



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 17th November – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)

9.30am Angeline & Matthew Rodricks RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm The Holy Souls

4.00pm Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 18th November Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am Marcjanna

Tuesday 19th November Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am Gerald Sheridan - welfare

Wednesday 20th November Feria in Ordinary Time

12noon Edward Hillier RIP

Thursday 21st November The Presentation of Our Lady

10.00am Maximilian Collins (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood and Peace concluding with Benediction at 11.50am.

Friday 22nd November St. Cecilia

10.00am Marcjanna

Saturday 23rd November Our Lady

10.00am Marcjanna

Sunday 24th November – Christ The King (B)

9.30am Agnes and Alexander D'Souza RIP

11.30am Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm The Holy Souls

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 11.50am.

R.C.I.A - The next session will be on Saturday 23rd November at 10.30am in Alexander House.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES - Saturdays at 10.30am in Alexander House.

CONFIRMATION GROUP / FAITH FORMATION GROUP – Today

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

2ND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY FOR THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE

Next Sunday is the feast of Christ The King and also National Youth Day. There will be a 2nd collection in aid of the Catholic Youth Service which supports youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations and best wishes to Sarah and Antoine who were married here at St. Raphael's recently.

The message we must learn from today's Gospel comes across without any ambiguity or doubt : we must always be ready to face our judgement for we know not the day nor the hour when we will be called from this life. When or how this world will end is of no great importance to us; what is important is that we shall leave this world very soon and our eternity will depend on the state of our consciences at the moment of our departure.

This is the steadying thought the Church, in her wisdom, wishes to put before our minds today. We all know that we must die someday. We are strangers and pilgrims on this earth; we have not here a lasting city, as St. Augustine says. No sane person among us will try to deny this and yet, many of us are so immersed in the things of this world that we forget or try to forget that we must leave this world soon. This is very natural : life is a precious gift and as our earthly life is the only one of which we have experience, our every inclination is to hold on to it at all costs. Even when our intelligence tells us that it can, in spite of all our endeavours, end very soon we try to convince ourselves that that "very soon" is really in the distant future. We have God's word for it and the example of Christ's resurrection to a life of glory. Let us appreciate the truth that our death on earth is not the end of life but rather the beginning of the true life that will never end. As the liturgy says in the Mass for the Dead : "Life is changed (by death) not ended". Our death is the doorway through which we pass into the unending life. The years on earth are a gift of God to enable us to earn the infinitely greater gift which in his loving mercy which he has prepared for us from all eternity. God in his mercy is calling on each one of us to be ready when our call comes. We can do nothing about the when or the where of that call, but we can do much about the state of our relationship with God when death comes; in fact, aided by God's grace we can ensure that all will be well with us. We cannot avoid a sudden death, but we can avoid an unprepared death by striving always to live in peace with God. This does not mean that we must be always on our knees praying to God and that we must take no interest in the things and the joys of this world. Far from it. God wants us to use the things of this world, but to use them so that they will not hinder us on our journey.

A very practical way to see how we stand in relation to God and to the things of this world, is for each one of us to ask today : "How would I fare if I were called to render an account of stewardship tonight?" This is the practical question that God, through today's readings, is asking us to put to ourselves. If, to our dismay, we find there are several things which have to be put right before facing our judge we will start right away to put them right. We may get another chance, another warning and we may not. If we value our eternal happiness we will take this warning; we will put our books in order; we will make peace with God and our neighbours—and with God's grace we will do all in our power to persevere in this good resolution.

DEANERY REQUIEM FOR DECEASED CLERGY

- The annual Requiem Mass for the deceased clergy of the deanery will take place at St. Catherine's Church, Leatherhead Road, Chessington on the 29th November at 7.00pm.

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL - Kim Leadbeater MP has introduced the bill for assisted suicide, which will be voted on by MPs on the 29th November. We know that assisted suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs. Please contact your MP by visiting www.livesworthliving.org.uk (This is the SPUC website) In addition there are some cards at the back of the Church from the organization "Not Dead Yet" to assist with this.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Our annual parish carol service will take place on Sunday 15th December at 6.15pm. This will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies in the Alexander House.

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING SESSION - For our Reception 2025. 4th December at 9.15am. To book a place please contact the school office on 020 8546 7178, or email office@stjosephs.rbksch.org

KEYS – We need to do an up-to-date audit of key holders for both the church and hall. If you have a key for either, please contact Michael in the Parish Office.

A DAY WITH MARY -There will be a 'Day With Mary' at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Saturday 14 December (10.15am to 5.15pm). Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop. Further information is available at <https://www.adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

A REMINDER - KINGSTON HOSPITAL - If you are admitted to Kingston Hospital, please ensure you inform the ward staff if you would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. If you are calling on behalf of a patient in the Hospital please call the Hospital Main Switchboard on 020 8546 7711 and ask them to contact the Chaplain.

MASS INTENTIONS - We get booked up for Mass intentions many weeks in advance, particularly for Sundays. If you have any Mass intentions for any time next year, to avoid disappointment, please book them now with Michael in the Parish Office.