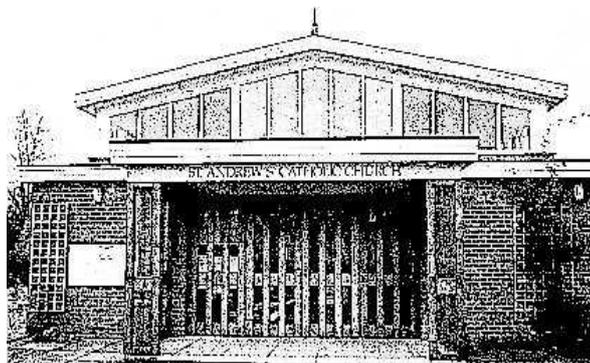

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
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RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Emmanuel Ahua C.S.Sp.
Fr Sylvester Adeniyi C.S.Sp.
Deacons: Rev. Tony Flavin, Rev. Errol Quagraine
Parish Sister: Sr. Jennie Eldridge DMJ
Croydon University Hospital Chaplaincy: Sr. Sheila DMJ



Welcome to St Andrew's RC Church. Worship has been offered here since 1905. You are all very welcome to join in the hymns and other parts of the service as much as possible. Please switch mobile phones off and refrain from taking photographs, filming or recording.

20th September 2020
25th Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Deacon Errol

The Generosity of God

This Sunday we are reminded of the depth of God's generosity in the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard. The Master (God) calls workers at different times of the day and agrees a wage with each of them. When the work is over, the workers see that the last were paid first and received a day's wage which is equal to the workers who worked the longest, and expected more pay than those who entered into the vineyard late in the day. (Matthew 20:1-16) When the master of the vineyard paid the ones who worked longer the same wage as the ones who came late in the day, they felt strongly that the master was unfair. But was the master unfair?

How would you have felt if you did 9am - 5pm and got the same pay as someone who did 9am - 11am? Our ways are not God's ways and neither our thoughts God's thoughts.

What is Jesus saying to us in this Parable? That God's grace and generosity is for all and even more so for those who are lost and helpless, but still hope, irrespective of time. Remember, they presented themselves but no one would hire them; so one's willingness is key. The first being last and the last being first may be Jesus' way of saying that whatever time a person comes to saving faith, they all will receive the same wages ... since the wages of sin is death (Rom 6:23), the wages of repentance and trust in Christ is eternal life (Rom 6:23).

The thief on the cross will receive the same reward of eternal life as those who laboured for the Lord most of their lives. This doesn't mean that they will receive the same rewards once they enter the kingdom since some will be given more responsibility and authority than others but all who trust in Christ will receive the same reward ... eternal life.

Diary for the Week

Sunday 20th September <i>25th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday	Michelle Mannion (Anniv)
	9.30am Mass	For the people of the Parish Mrs Christiana Efua Mansah Gomez A. Paterson (Thanksgiving)
	11.30am Mass	
	6.00pm Mass	
Monday 21st September	7.30am Mass	Matthew Coutinho RIP Geoffrey Chambers (Anniv)
	10.00am Mass	
Tuesday 22nd September	7.30am Mass	
	10.00am Mass	
Wednesday 23rd September	7.30am Mass	Francis Hampshire RIP
	10.00am Mass	
Thursday 24th September	7.30am Mass	The Ritchie Family
	10.00am Mass	
Friday 25th September	7.30am Mass	The Hampshire Family
	10.00am Mass	
Saturday 26th September	9.30am Mass	Deceased Freeman Family RIP For the people of the Parish
	6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 27th September <i>26th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am Mass	Colin East RIP Alphonus Ogwuke RIP (Anniv)
	11.30am Mass	
	6.00pm Mass	

Church cleaners: this week: Fifi's Group (23.9.20), next week : Sancho's Dusters (30.9.20)

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION

- a) Everyone is required to wear a face mask or covering, please adhere to social distancing rules and you MUST sanitise your hands before entering the church.
- b) The social distancing rules means that you are not allowed to sit with your friends, only those from the same household are allowed to sit together.
- c) Please do not gather outside the church after mass to meet and chat with your friends. You are required to leave the premises immediately.
- d) Please note that our Sunday 6.00pm mass has resumed again and also all normal weekday masses.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Please collect your Gift Aid envelopes from the porch. In view of the circumstances we are currently in, and if you are in a position to do so, we would encourage you to set up a direct debit online or complete a standing order form. Please make sure you provide your box number to the bank as a reference. This method is so cost effective and administratively efficient. St Andrew's is immensely grateful for your generosity.

PLEDGE FORM

As you know our church has had to make many changes as we adapt to Coronavirus. As such our parishioner numbers have fallen and this includes the donations normally given to the church. It is the honest truth to say that we are having to make many changes to our financial position as we struggle to ensure that we can continue as a church and parish. This is having a huge impact on us. If you are able to help us in any way by making a donation to our parish, please find attached a pledge form for you to complete and return to us. We are grateful for any help that you can offer us and thank you for your continued support.