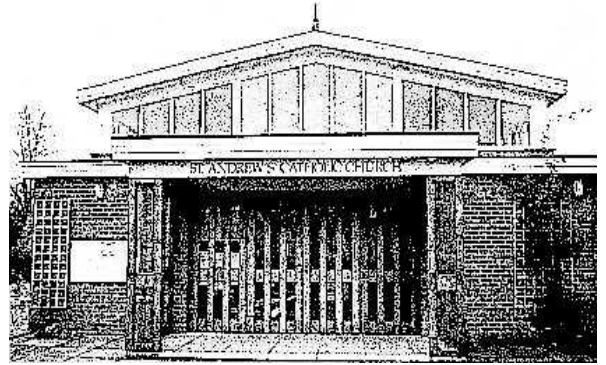

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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.
Fr Thaddeus Oparah 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.

6th December 2020 Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Message from Fr Sylvester

Let us show the way

The season of Advent is a period in the Church's calendar year that invites us to prepare for the greatest birth in the history of the world and to remind ourselves of the need to cherish every birth, every life and every baby. The celebration of Advent is one of the earlier feasts of Christianity and has been established for the church since about the fourth century. It is a time of joyful expectation. The season prepares the faithful for the celebration of the saviour of the world in the flesh but soon takes on an eschatological sense of the waiting for the second coming at the end of time.

As we celebrate the second Sunday in Advent, the scriptures readings give us the message of hope. The prophecy of Isaiah was a message of hope for the people who had suffered in exile. It was a message of hope because God has repealed the sentence of his people, he has decided to pardon their iniquities, to end their slavery because their sin had been atoned for. While we remain grateful for God's generosity, let us remain hopeful for the second coming of Jesus Christ and also become agents of hope to the hopeless and the downtrodden in our society. Like John the Baptist a messenger of hope, we should help others regain lost hope. John the Baptist was a voice calling on the people to prepare a way for the Lord, he asked people to change their old ways of life and repent from sin. He talked about the coming of Jesus and asked people to prepare for his coming. Thus, he prepared the hearts of the people for a new life of God. Like John, it is our vocation as Christians to point and lead people to Jesus. Let the good qualities of our life lead and show the way to others.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11	Prepare a way for the Lord
Psalm 84	Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help
2 Peter 3:8-14	We are waiting for the new heavens and new earth
Mark 1:1-8	Make his paths straight

Diary for the Week

Sunday 6th December <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	Rosaleen Doyle RIP Anniv De Menezes Family (Wellbeing) Mary Badu (Wellbeing) For the People of the Parish
Monday 7th December	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Paul Etuka RIP Bertha D'Costa RIP Anniv
Tuesday 8th December	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Adrian Johnson (Wellbeing) Luis & Piedade Fernandes RIP
Wednesday 9th December	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Roque & Ana Rita Fernandes RIP Robert & Maria Curry RIP
Thursday 10th December	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Roque & Rosalind Cabral RIP
Friday 11th December	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Paul Etuka RIP
Saturday 12th December	9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Osie de Souza (Birthday) For the People of the Parish
Sunday 13th December <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	Deceased Members D'Costa Family RIP George Barrett RIP Anniv Lucien Chin RIP

Church cleaners: this week: Judie's Crew, next week: Fifi's Group

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

MESSAGE FROM FR EMMANUEL

I hope you are all well and still keeping the faith. As the national lockdown has once again ended, I wish to gladly inform you that the doors of St. Andrew's has opened from Thursday 3rd December for our usual public liturgical celebrations. We are still going to maintain, observe and respect the 2 metre social distancing and the other necessary COVID 19 rules whenever we gather for any celebration. With regards to the times for Masses, we are returning to the post COVID-19 Mass times.

The daily Mass from Monday to Friday will be at 7:30am and 10:00am, Saturday the daily Mass is still 9:30am and the Sunday Vigil Mass at 6:00pm. On Sunday the Mass times are; 9:30am, 11:30am and 6:00pm. Please pass on this information to others in the parish. We are looking forward with excitement to seeing you all again.

PARISH PENITENTIAL SERVICE

This will be on Monday 14th December at 7pm.

JESSE TREE

During the season of Advent, we have placed our Jesse Tree on the Sanctuary. The Jesse tree helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is also our Giving tree and we are asking all our parishioners to donate non-perishable food in the box provided during Advent. The SVP group will use our donations for those in need in the Parish. Thank you for your continued support.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our stewards who stay behind after masses to help with sanitising and cleaning and all our helpers before and during mass, we are immensely grateful for your help but we need more stewards to help us, especially with tidying and cleaning up after every mass. If you can help, please email the office with your contact details, thank you.

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am Mass on Sundays. For access you will need to re-enter the church at the front entrance after exiting through the side doors.

ST JAMES THE GREAT SCHOOL

St James the Great are very proud to share with you a virtual tour of the parish school. We can be very proud of the great work that is going on there <https://storage.net-fs.com/hosting/6519766/5/>

SECOND COLLECTION

The second collection for Sunday 13th December will be for Peter's Pence, for support of poor dioceses and religious institutes.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. Please visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.