



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 15th December

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

6.15pm

The Third Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday (C)

Missa Pro Populo

Joyce Richardson RIP and Christopher Richardson

Adam Neil - Birthday

Parish Carol Service (No Rosary Benediction today)

Monday 16th December

10.00am

Advent FERIA

Bridie & Joe Reilly RIP

Tuesday 17th December

10.00am

Advent FERIA

Fr. Michael

Wednesday 18th December

12noon

Advent FERIA

In thanksgiving

Thursday 19th December

10.00am

Advent FERIA

In thanksgiving (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 20th December

10.00am

Advent FERIA

Margaret Jennings RIP

Saturday 21st December

10.00am

Advent FERIA

Simon RIP

Sunday 22nd December

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

(No Rosary Benediction today)

The Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

May & Stan Conley RIP

Ena O'Sullivan RIP

Missa Pro Populo

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Thursday exposition of the Blessed Sacrament following the 10.00am Mass – concluding with Benediction at 11.50am. (Our Sunday Rosary and Benediction resumes on the 12th January.)

R.C.I.A - The next session will be on Saturday 4th January At 10.30am in Alexander House.

THE ROSARY - The Rosary is said before Mass Monday – Saturday.

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.

CONFIRMATION GROUP - Sunday 12th January, 6.15 in the Church.

FAITH FORMATION GROUP - Sunday 12th January 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

*Today, we light the
Third Advent Candle.
This Sunday of Advent
is a day of Joy, with
the "Shepherd's
Candle" reminding us
of the Joy the world
experienced at the
coming
birth of Jesus.*



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

4.00pm, 6.00pm and Midnight.

Christmas Day

9.30am and 11.30am

(No evening Mass on Christmas Day)

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

The children and staff from St. Joseph's, our parish primary school will hold their annual carol service here at the Church this coming Thursday, 19th December at 1.30pm. All are welcome to come and enjoy the service.

CHILDREN'S MASS BOOKS

We seem to have lost most of the Children's Mass books that are handed out Mass. If you or your child has taken one home in error – can we please have it back.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all those who helped with last Saturday's brass polishing session in the hall – cleaning all our brass for Christmas. Thank you also to those who erected our Christmas Crib and trees in the church.

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC DIRECTORY

Copies of this year's directory are available at the back of the Church. They cost £7.50. Please put money in the wall box marked Newspapers or pay via the card machine.

INCLUSIVE KINGSTON

Can you access council services when you need them? Do you feel like a safe and valued member of the community? Kingston Council is very keen to understand your views. All responses will be used to shape the new borough equality, diversity and inclusion strategy. The survey is quick and anonymous and your voice will make a big difference. Access the survey here:
<https://www.kingstonletstalk.co.uk/corporate/inclusivekingston/>

Christmas Offerings

Your offerings made at the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are your personal gift to the Parish Priest. There are Christmas Offering envelopes available at the back of the church. However, if you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, please use the special Christmas Offering Envelope in your packet. Thank you for your generosity.

"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament. The Third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice." Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

Last week our Christmas Crib was put up in the church in preparation for Christmas. Each year we collect money at the crib for a worthy cause. This year we are collecting for the 'Friends of The Holy Land'. This is a non-political Christian Charity. Their mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the Holy Land. At the beginning of the 20th century, Christians made up roughly 29% of the overall population of the Holy Land. Today they account for less than 2%. Without support, the Holy places of the Bible, the birthplace of Christianity, could become cultural museums with no Christian presence at all. The focus of their work is providing practical help directly to the most needy and vulnerable of our Christian brothers and sisters through a balance of funding immediate relief of emergency needs and practical small projects to help create a sustainable future in the Holy Land – most importantly to give them hope. They work with a team of locally based lay and clerical professionals who identify and verify all the cases they support. For more information go to their website <https://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/>

**Please join us for
our annual Carol
Service this evening
at 6.15pm
followed by mulled wine
and mince pies.
This year we will be
joined by the Deputy
Mayor Of Kingston
Councillor Elizabeth Park**

