



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 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.

(26th week in Ordinary Time)

Monday 30th September

10.00am

St. Jerome

Robert Collinson RIP

Tuesday 1st October

10.00am

St. Therese of the Child Jesus

Elizabeth Garry RIP

Wednesday 2nd October

12noon

The Holy Guardian Angels

Rosa & Henry McGarry RIP

Thursday 3rd October

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary Time

Agnes Barrett 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 4th October

10.00am

St. Francis of Assisi

In reparation for the sin of abortion

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

Saturday 5th October

10.00am

St. Faustina Kowalska

Peter Sillem RIP

Sunday 6th October – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9.30am Donald D'Souza RIP

11.30am Juliana Maria Sellwood 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



Today we celebrate our Patronal feast along with the other two archangels – Michael and Gabriel. The word “angel,” or angelos in Greek, means “messenger.” Angels are therefore messengers of God, sent by Him to help us on the path to salvation. In this case, we could say that the archangels are like super-messengers of God, who are entrusted with particularly important missions. Notice that each of their names ends in “el,” a Hebrew ending referring to “God.” Michael – or Mikha’el in Hebrew – means “Who is like God?” Raphael means “God heals,” and Gabriel – Gabri’el in Hebrew – means “God is my strength.”

Each of the three archangels appear in the Bible. Raphael appears in the Book of Tobit (ch. 12), where he’s sent by God to help Sarah and Tobias to live a happy marriage. Raphael accompanies, guides, and advises the couple, and enables Tobias to cure his father's blindness.

As for Gabriel, we are familiar with the story of the Annunciation in the Gospel of Luke: “The Angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary” (1:26-27). It is Gabriel’s greeting to Mary that we repeat each time we pray the “Hail Mary”: “Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you” (1:28).

Michael also appears in the New Testament, in the Book of Revelation. When Lucifer, the angel of light, rebels against God, Michael defeats him and expels him from Paradise (12:7-9). Michael is shown here, as he is in the Book of Daniel, as the leader of the army of God and the terror of demons. His name becomes a taunt against the pride of Lucifer, who wanted to take God's place (Isaiah 14:12-14). For many centuries, his intercession has been invoked to fight the spirit of evil and repel Satan.

The three archangels not only played a role in the Bible, they also have a role to play in our lives. Gabriel shows us that God is our strength and reminds us not to be afraid and to fulfil God's purpose for us as Mary did. Raphael is a faithful guide on the path of healing that God wants to accomplish for each of us, in order to restore us in body, soul, and spirit. Michael is a powerful protector against the forces of evil, and especially the spiritual evil that can hinder and weigh us down. We can seek help from these three great heavenly messengers and servants of God. Let us ask for strength, healing, and protection from the Lord through the intercession of Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael. Let us not hesitate to implore their help, especially in times of trial and struggle.

In our church there is a beautiful depiction of St. Raphael in the stained glass window above the High Altar.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PARENT'S MEETING

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

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY CHRISTMAS SALE

Our annual sale of Christmas cards, advent calendars and cribs will take place on Sunday 27th October in Alexander House after all Masses. Please buy your religious cards and calendars from us. All profits go to Church funds.

AN EVENING FOR YOUNG ADULTS WITH BLESSED PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI

Archbishop John will be giving a talk on Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's life at an event hosted by the Southwark Catholic Youth Service on 31st October at St George's Cathedral. The event for 18-40 year olds starts at 6.30pm, with Eucharistic Adoration and praise and worship led by One Hope Project.

The Parish Office reopens tomorrow

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.

THE URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL, WIMBLEDON

There will be a Open Morning this coming Friday, 4th October at 9.00am and 11.00am for Year 7, 2025 entry. To attend you need to book a place via

www.ursulinehigh.mertonsch.uk/admissions/open-events

There will also be a 6th Form open evening on the 9th October from 5.00pm – 7.30pm. You must book to attend via

www.ursulinehigh.merton.sch.uk/sixth-form/admissions/openevents