



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 22nd February The 1st Sunday of Lent (A)

9.30am

Stafford Walker

11.30am

Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm

Carlo D'Ubaldo RIP

Stations of the Cross 4.00pm

Monday 23rd February

Lenten Feria

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Tuesday 24th February

Lenten Feria

10.00am

Joseph, Faith & Grace - welfare

Wednesday 25th February

Lenten Feria

12noon

Dawn Flattery RIP

Thursday 26th February

Lenten Feria (Latin Mass – Novus Ordo)

10.00am

Lina Cairola RIP

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

Friday 27th February

Lenten Feria

10.00am

The Holy Souls

Followed by Stations of the Cross

Saturday 28th February

Lenten Feria

10.00am

Bryan Fitzgerald RIP

(Preceded by Morning Prayer at 9.30am)

Sunday 1st March

The 2nd Sunday of Lent (A)

9.30am

Bridget Conway

11.30am

Missa Pro Populo

5.00pm

Maria Laura Pradera - Birthday

Stations of the Cross 4.00pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT – Thursday - Exposition from after the 10.00am Mass, concluding with Benediction at 11.50am.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS – Sunday 4.00pm (Church) and Friday after Mass (Hall)

CHILDREN'S ROSARY - Children are 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 today. There will be tea and coffee after the 12noon Mass on Wednesday.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY – There is Children's Liturgy during the 9.30am Mass today.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES - Saturday 28th February, 10.30am in Alexander House

FAITH FORMATION GROUP - Sunday 15th March 10.30am.

THE LITTLE CHERUBS - Our parent and child group meet on Wednesdays 1.30pm – 3.00pm in the Hall.

CONFESSIONS -

Sundays - 9.00am – 9.20am & 4.30pm – 4.50pm. Saturdays- 10.30am - 11.00am

Weekday Mass – Monday to Friday this week
will be celebrated in the Hall – see note page 2.

Pope Leo XIV's message for Lent "Listening and fasting. Lent as a time of Conversion,"

In his message for Lent, the Holy Father explains that "Lent is a time in which the Church, guided by a sense of maternal care, invites us to place the mystery of God back in the centre of our lives," so that "the Lenten journey is a welcome opportunity to heed the voice of the Lord and renew our commitment to following Christ, accompanying him on the road to Jerusalem". During this Lent, The Pope invites us first of all to ask for "the grace of a Lent that leads us to greater attentiveness to God and to the least among us" and to be able to "allow God to teach us how to listen as he does."

"Our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of the earth, becomes part of our community life," the Holy Father emphasizes.

In addition, the Pope encouraged us to ask for "strength that comes from the type of fasting that also extends to our use of language, so that hurtful words may diminish and give way to a greater space for the voice of others."

"Let us strive to make our communities places where the cry of those who suffer finds welcome, and listening opens paths towards liberation, making us ready and eager to contribute to building a civilization of love," he wrote.

Similarly, the Holy Father emphasized the importance of giving space "through listening," since "the willingness to listen is the first way we demonstrate our desire to enter into relationship with someone."

Referring to fasting, the Pope explained that "it is a concrete way to prepare ourselves to receive the word of God," so it is important to "keep our hunger and thirst for justice alive... Thus, it teaches us to pray and act responsibly towards our neighbour."

Finally, during this Lent, the Holy Father invites us to disarm "our language, avoiding harsh words and rash judgement, refraining from slander."

"Let us strive to measure our words and cultivate kindness and respect in our families, among our friends, at work, on social media, in political debates, in the media and in Christian communities. In this way, words of hatred will give way to words of hope and peace," he encouraged.

For the full text of the Holy Father's message go to

<https://www.humandevlopment.va/en/news/2026/cuaresma-2026-mensaje-de-papa-leon-xiv.html>

LENT READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY' - Copies of the Lent 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 or pay with the card reader.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Lent and is an excellent way to prepare for Easter.

2ND COLLECTION FOR SPUC – Today we will have our annual appeal in aid of the Society For The Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC).

In the first half of 2026 parliament will vote to approve or reject both abortion up to birth and assisted suicide .

We are now in the last stretch to lobby peers to do something about these horrific proposals before they are sent back to the House of Commons. Please write to peers using the online tool

at <https://spuc.org.uk/campaign/abortion-decriminalisation/> which helps you generate a letter either to send in the post, or to send by email.

EVENING CONCERT - SATURDAY 7TH MARCH AT 7 PM
ST RAPHAEL'S CHURCH HALL, ENTRANCE FREE -

RETIRING COLLECTION - The Romantic poet William Blake has been described as a 'guardian spirit of our Island nation'. The event is in support of SPUC, the Society For The Protection of Unborn Children, and celebrates Blake and the Romantic movement in an evening of poetry set to music.

INDEPENDENT LIVING FOR OVER 60'S – FLAT TO LET –

Recently refurbished one bedroom flat (single occupancy) available from March 2026 at Lynton, Thames Ditton. Lynton provides affordable sheltered housing to over 60's of limited means with a local connection. For more information, contact the Resident Manager Mrs Savides on 0782 587 0553

BRASS POLISHING – we are planning a brass polishing session on Saturday at 10.30am in the Hall to clean our three votive candles stands If you can spare an hour or so to help, please come along.

CHURCH LIGHTING - Work has begun to update the lighting in the Church to a LED system. The current system uses halogen lamps that are now obsolete and difficult to source. The new system will be more robust and cost effective and also provide better lighting. The work is due to take about three weeks and during this time weekday Mass will be celebrated in the hall. Saturday and Sunday Masses will be celebrated in the Church, as normal. Whilst the work is taking place, for safety reasons, there will be no admittance to the church during the week.



ST RAPHAEL'S LENTEN SCRIPTURE GROUP

This Lent, deepen your faith through a study of the Gospel of St. Matthew. Reflect with Pope Leo on the teachings of Jesus that sow peace and Christian love. Led by our parishioner Dr. Janet Croggon.

There will be four sessions beginning this Wednesday - 25th February then 4th March, 11th March and 18th March at 7.00pm for 7.30pm start in Alexander House.

MORNING PRAYER – SATURDAYS - Morning prayer will be said on Saturday mornings during Lent at 9.30am

Congratulations to Milo who was baptised here at St. Raphael's last Sunday.

Of your Charity
Please pray for the repose of
the soul of

Mary McCarthy

who died recently. Her Requiem Mass will
be Thursday 12th March at 12 noon
May She Rest in Peace.