



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 23rd November 2025

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

4.00pm

Christ the King (C)

Praveen Joshua RIP

The deceased members of the Ho family

Missa Pro Populo

Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday 24th November

10.00am

St. Andrew Dũng-Lac and Companion Martyrs

The Holy Souls

Tuesday 25th November

10.00am

St. Catherine of Alexandria

Private intention - through the intercession of St. Dymphna

Wednesday 26th November

12noon

Feria in Ordinary Time

The Holy Souls

Thursday 27th November

10.00am

Feria in Ordinary Time (Latin Mass - Novus Ordo)

Fr. Rudolph McElroy RIP

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

Friday 28th November

10.00pm

Feria in Ordinary Time

The Holy Souls

Saturday 29th November

10.00pm

St. Cuthbert Mayne and Companion Martyrs

The Ling family

Sunday 30th November 2025

9.30am

11.30am

5.00pm

4.00pm

1st Sunday of Advent (A)

Praveen Joshua RIP

The intentions of Christine and Nigel Jackson

Missa Pro Populo

Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Sunday - Rosary and Benediction at 4.00pm. Thursday - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the 10.00am Mass, concluding with Benediction just before noon.

THE ROSARY - The Rosary is said before Mass Monday - Saturday and at 4.00pm on Sundays. Children are also invited to gather in front of Our Lady's Altar after the 9.30am Sunday Mass for a decade of the Rosary.

TEA AND COFFEE - There is tea and coffee after the 9.30am Mass on Sundays. There is also tea and coffee after the 12noon Mass on Wednesday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - There will be Children's Liturgy during the 9.30am Mass today.

THE LITTLE CHERUBS - Our parent and child group 'The Little Cherubs' meet on Wednesday from 1.30pm - 3.00pm in the Hall.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASS - Next Saturday in the Upper Room at 10.30am

RCIA - Saturday at 10.30 in the Library.

CONFESSIONS

Sundays - 9.00am. - 9.20am. & 4.30pm. - 4.50pm.

Saturdays - 10.30am - 11.00am.

FAITH FORMATION GROUP - Will meet after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 7th December in the Library.



Today's great feast of "Christ the King," was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925 as an antidote to secularism, a way of life which leaves God out of man's thinking and living and organises his life as if God did not exist. The feast is intended to proclaim in a striking and effective manner Christ's royalty over individuals, families, society, governments, and nations.

In today's Gospel, St. Luke is describing the death of Jesus on the cross. All four Evangelists tell us that when Jesus was crucified on Calvary there was an inscription written on the upper arm of the cross which said that he was "King of the Jews." Pilate, to the disgust of the Jewish leaders, insisted on putting the title of the crucified criminal, "King of the Jews," over his cross. In doing this, Pilate was proclaiming to the world, that these vengeful leaders of the people had condemned the messianic King, for whom they had been waiting for centuries, to the shameful death of the cross. He was doing even more. He was proclaiming that the innocent one who hung on that cross was the "King of Kings" the King of this world and of the next.

In the middle of St Peter's square in Rome, there stands an obelisk. It is about four and half thousand years old and was brought to Rome by the Emperor Caligula from Egypt. It was set in the middle of Circus of Nero, where St. Peter's Square stands today. It is here that St Peter was martyred and the obelisk may well have been the last thing on this Earth that he saw. On top of the obelisk in ancient times there was a gold ball representing the sun, there now stands a cross and on the pedestal of the obelisk, there are two Latin inscriptions. The first of them is, "Christus vincit, Christus regnat, Christus imperat", which translated means, Christ has conquered, Christ now rules, Christ now reigns supreme and the other inscription reads, "The Lion of Judah has conquered". So here we have the language of victory. Christianity has triumphed by the power of the cross and triumphed even over the greatest power that the ancient world had known, the Roman Empire and here in the middle of St Peter's square stands the obelisk bearing those triumphant inscriptions.

Today let us renew our loyalty to Christ our King. We are privileged and proud to be his subjects. As members of his Church on earth we are as yet in the preparatory stage of that kingdom. If we do the little that he asks of us, during this period of preparation, we are assured of being full citizens in his eternal kingdom of happiness and peace.

ADVENT READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY'

Next Sunday is the 1st Sunday of Advent and copies of the Advent edition of 'My Day by Day' are available at the back of the Church, they cost £1.00 (Please put money in the box marked Newspapers.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Advent and is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas.

CHILDREN'S ROSARY AND PETITIONS

All children are invited to gather every Sunday after the 9:30am Mass in front of Our Lady's Altar to say a decade of the rosary.

Children are also warmly invited to write down their prayer intentions—or express them through drawings if they want—and place them in the special box at Our Lady's Altar. These heartfelt offerings will be presented on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 8th December.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND ADVENT CALENDARS

There are a selection of Christian Christmas Cards and Advent Calendars for sale in the Hall, all proceeds go towards Church funds.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - Our Parish Carol Service will take place on Sunday 21st December at 6.15pm

SECOND COLLECTION - Today is also National Youth Sunday and there is the annual 2nd collection for the Catholic Youth Service. This helps support the work of the Catholic Youth Service in the diocese and beyond.

MASS OFFERINGS - We often get booked up for Mass offerings many months in advance. If you have any particular dates for Mass intentions – including for the whole of 2026, please book them now to avoid possible disappointment.

SITUATION VACANT -Full time Parish Caretaker is required for Sacred Heart Parish, Wimbledon from 1st January 2026, to manage the extensive site which includes the Church, halls, and Presbytery. Salary £29,427.00 for a 35 hour week. For a Job Description, Person Specification, and Application Form please contact Thelma D'Costa at wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk. Closing date: 10th December 2025.

CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT CONSULTATION RESPONSE

PUBLISHED - Thank you to the thousands of people who took part in the Called to Bear Fruit consultation. We are grateful to you all for sharing so openly your hopes for the life of the Church in our Archdiocese. The consultation response, which includes 15 actions points for renewal, is available at rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit and hardcopies will be sent to every parish. The consultation revealed a burning desire within our parishes to be missionary and evangelising disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, who work together to help people encounter His love. So, as we move forward on the next steps together, let's build up the Body of Christ in Southwark with faith and confidence, becoming ever more a community of missionary disciples filled with joy and hope for the future. As an Archdiocese, we will continue to discern the process of renewal, and further updates will be provided in due course.