eric Scullard RIP

4.00pm Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 23rd September

10.00am

12noon

St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

The De Menezes Family

Funeral Service for Paul Mcnaught RIP

Tuesday 24th September

10.00am

Our Lady of Walsingham

The Holy Souls.

Wednesday 25th September

12noon

Feria in Ordinary Time

Fr. Peter Sebastian

Thursday 26th September

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary Time

Gabrielle & Thomas Butterly RIP (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

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

Friday 27th September

10.00am

St. Vincent de Paul

Hilda Barlow RIP

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

Saturday 28th September

10.00am

The Anniversary of the Consecration of St. Raphael's Church

The De Menezes Family

Sunday 29th September – SS. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael

9.30am Jhoana Cindy Capili RIP

11.30am Gracia Meta Wetu RIP

5.00pm Missa Pro Populo

4.00pm Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Rosary and Benediction – Sunday afternoons at 4.00pm

Thursday exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 10.00am Mass – concluding with Benediction at 11.45am.

THE ROSARY - The Rosary is said before Mass Monday - Saturday and at 4.00pm on Sunday.

TEA AND COFFEE - After the 9.30am Mass on Sundays and following the midday Mass on Wednesday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – There is Children's Liturgy during the 9.30am Mass on Sundays.

THE LITTLE CHERUBS - Our parent and child group meet on Wednesday afternoons 1.30pm – 3.00pm in the Hall.

CONFESSIONS -

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

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

The Apostles were full of the hope that Christ would establish an earthly messianic kingdom, that he would not only free them from the hated pagan rulers but that he would set up a worldwide empire for the people of God. Many of the messianic prophecies of the Old Testament spoke of a worldwide kingdom; all nations would submit to the descendants of David; Jerusalem would be the magnet which would attract all peoples. The prophets, however, were speaking of the true messianic kingdom, the spiritual kingdom that Christ would establish. The Apostles were as yet unable to see the true meaning of these prophecies. They took them as referring to a worldly kingdom. They had come to believe that Christ was the promised Messiah, therefore, he would overcome all enemies and all opposition and set up this kingdom. How, therefore, could his enemies overpower him much less put him to death before he had accomplished his task? Thus they could not understand his prophecies concerning his coming tortures and death. Now, either in trying to understand what he had so plainly told them, or maybe in putting this disturbing thought far from their minds, they began disputing with one another as to which of them would have the highest post of honour in the earthly messianic kingdom which they had envisaged. How worldly but how human they were! We must not forget though, that they were not yet really Christians — they needed the death and resurrection of Christ to make them what they became — His true followers and loyal disciples.

There was in the unformed Apostles a desire to turn Christ's kingdom into an earthly welfare state, rather than into a preparation for heaven. All Christians know that Christ suffered and died for their salvation and that he asked his followers to take up their cross and follow him if they wished to be his disciples. The first generations of Christians fully understood this and faithfully followed him even to martyrdom. However, as time went on and opposition to the Christian faith disappeared, so too did the zeal and fervour of many Christians. For centuries we have had nominal Christians in Christ's Church - men and women who tried to make their paradise in this world and forgot the everlasting heaven.

Many of these people who in practice have abandoned Christianity, try to salve their consciences by devoting any time they can spare to making this planet a better place in which to live. It is an excellent aim with a possibility of success — if the Fatherhood of God and the true brotherhood of man are upheld. But otherwise, it is a vain Utopia. If God and Christ's teaching are left out of our reckoning, we shall always have jealousies, enmities, hatred and wars. Christians have made war on Christians because neither side in the struggle was truly Christian. What chance then has the world when Christ and Christianity are banished from it?

Today's thought for each one of us is this: Christ became man, suffered and died as man, for our sakes. By his resurrection He conquered death and opened heaven for us. Heaven is our true destiny. Loving God and our neighbour and carrying our cross is the only way to reach heaven. Accept Christ and you are accepting the Father who sent Him. He in turn will accept you.

NEXT SATURDAY

Next Saturday is the anniversary of the Consecration of Our Church which took place in 1912.

NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the feast of SS. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael – our patronal feast. As this is a parish solemnity, it takes precedence over the normal Sunday celebration. We will however use the ordinary readings for the 26th Sunday of the year.

MARY'S MEALS - SCHOOL + FOOD = HOPE

During the month of September we are collecting for Mary's Meals, any unwanted foreign currency - notes and coins that you may have either lying idle in a draw or left over from your holiday. They can also take any old UK notes and coins that are no longer legal tender. These will be used to provide nutritious school meals for children living in the poorest parts of the world. If you can help with this project, please take an envelope from the back of the church and return in to either the Sacristy or Parish Office. Thank you.

SERVICE OF HOPE & HEALING

You are warmly invited to the annual service of hope & healing for those that have been harmed by abuse and for those that work with or support those that have been harmed. The service will be on the 25th September at 6.30pm in St. George's Cathedral and Archbishop John will preside.

Please see the notice on the 'Safeguarding' noticeboard in the hall for more details.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENT'S MEETING

If you have applied for your child to join the course, please come to an introductory meeting on Thursday 3rd October at 7.00pm in Alexander House. The meeting is for parents but children are welcome if you have childcare issues.

CONFIRMATION & FAITH FORMATION GROUP

Our children's Faith Formation groups will resume on October 13th. We will have two groups this year, Sunday mornings 10:30am – 12noon for our post 1st Communion children, aged 8-12 and Sunday evenings 6:15pm - 8:15pm for our children 12 and over with a view to preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation in the summer 2025. All children and their parents considering Confirmation next summer need to attend the first session on October 13th. Any queries please see Subash or Dymphna after the 9:30 Mass.

CAN YOU HELP

Barbara Hogan, a doctoral student at St. Mary's University, Twickenham, is conducting a research study in some parishes in the Surrey area to assess the importance of touch when attending Mass, particularly in the experience of receiving Holy Communion. She would like to invite members of the parish to take part in a one-to-one informal interview, which will last approximately 1 hour. Anything you say in the interview will be kept anonymous and the findings will form part of her doctoral thesis. Please see the link below for more information about the study: <https://mahara.stmarys.ac.uk/view/view.php?id=178082> If you are interested in taking part, please email 164936@live.stmarys.ac.uk . Many thanks for your help.

Please note the Parish Office is closed
until Monday 30th September