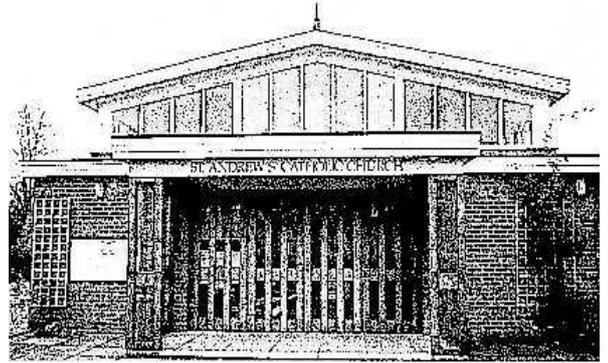

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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.

10th January 2021 Baptism of the Lord (B)

Message from Deacon Errol

God, the Master Creator

We have begun a New Year, filled with hope and aspirations; Praise and glory to God for ever more! I am sure there is still anxiety, fear and worry in the background with the Pandemic still raging, but as the baptised people of God, let us take solace in the knowledge that we have a loving Father who cares, and has created us for a purpose, and He will see us through.

No doubt there will be some pruning, chopping and changing, U turns, moving the goal post of resolutions, as we navigate our way through the year. Yet, our life rests in God's hands, and He knows how to make all things well and beautiful. In Genesis 2:7 we read that "God formed man out of the dust of the ground." Therefore in literal sense, we are pottery. So, like a skilled potter, the Lord knows how to relax his grip, apply precise pressure and so on to increase our strength and fitness as a vessel for his use. To say that we are clay in the hands of the Potter acknowledges God's handiwork as the Master Potter, the Creator of our body. St Paul says God wants to form us into 'a vessel for honour, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work.' 2 Timothy 2:21 Remember that at times the potter puts us into an oven and the fires of life turn us into stronger vessels, to be crowned with glory.

Let us recognise God's authority to shape us spiritually, and fashion us inwardly into a vessel fit for His purpose, as He moulds us into an image of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour. And like a good shepherd, the Lord leads the way, and ensures our safety each day, giving comfort, strength and encouragement to cope with life's challenges, especially during this period of uncertainty.

We pray that this year will be a blessed one for all.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 55:1-11

Come to the water. Listen, and your soul will live

Psalms 124

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation

1 John 5:1-9

The Spirit and water and blood

Mark 1:7-11

You are my Son, the Beloved, my favour rests on you

Diary for the Week

Sunday 10th January <i>Baptism of the Lord</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	For the People of the Parish Paul Etuka RIP Sr Mary Martin RIP Hoskins Family – Wellbeing
Monday 11th January	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Theresa Crystal (F) Sr Mary Martin RIP
Tuesday 12th January	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Fr Adolfo Pacheco Paul Etuka RIP
Wednesday 13th January	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Adam Coleman RIP
Thursday 14th January	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Sr Mary Martin RIP
Friday 15th January	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	
Saturday 16th January	9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Paul Etuka RIP Marie Florise Payen RIP (1st Anniv)
Sunday 17th January <i>2nd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass	For the People of the Parish Joyce Kellas RIP

Church cleaners: this week: Fifi's Group, next week: Sancho's Dusters

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

HAPPY NEW YEAR

We wish you all every blessing for the New Year from Frs Emmanuel, Sylvester and Thaddeus, Deacons Tony and Errol and Sisters Jennie and Sheila.

THANK YOU

The Priests thank you for your most generous Christmas offerings. A special thank you from our Clergy to everyone for your continued support and understanding through these challenging and special circumstances. Whilst we still face significant uncertainty, we hope 2021 will continue to keep us in faith, hope and love. In Christ Jesus we place all our trust.

And a special thank you to those who help with stewarding, cleaning the Church, those who stay behind to clean after every Mass, our Christmas decorations, the food donations to our Jesse Tree and our Christmas Crib. Thank you again for helping us to prepare our Church for Christmas to welcome Christ Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS 2020

This year, as before, our Christmas Crib Offerings will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's Crisis Fund. Since March the Catholic Children's Society (CCS) has provided emergency food and essentials, as well as mental health services, for over 5,500 children and their parents/carers. There are many more families in need of support and our parish will be donating our Crib Offering to support this important work. Every penny donated will be given out via CCS's Southwark Crisis Fund to support local families in need. Due to Covid, a special page has been set up at www.cathchild.org.uk/crib if you want to donate online. Thank you for your continued support.

SVP GROUP

Message from Katherine Hynes: "On behalf of the SVP, I would like to say a huge thank you for all of the donations received in the Jesse Tree box. Thanks to the usual parish kindness, Christmas was made a little easier for those in need of some support. While this support may only appear to be obvious at Christmas, the SVP provides support throughout the year, so if you are aware of anyone who could benefit from a little help, please let us know and we will do what we can. The only requirement for this support is that those involved live within the parish boundary, other than that, there are no constraints".

SECOND COLLECTION

We will have a second collection on Sunday 17th January for Peace Sunday. This year's World Peace Day message from Pope Francis' is "A Culture of Care as a Path to Peace". Your donation will help the important work of Peace Education in schools, challenging the Arms Trade, advocacy work on nuclear weapons and active Nonviolence. Thank you.