



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 1st December

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

4.00pm

The First Sunday of Advent (C)

May Conley RIP

Paul McNaught RIP

Missa Pro Populo

Rosary Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 2nd December

10.00am

Advent Feria

Isida Costa

Tuesday 3rd December

10.00am

St. Francis Xavier

The Lee family

Wednesday 4th December

12noon

St. John Damascene

Fr. Rudolph McElory RIP

Thursday 5th December

10.00am

Advent Feria

Machiko McAlister RIP (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

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

Friday 6th December

10.00am

St. Nicholas

In reparation for the sin of abortion

Saturday 7th December

10.00am

St. Ambrose

Michael Cawley RIP

Sunday 8th December

6.00pm (Saturday)

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

4.00pm

The Second Sunday of Advent (C)

Private intention

May Conley RIP

Paul McNaught RIP

Missa Pro Populo

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 next Saturday

14th December 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 – Today at 6.15pm

FAITH FORMATION GROUP – Today at 10.30am in the Library

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 first candle is the
'Prophet's Candle' - Hope*

NEW TRANSLATION OF THE LECTIONARY

Today the Church in England and Wales will start to use a new version of the Lectionary. The Lectionary is the book that contains the Scripture readings for Mass and the Sacraments and is changing as part of the continuing process of revising liturgical translations. The process began with the Roman Missal in 2011 and has continued with all the other liturgical texts. The new Lectionary uses the English Standard Version - Catholic Edition of the Bible and the Abbey Psalter. The changes are intended to make the biblical translations more faithful to the original languages, biblical scholarship and therefore to provide a better text for use in liturgical settings.

A reminder to all our readers – at the end of your reading the correct formula to use is ‘The word of The Lord’ – not as was previously used ‘This is the word of the Lord’

BISHOP HINE’S FUNERAL

Bishop John’s body will be received into St. George’s Cathedral on Monday 9th December at 6.00pm. This will be followed by Mass. The Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 10th November at 2.00pm.

ADVENT READING – ‘MY DAY BY DAY’

There are some copies of the Advent edition of ‘My Day by Day’ available at the back of the Church, they cost £1.00 (Please put money in the box marked Newspapers or pay with the card reader.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Advent and is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas.

There are still some **Advent Calendars** and **Christmas Cards** available for sale in the Hall.

ST JOSEPH’S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN MORNING SESSION

For our Reception 2025. This coming Wednesday at 9.15am. To book a place please contact the school office on 020 8546 7178, or email office@stjosephs.rbksch.org

2ND COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Our annual 2nd collection for flowers to decorate the church for Christmas will be held next Sunday

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Corinthian Casuals – our local football team are hosting a Community Christmas lunch for any elderly people alone at Christmas. Places are limited and need to be booked. To book a place, call Laila on 07392 331 800. See the post in the porch for more details.

REGINA SPEI: HEALTHCARE WITH HOPE

Touching Hands, Heart and Minds with a touch of Care and a touch of prayer, is a clinic offering private Physiotherapy, Occupational and Music Therapy. When you come to see us you will support the mission of the Benedictine nuns of Tyburn Convent as a small percentage of your payment will go towards this good cause.

Address: The Regina Spei Building, 437 Hook Road Chessington, KT9 1QR

To book an appointment at Regina Spei (home visits also available) please call or email Jason on 07789 9993019 or admin.reginaspei@protonmail.com

*Congratulations to Alexander
who was baptised here at St. Raphael’s recently.*

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the first Sunday of Advent. In this new Liturgical Year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavours to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a ‘vigilant’ disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming:

‘Awaken! Remember that God comes! Not yesterday, not tomorrow, but today, now! The one true God, “the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob,” is not a God who is there in Heaven, unconcerned with us and our history, but he is the-God-who-comes.’
(Pope Benedict XVI)

Today we light the first Candle on our Advent wreath. As part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas, the use of the wreath and candles during Advent are a longstanding tradition. The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, a circle, has no beginning or end and symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul and the everlasting life we find in Christ. The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because violet is a liturgical colour that signifies a time of prayer, penance and sacrifice. The first candle, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the ‘Prophecy Candle’ in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, represents faith. It is called the ‘Bethlehem Candle’ as a reminder of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the ‘Shepherd’s Candle’ and is pink because rose is a liturgical colour for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Saviour. This candle is called the ‘Angel’s Candle’ and symbolizes peace. It reminds us of the message of the angels - “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

On Christmas Eve we light the white candle. This candle is called the “Christ Candle” and represents the life of Christ. The colour white is for purity—because Christ is our sinless, pure Saviour.

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. This year the Deputy Mayor of Kingston will attend.