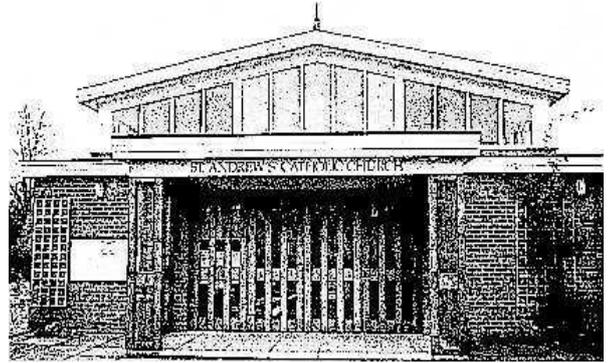

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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

7th January 2018 The Epiphany of The Lord (B)

Message from Deacon Tony

Have you ever considered the theology behind the story of the three wise men? Neither did I much until I had to, when it was explained to me it was like having my eyes open. The story is also a great help in understanding Holy Mother Church's roots of Scripture and Tradition, and the capital T is not a typing error.

The story of the wise men, or kings, can only be found in Matthew's Gospel. No names, or even the number of wise men are mentioned. Matthew simply tell us "some wise men". The 'three' is understood to have arisen from the gifts of gold, Frankenstein and myrrh.

It's most likely there were more than just the three of them in the party. To travel such a distance, and to offer gold they would have been men of means, they would have had animals to ride on, which by turns tells us they would have taken staff to tend the animals and themselves. They may have had to have taken more than one beast each. Over the years the three have been given names and possibilities of who they are and where they are from. Scripture tells us they came 'from the east' but the original Greek wording is "from the rising", which refers to the rising of the sun.

But here's the important thing. In order to follow the star, they had to travel at night when it was dark, and traveling was most dangerous. However, they put their faith in God and they completed their mission. This reminds us that when we face dark times we must put our faith in God and follow him, so that like the wise men, we see the face of Jesus.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 60:1-6	Above you the glory of the Lord appears
Palm 71	All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord
Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6	It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance
Matthew 2:1-12	We saw his star and have come to do the king homage

Diary for the Week

Sunday 7th January <i>The Epiphany of The Lord</i> (B)	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday	John Carrapiette RIP (Anniv)
	9.30am Mass	William Bernard Freeman RIP (Anniv)
	11.30am Mass	Errol Quagraine (Birthday)
	5.00pm Rosary	
	5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction	
	6.00pm Mass	Parishioners
	7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 8th January <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	7.30am Mass	Anton Benedict (Anniv)
	10.00am Funeral Mass	Mrs Candida Fernandes RIP
	7.00 - 8.00pm Parish Surgery	
	7.00 – 8.00pm Family Holy Hour	
Tuesday 9th January <i>Feria</i>	7.30am Mass	Alex Dos Santos RIP (Anniv)
	10.00am Funeral Mass	Mr Eugene Clark RIP
	6.30pm R.C.I.C. (hall)	
Wednesday 10th January <i>St William</i>	7.30am Mass	Theo & Luisa Fernandes RIP
	10.00am Mass	Manuel John Nunes RIP (Anniv)
	2.00pm Active Retirement Group	
	7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 11th January <i>Feria</i>	7.30am Mass	Theresa Crystal
	10.00am Mass	Holy Souls
	8.00pm Baptism (Convent)	
Friday 12th January <i>Feria</i>	7.30am Mass	Sabastian Fernandes RIP
	10.00am Mass	Rosa Fernandes RIP
Saturday 13th January <i>St Hilary</i>	9.15 – 11.15am First Holy Communion	
	9.30am Mass	Holy Souls
	10.00 – 10.30am Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions	
	6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Inicia Silva & Deceased Family
Sunday 14th January <i>2nd Sunday of the Year</i> (B)	9.30am Mass	Parishioners
	11.30am Mass	Pradeed Sood RIP
	4.00pm Confirmation Catechists Meeting (EA room)	
	5.00pm Rosary	
	5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction	
	6.00pm Mass	Private Intention
	7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	

Money Matters



Collection Last Sunday	£1,401.79
Payment by Standing Order	<u>£ 249.00</u>
Total offertory	£1,650.79

Thank you for your generosity

Altar Servers

This week Team 3
Next week Team 1



Church Cleaners

This week Judie's Crew
Next week Fifi's Group

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

We wish you a Holy, Happy and prosperous New Year from Frs Len, John and Nishant, Deacons Tony and Errol and the Sisters.

THANK YOU

The Priests thank you for your most generous Christmas offerings. Thank you also from the Pastoral team for the many cards and gifts given to them personally and for your continued prayers and support. To those who worked so hard behind the scenes for all our Christmas celebrations, helping in the hall with our festivities, the choirs, Christmas Crib, Altar Servers, Church flowers, cleaners, the Parish Council and all the other many many jobs – thank you very much.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday June 9th during the 11am Mass. Anyone wishing to be confirmed must be in year 9 and above and may apply initially by speaking to Sr. Jennie or Deacon Errol after Sunday Masses in January. Please be prepared to give your reasons for wanting to be confirmed. Please note that all applications must be in by 4th February.

HYMN BOOKS

We will shortly be ordering another 100 new books. We are asking for the new books to be sponsored as before. If you would like to sponsor a book on behalf of a family or in memory of a loved one, we will place a paper plaque inside each book saying to whom it is dedicated. If you'd like to dedicate a book for someone at £7 each, please put the money in an envelope together with the name(s) for the dedication and pass to one of the pastoral team or put it through the letterbox at the Presbytery, 45 Brook Road, clearly marked.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

The second collection next week will be for the White Flower Appeal.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal this weekend. In 2017 the SPUC commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the passing of the 1967 Abortion Act. Over 8.7 million unborn children have lost their lives due to abortion in the last 50 years. Since 1967 SPUC has been working tirelessly to uphold the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death.

Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC and help save mothers and babies from abortion.

CHURCH LAUNDRY GROUP

The Church Laundry Group is looking for someone to take over the running of this group and for some people to join the group. Mrs Parfitt is retiring after 14 years. It involves washing and ironing the Mass linen once every two months on a rota. So if you would like to iron your troubles away, please get in touch with Mrs Barbara Parfitt on 07914 719186 after 4.00pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

The sessions will commence on Saturday 13th January when the children will be attending the 9.30am Mass with a parent/carer.

The workbooks and parent books will be available for those who have ordered them after the 9.30am Mass this Sunday 7th January in the hall.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2018

There are copies of the Southwark 2018 Catholic Directory on sale in the repository. This contains all the information about the diocese and the liturgical calendar for the coming year.

FAMILY HOLY HOUR

As we begin a New Year let us together come before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament and pray for peace in our homes, our hearts, our families and in the whole world. Monday 8th January from 7 to 8 pm in the Church. Join us even if only 10 minutes - it will be time well spent.

PARISH SURGERY

Every Monday evening, between 7pm and 8pm, one of the Pastoral Team is available in the Presbytery to see parishioners without an appointment. It is an opportunity to collect forms (e.g. Baptism), to ask a question about the Parish, or to arrange an appointment to discuss whatever you want. We realise that the only opportunity many people have to speak to us is on a Sunday and then we can be quite busy. The Pastoral Team take Surgery in turn and are also available at other times, so please do ask if you want to see one of us. Surgery resumes again on Monday 8th January at 7.00pm in the Presbytery (45 Brook Road).

MASS OFFERINGS

People sometimes ask what is a realistic offering to make when they request a Mass to be said. People's circumstances vary and in olden days the offering was intended to support a priest for a day (and was often a gift of food, drink or clothing). The Code of Canon Law states that: "The faithful who make an offering so that Mass can be celebrated for their intention, contribute to the good of the Church, and by that offering they share in the Church's concern for the support of its ministers and its activities." (Canon 946). The Archdiocese of Southwark recommends a minimum donation of £10.

THE ROSARY

The Rosary is prayed each weekday after the 10.00am Mass (and Saturday 9.30am). After Mass the Rosary will be said immediately and then, after a short pause, other devotional prayers will be prayed. All are welcome to join however long you can stay – there is no formal membership, just a desire to pray the Rosary.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or search for "Catholic Education" in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

Quote of the Week

"As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the King consulted them, he found them 10 times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm"

Daniel 1:20



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

