



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 8th September – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – (B)

9.30am Missa Pro Populo

11.30am Terry Burchett RIP

5.00pm Charles Piddock RIP

4.00pm Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 9th September

10.00am

St Peter Claver

Bernard Forbes RIP

Tuesday 10th September

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary Time

Anne Perks RIP

Wednesday 11th September

12noon

St. Ambrose Barlow

Very Rev. Frank O'Connor RIP

Thursday 12th September

10.00am

The Most Holy Name of Mary

Gracia Meta Wetu 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 13th September

10.00am

St. John Chrysostom

The Lee Family

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

Saturday 14th September

10.00am

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Alan Barlow RIP

Sunday 15th September – 24th 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 Kimberly Tilock

4.00pm Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Sunday Rosary and Benediction resumes today at 4.00pm.

Thursday exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will also resume this week.

THE ROSARY

The Rosary is said before Mass Monday- Saturday and At 4.00pm on Sundays

TEA AND COFFEE

Sunday tea and coffee resumes today and there is tea and coffee after the Mass on Wednesday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy resumes today during the 9.30am Mass

THE LITTLE CHERUBS

Our parent and child group resumes on Wednesday from 1.30pm – 3.00pm. in Alexander House.

CONFESSIONS -

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

Saturdays 10.30am - 11.00am

2ND COLLECTIONS

TODAY - There will be a 2nd Collection in aid of The Catholic Education Service (CES). This acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education.

NEXT SUNDAY – Is Home Mission Sunday and there will be a 2nd Collection: This collection provides the bishops of England and Wales with resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our own country.

Congratulations to Piper & Winnie who were baptised here at St. Raphael's last weekend

Lovers often use a secret language which only they can understand. We might, each of us, develop such a language, for holding conversations with God. How do we address the Trinity in prayer? Are we lost for words?

As Christians, we believe, that God the Son, the Second Person of the Trinity, became one of us, became a human being and lived for thirty-three years, as we do now, here on earth. That is why we study him so deliberately.

Jesus did not speak any of our European languages. He never wrote anything himself, except on one occasion with his finger in the sand. Everything we know about him was written down later, by others and in Greek, which was the most universal language of the time. Our Lord himself spoke in Aramaic.

About ten times in the New Testament actual words in Aramaic are recorded. In prayer, Jesus used the word Abba to address his Father and our father. We too can use this word when we pray.

The moment Mary Magdalene recognized Jesus, after his resurrection, when he called her by her name in the garden, she spoke to him in Aramaic: Rabbouni, she said, which is something like 'my Lord and my God.'

We can use the word ourselves, to address the Second Person of the Trinity, our brother, our maker, our master, our friend. The First Epistle to the Corinthians gives us an Aramaic salutation to the Holy Spirit - Maranatha.

The Gospel of Mark, gives us three other Aramaic phrases, Hosanna which the people sang for the triumphal entry to Jerusalem Talitha cum which Jesus spoke to the little girl that everyone thought was dead. It means more or less 'get up!' And finally, today, this word spoken to us and to the man in the Gospel who was blind, deaf and dumb. Ephphatha! 'Be Open'.

It could well be that Jesus Christ came on earth to say only this one word; 'Be open' - open to everything, with everything, for everything. Don't be blind, don't be deaf, don't be dumb. Sharpen every one of your senses to experience the world as it is, in all its glory.' The glory of God is each one of us fully alive, fully open and through our openness the Holy Spirit can enter in and we can then share him with the world around us.

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 Alexander House for more details.

LOST PROPERTY - There is a table in the hall containing lost property that has been left at the church. If you have lost something, please take a look and claim it if it is there. Any items unclaimed by the 20th September will be disposed of.

RCIA - Are you interested in becoming a Catholic or reconnecting with your Faith? Maybe you have missed out on one of the Sacraments e.g. Confirmation? Just curious about the Catholic Faith? If you have any questions or are interested, or know someone who may be interested, you are warmly invited to an information session on Saturday 21st September at 10.30am in the library. The RCIA is a small and friendly parish group, there is no obligation to remain, you can leave the group at any time.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2025 - If your child will be in Year Three or above in the Autumn term, they are eligible to join the First Holy Communion course which starts on the 5th October. The course runs on Saturday mornings from 10.30am – 12noon during term time. The First Holy Communion Mass will be on the 17th May 2025. Application forms are now available in the Sacristy. There will be an introductory meeting for parents in October - please keep an eye on the newsletter for the time and date. Application forms must be returned by **tomorrow the 9th September**. Please note if the course is oversubscribed, priority will be given to parishioners. If you have any queries, please speak to the Catechists - Ginette Howell and Kate Freeman.

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.

SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

THE HOLY CROSS GIRLS SCHOOL, NEW MALDEN -

There will be an Open Evening for Year 7 admission in 2025 on Monday 30th September. For more information, please see the poster in the porch.

THE URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL, WIMBLEDON -

There will be an Open Evening on the 25th September from 6.00pm – 8.30pm and two Open Mornings on 30th September and the 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