

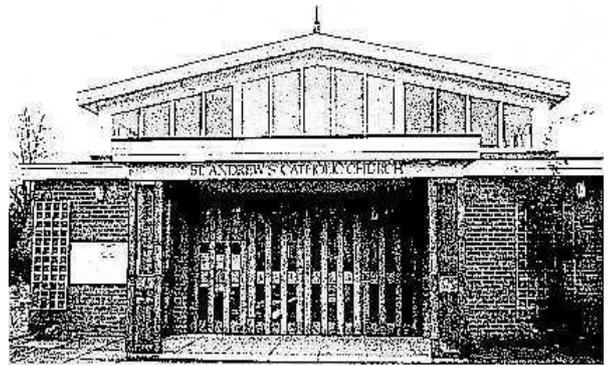
ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
45 Brook Road **Tel:** 020 8684 3013
Thornton Heath **Fax:** 020 8684 6626
Surrey CR7 7RD **E-mail:** office@saintandrewschurch.co.uk
Website: www.standrewsthorntonheath.co.uk

RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Len Tatt
Fr Nishant Irudayadason
Deacons: Rev. Tony Flavin Rev. Errol Quagraine
Parish Sister: Sr. Jennie Eldridge DMJ
Croydon University Hospital Chaplaincy: Sr. Sheila DMJ



February 18th 2018 First Sunday of Lent (B)

Message from Fr Nishant

The word Lent itself is derived from the Anglo-Saxon words *lencten*, meaning “Spring,” and *lenctentid*, which literally means not only “Springtide” but also was the word for “March,” the month in which most days of Lent fall. Just like spring is a time of renewal of nature, Lent is meant to be a time of our renewal through prayer, penance, sacrifice and good works. In the desire to renew the liturgical practices of the Church, *The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* of Vatican Council II states, “The two elements which are especially characteristic of Lent—the recalling of baptism or the preparation for it, and penance—should be given greater emphasis in the liturgy and in liturgical catechesis.” (no. 109).

Lent allows us to be aware of our fragility not to become victims of a sense of guilt but to realize that we can become better persons with the help of God if we choose to. A true Christian knows that he/she is imperfect, but Jesus loves him/her with his/her imperfections; this is what gives every Christian a desire to become a better person. This does not call for external demonstrations of austerity, but for a genuine change of heart in silence and discernment. Proclaiming loud and clear the Lenten sacrifices would be nothing short of being hypocritical.

Hence the essence of Lent is not at first to deprive us of certain material things. Let us also note that the Lenten observances have evolved over a period. We should not be stuck with the details of what we give up but show willingness to give up something for Lent as sacrifice. The present fasting and abstinence laws prescribed by the Church are very simple: fasting on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, and abstinence on all Fridays of Lent, but every individual can choose to sacrifice more according to one's ability and context as a sign of doing penance to renew one's life.

If the Church asks us to do penance, it is not to punish us, but to help us change our way of life for the better. It is a way to invite us to get rid of pride, selfishness, division and all that prevents us from living in communion with God. Lent invites us to see that in every situation it is always possible to germinate love and to overcome violence. Let us therefore take advantage of the season of Lent to get closer to Christ and to experience his love. Let us make use of this opportunity to get rid of our surplus to address the needs of the less privileged. Let us turn to others who are in need of our love so that we can happily encounter the Risen Lord at Easter.

This Sunday's Readings

Genesis 9:8-15	God's covenant with Noah after he had saved him from the waters of the flood
Psalms 24	Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love for those who keep your covenant
1 Peter 3:18-22	That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now
Mark 1:12-15	Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels looked after him

Diary for the Week

Sunday 18th February <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i> (B)	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 4.00pm Confirmation Session 1 5.00pm Rosary 5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Lucia Daye (80 th Birthday) Freddy & Amelia O'Donovan Jessie Mary Badu RIP Parishioners
Monday 19th February <i>Lev 19:1-2, 11-18</i> <i>Mt 25:31-46</i>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 12noon Mass Croydon Uni Hospital 7.00 – 8.00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 7.00 - 8.00pm Parish Surgery	Gary Bartholomeusz Holy Souls
Tuesday 20th February <i>Is 55:10-11</i> <i>Mt 6:7-15</i>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Vigil Service for Fr John 6.30pm R.C.I.C. (hall) 7.45pm R.C.I.A. (hall)	Stanley Jones RIP (Anniv) Mary Ann Jones
Wednesday 21st February <i>St Peter Damian</i> <i>Jon 3:1-10</i> <i>Lk 11:29-32</i>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross 12.00noon Funeral Mass for Fr John 6.00pm Lectio Divina Group (hall) 7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)	Declan Walsh RIP James Power
Thursday 22nd February <i>Chair of St Peter</i> <i>1 Pt 5:1-4, Mt 16:13-19</i>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00pm Lent Talk (hall)	Lawrence & Antonette D'Souza RIP Fr John Ehichioya RIP
Friday 23rd February <i>St Polycarp</i> <i>Lent Fast Day</i> <i>Est 18:21-28</i> <i>Mt 5:20-26</i>	6.30am Mass 10.00am Mass followed by Stations of the Cross 8.00pm Stations of the Cross	Fr Edward Mostyn Francis D'Souza RIP (Anniv)
Saturday 24th February <i>Deut 26:16-19</i> <i>Mt 5:43-48</i>	9.30am Mass 9.50 – 11.15am First Holy Communion 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Rose Freeman RIP (Anniv)
Sunday 25th February <i>2nd Sunday of Lent</i> (B)	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 4.00pm Confirmation Session 2 5.00pm Rosary 5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Parishioners Ajibola Oyeyinka RIP (5 th Anniv) Family Intention

Money Matters



Collection Last Sunday	£1,272.64 (£1.27 per person)
Payment by Standing Order	<u>£ 761.00</u>
Total offertory	£2,033.64
Poor Parishes collection	£ 629.80

Thank you for your generosity

Altar Servers

This week Team 3
 Next week Team 1



Church Cleaners

This week Sancho's Dusters
 Next week St Jude's Group

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

FR JOHN'S CONDOLENCE BOOK

If you would like to, please write a message and sign the book of condolence for Fr John on the table in the porch.

Fr John's Funeral Services will be on Tuesday 20th February at 6.00pm where Bishop Patrick Lynch will be the main Celebrant and Bishop Paul Hendricks will be with the Archbishop on Wednesday 21st February at the 12noon Service. There will be some refreshments in the hall after the service on Wednesday.

THE GHANAIAI COMMUNITY

The group will be meeting today Sunday 18th February after the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

LENT 2018

LENTEN MASSES IN CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

There is Mass every Monday during Lent at 12noon. All are most welcome.

FRIDAY MASSES

Please note that our usual 7.30am Mass will be at **6.30am** on Fridays.

LENTEN DEVOTIONS

Fridays 10.30am Stations of the Cross (led by parishioners) and at 8.00pm (led by different Parish groups) and also after 10am Mass on Wednesdays (led by parishioners).

This year Lent faith discussion sessions will take place on the Thursdays in Lent which commenced on 15th February and will continue after Easter. There is 10 sessions in all. We will be following the DVD course "Catholicism" presented by Robert Barron Bishop of Los Angeles. The Session this week is titled "Happy Are We: The Teachings of Jesus". Sessions will commence at 7.30pm in the hall, which will be open at 7.00pm. Teas and coffees available before the session begins.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP

Please note the group will not be meeting on 21st February and will resume again on Wednesday 28th February.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY : FRIDAY 23RD FEBRUARY

CAFOD Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters who don't have enough to eat. On Friday 23rd February can you give up a meal, or eat a simple meal, in solidarity? With malnutrition still killing almost three million children a year, your fasting, prayers and donations will ensure more of God's children have enough good food to eat.

And this Lent your donation will make double the difference. For every pound you donate to CAFOD, the UK Government will also donate a pound, up to a total of £5 million, meaning twice the number of lives can be transformed. Twice the number of children can have the opportunity to grow up healthy and strong. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from the Church porch this week and give generously and return your envelopes on 25th February - with grateful thanks.

400 CLUB

The winners for January's 400 Club draw are:

Felicia Mgbemere	No: 55 - £20
Rose Tang	No: 48 - £10
Jill Barry	No: 122 - £10

ALTAR SERVERS

Applications are now open for those young people in Year 5 and above who wish to become an Altar Server. The application forms may be found at the back of the Church. The forms should be returned to the Priests' house by Friday 2nd March.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are looking for a new leader for the Children's Liturgy and some more adult volunteers who are willing to help support and run our Liturgy classes. The classes are held each Sunday (during term time) at the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses (except for the second Sunday of each month, which is Parade Sunday for the uniformed groups). All children aged between three years up to the time of making their First Holy Communion are welcome to join the class. If you think you can help by taking the lead on our Children's Liturgy classes, please speak to Fr Len urgently because if we do not receive someone soon the classes may have to stop.

VOTIVE CANDLES

Some people are again bringing in their own votive candles to use personally but also donating them to the Church. Please can we ask for this to stop. The Church can only use votive candles that are supplied by authorised suppliers to the Church for health and safety reasons. It is important that we follow this rule as we could be liable for breaking the fire and safety laws. If other candles are found we will throw them away.

PRAYER AFTER MASS

It is often difficult to spend a few minutes in quiet prayer and thanksgiving after Mass on Sundays. While it is good to greet each other as members of a community it is also important to be aware of those who would like to spend some personal time with Our Lord. During Lent we are asking if people could be particularly aware of quiet in the Church after Mass, keeping our chatting to outside (or in the hall).

LOST PROPERTY

Several items remain uncollected in the porch. Please take a look and see if anything of yours is there otherwise these will be disposed of soon.

CELEBRATE YOUR MARRIAGE

A Lifetime of Loving is the title of a day in which married couples with average/good marriages can explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into their communications skills and the call of the Church to the married. The date is Saturday March 10th, from 9.45am–4.30pm. The venue is Holy Cross School, New Malden, South West London. Booking is essential and there is a suggested donation payable of £25. For more information contact Deacon Philip and Mrs Mary Pond on 020 8651 2477 or email philandmary@blueyonder.co.uk

Quote of the Week

“Lent comes providentially to reawaken us,
to shake us from our lethargy”

Pope Francis



Chair of the PPC
Convent
Gift Aid Organiser
400 Club Organiser
Minibus Bookings
Parish Secretary
Primary School

Contact Numbers

Maureen Jones 020 8239 0615
Sr Jennie Eldridge 020 8689 0454
Albert Tang 020 8688 8703
Jonathan Prins (email: club_400@hotmail.com)
Frances Gilbert (Parish Groups only) 020 8689 7319
Danielle Lewin 020 8684 3013
St. James the Great 020 8771 3424

