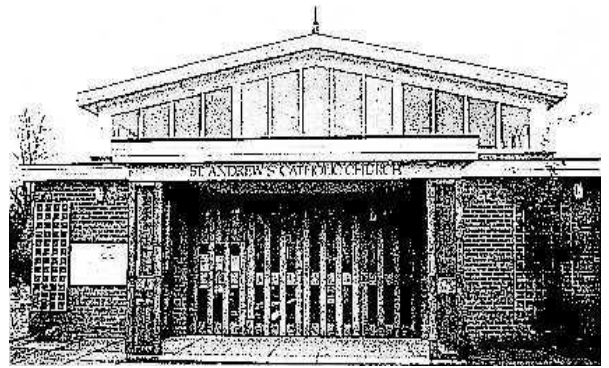

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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.org.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



29th April 2018 5th Sunday of Easter (B)

Message from Fr Nishant

One of the strong criticisms made by our protestant friends against us Catholics is that we have plenty of idols in the church and we worship them. They quote the famous commandment from the Book of Exodus or from the Book of Deuteronomy which says, "Thou shall not worship idols." Often when such criticism is made against us, many of us get confused and begin to think that the Catholic teaching goes against the Biblical teaching. How many of us know that the Catholic Church is strongly opposed to idol worship? To understand our Catholic teaching, we need to know the difference between an idol and a statue.

In its material form, a statue or an idol is made up of plaster, wood or marble. What distinguishes an idol from a statue is our mentality. If I think that God or divinity is contained in the carved image, then it is an idol. But if I think that the carved image helps my senses to think of the invisible God and His work of Salvation, then it is a statue. The Catholic Church has statues because the Church in her wisdom thinks that we are embodied beings and we need some tangible signs to help our minds to focus on the invisible God. To give an analogy, when I am away from my parents, I would like to have their photograph so that when I look at their image, all the pleasant experiences I had with them come alive. I know that my parents are not in the image, but the image helps me to remember them fondly. We can have access to the invisible only through tangible realities as we are bodily beings. On the contrary, people may make an idol out of many things other than carved images. If I begin to give too much importance to money and think that I can place my faith entirely on money, then I am making an idol out of money and thus engaged in idol worship, which Pope Francis denounces strongly. Unfortunately, some of the protestant friends tend to make an idol out of the printed Bible. They think that God is contained within the Bible. That is idol worship too. God is beyond space and time and he cannot be contained within any visible reality.

It is sad that some of us without knowing the difference between an idol and a statue make statues into idols. Without proper faith formation some of us literally worship statues in the church. Visible expressions like hugging a statue and falling at its feet betray our mentality of treating it as an idol. The Catholic Church does not encourage such practices. Next time when you enter the church make sure to be aware of the fact that God or saints are not contained in the statues we have in the Church, but they are tangible expressions of the invisible God only whom we worship.

This Sunday's Readings

Acts 9:26-31

Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey

Psalm 21

You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly

1 John 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe in his Son and that we love one another

John 15:1-8

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty

Diary for the Week

Sunday 29th April 5 th Sunday of Easter (B)	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 3.00pm Mass of Anointing 5.00pm Rosary 5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Geoffrey Burnes RIP Parishioners Holy Souls Adrian Gladwin Freeman RIP
Monday 30th April St Pius V Acts 14:5-18 Jn 14:21-26	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 - 8.00pm Parish Surgery 7.00pm Mass for Feast of Our Lady of Africa	Deirdre (Dee) Kilmartin RIP Botelho & Carrasco Families RIP
Tuesday 1st May St Joseph the Worker Acts 14:19-28 Jn 14:27-31	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.30pm R.C.I.C.	Timothy & Clela Andradi RIP (Anniv) Holy Souls
Wednesday 2nd May St Athanasius Acts 15:1-6 Jn 15:1-8	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 2.00pm Active Retirement Group 6.00pm Lectio Divina Group (hall) 7.30pm Legion of Mary (EA room) 7.30pm First Holy Communion Parents Meeting (hall)	Holy Souls Nana Mike Hayfron (70 th Birthday)
Thursday 3rd May SS Philip & James 1 Cor 15:1-8 Jn 14:6-14	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 – 8.30pm Cubs (St James the Great) 8.00pm Baptism (Convent) 8.00pm Maintenance Group	Holy Souls Holy Souls
Friday 4th May First Friday Acts 1:15-17. 20-26 Jn 15:9-17	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament/Benediction 6.30pm Syro Malabar Mass	Power & Fennelly Families Holy Souls
Saturday 5th May Acts 16:1-10 Jn 15:18-21	9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 11.00am First Holy Communion: Reconciliation Service 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Holy Souls Holy Souls
Sunday 6th May 6 th Sunday of Easter (B)	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 5.00pm Rosary 5.15 – 5.45pm Exposition and Benediction 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Alex Dos Santos RIP Parishioners Harry Nagamootoo (Anniversary)

Money Matters



Collection Last Sunday	£1,358.00 (£1.35 per person)
Payment by Standing Order	<u>£ 761.00</u>
Total offertory	£2,119.00
Collection for Ecclesiastical Education	£ 684.04
Second collection for St George's Cathedral	

Thank you for your generosity

Altar Servers

This week Team 1
 Next week Team 2



Church Cleaners

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

MASS OF ANOINTING

We will be having a Mass of Anointing for the sick today, Sunday 29th April at 3.00pm. It is an occasion to pray for those who are sick and all who care for them. There is an opportunity for those who are sick to receive the Sacrament of the sick and for all of us to pray for God's healing in our lives. If anyone has difficulty travelling to the Mass and needs a lift, please contact the Presbytery in the morning.

MISSIO RED BOX COLLECTIONS

There will be a collection of all monies this weekend of the 28/29th April. Please can all red box holders bring their boxes to be emptied before the Mass. If you are unable to attend Mass, please contact Savio on 07902 933534.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK: ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

St George's Cathedral, Southwark, is the mother Church of the Diocese. This collection helps to meet the cost of the upkeep of the Cathedral.

MASS FOR FEAST OF OUR LADY OF AFRICA

Please join us for a Mass for the Feast of our Lady of Africa on Monday 30th April at 7.00pm followed by a light reception in the hall. Please see the poster in the porch for more details. All are welcome.

MAY 3RD POLLING DAY

Please note that our hall is being used all day as a polling station for the local elections.

FIRST FRIDAY

This Friday is First Friday and there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the end of the 10am Mass until Benediction at 12.30pm.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES: AYLESFORD PRIORY ON 5TH MAY

Please meet outside the Church by 8.15am as the coach will be leaving promptly at 8.30am, don't forget to bring a packed lunch and some magazines with photos. The coach will return approx. 5.30pm.

ALTAR SERVERS DAY OUT: BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 7TH MAY

Please meet outside the Church, the coach will leave St Andrew's at 8.00am and return approximately 6.00pm. There are still some places available, cost is £15 which can be made on the day.

LENTEN FAITH TALK

The sessions on the DVD course "Catholicism" presented by Robert Barron continues on Thursdays 10th and 17th May. The next session is titled "World without End: The Last Things". Sessions will commence at 7.30pm in the hall, which will be open at 7.00pm. Teas and coffees are available before the session begins.

DAY WITH OUR LADY OF FATIMA: MASS SATURDAY 12TH MAY AT 12.00NOON

Please join us for a day of prayer commencing with Rosary, Benediction and Consecration to the Sorrowful and Immaculate heart of Mary Our Mother, followed by Holy Mass which will be offered for the community, friends and family. Come and spend the time in the presence of one of the four statues commissioned by Pope Benedict XV in 1917 following the third apparition of Our Lady of Fatima. This statue reached Europe and was later blessed by Pope Pius X. The Service will commence at 12.00noon and will be held here at St. Andrew's Church and will be led by Fr Len. After the service please join us for refreshments in the hall.

For further details, please contact Juliette DeMenezes-D'Costa on 0208 765 0258 / 07958 537314. Please see the poster on the noticeboard for more info.

NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

There is general meeting of the Nigerian Catholic Community on Sunday 20th May after the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

CATHOLIC DIRECTORIES

There are still copies available of the 2018 Catholic Directory from the Repository. Please consider purchasing the directory for all the liturgical information for the rest of the year.

SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

If you are celebrating one this year – your 1st, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th or 60th plus – Archbishop Peter would like to invite you to a Mass in celebration of marriage at St George's Cathedral, on Saturday June 16th at 3.00pm. Please enter your details on the form in the Church porch – please write clearly and in block letters. You will then receive a personal invitation from the Archbishop. You can also bring your immediate family. More details from Office for Marriage on 020 8651 2477 or email marriage2014@virginmedia.com. Please submit your details on the form by 2nd May latest.

MASS FOR MIGRANTS

The Mass for Migrants will take place in St George's Cathedral this year on Monday 7th May at 11am, with a preceding banner procession at 10.45am. This service jointly celebrates diversity within Southwark, Westminster and Brentwood Diocese. All are warmly welcomed to join the Mass.

CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC FORMATION

The diocesan Centre for Catholic Formation regularly hosts talks, events and training. If you would like to receive information on these events and much more, please consider subscribing to their monthly newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/daX7t9> - On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ccfsouthwark> - Follow on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ccfsouthwark> and view their videos here: <https://goo.gl/yqAzN7>

POST - EASTER TALKS AT THE AMIGO HALL

Each year the Centre for Catholic Formation hold a series of talks at the Amigo Hall, SE1 7HY, in the weeks of Eastertide. This year, the series' theme is Eucharist in anticipation of the upcoming National Eucharistic Congress. Entry is free, donations welcome. Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm start. Eucharist and Prayer (3rd May) and Eucharist in Scripture (10th May). The talks will also be filmed and will be viewable on the CCF YouTube channel. For more information: www.ccftootingbec.org.uk/sharinginhislife

Quote of the Week

The worship of the ancient golden calf has returned in a new and ruthless guise in the idolatry of money and the dictatorship of an impersonal economy.

Pope Francis



Contact Numbers



Chair of the PPC	Maureen Jones	020 8239 0615
Convent	Sr Jennie Eldridge	020 8689 0454
Gift Aid Organiser	Albert Tang	020 8688 8703
400 Club Organiser	Jonathan Prins (email: club_400@hotmail.com)	
Minibus Bookings	Frances Gilbert (Parish Groups only)	020 8689 7319
Parish Secretary	Danielle Lewin	020 8684 3013
Primary School	St. James the Great	020 8771 3424