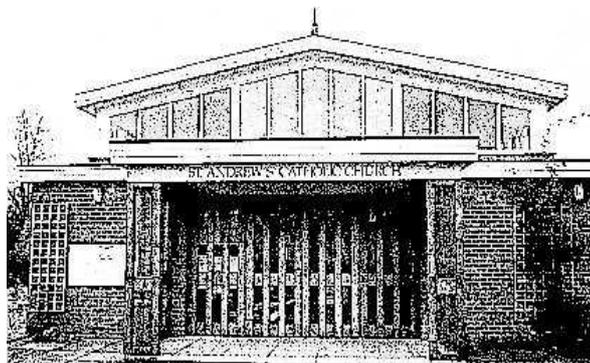

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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.

14th February 2021 6th Sunday of the Year (B)

Message from Fr Thaddeus

The leprous disease and its cure

In the first reading of today we have an enumeration of the symptoms of leprosy as well as the recommendation that anyone seen with such symptoms should be isolated. In fact, isolation has become a household name with the outbreak of COVID-19. When you travel you isolate there and when you return from the travel you isolate again. What is more, everyone is isolating from everyone else whether with or without COVID-19. This practice has been there from the time of Moses and while we interpret the isolation at the time to be discrimination we don't see the present isolation as such. The truth is that neither the isolation during the time of Moses nor during the present time is discriminatory. Instead, it is a precautionary measure to control the spread of the disease or virus as the case may be. The leper stayed in isolation until the healing process was complete.

Then the priest examined to confirm that the person was free from the disease and afterwards performed some rituals of cleansing (Lev 14:1-9). But the question is who healed the leper in isolation? We understand from the thanksgiving which followed cleansing that God is the healer (Lev 14:10-32). We see that in the gospel passage Jesus touched a leper and healed him. This supports the view that God is the one who heals the leper. In view of that we shall be doing the right thing when we pray to God to heal the world of the present pandemic. But we are not to just sit and pray. Paul recommends in the second reading that we do everything for the glory of God. We understand this here to mean that the efforts of the scientists and the medical practitioners should be for the glory of God.

This Sunday's Readings

Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46
Psalm 31
1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1
Mark 1:40-45

The leper must live apart: he must live outside the camp
You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation
Take me for your model, as I take Christ
The leprosy left him at once and he was cured

Diary for the Week

Sunday 14th February <i>6th Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Sr Mary Martin RIP Bill Brennan RIP Mrs C. Etuka – God’s Blessings For the People of the Parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
Monday 15th February	7.30am	Mass	Brian McGrath RIP Valerie Brown-Chandler (70th Birthday)
	10.00am	Mass	
Tuesday 16th February	7.30am	Mass	Rose Callery – Recovery from illness Paul Etuka RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 17th February <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	7.30am	Mass	Joel Vaz RIP Mary O’Dell RIP For the People of the Parish
	10.00am	Mass	
	8.00pm	Mass	
Thursday 18th February	7.30am	Mass	Fr Adolfo Pacheco – Sick George Hennessey RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 19th February	7.30am	Mass	Evelyn Hampshire RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Saturday 20th February	9.30am	Mass	Mary Ann Jones (F)
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 21st February <i>1st Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30am	Mass	James Power (F) Paul Etuka RIP For the People of the Parish
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	

Church cleaners: this week: Sancho’s Dusters, next week: St Jude’s Group

St. Andrew’s Parish Notices

LENT 2021

Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday, 17th February, there will be Masses at 7.30am, 10.00am and 8.00pm. This marks the start of Lent and is a day of Fasting and Abstinence. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

Stations of the Cross

Please join us on Wednesdays 10.30am and Friday evenings at 8.00pm.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a second collection this weekend, 14th February, for Poor Parishes. This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.

ST DAMIEN’S GROUP

The St Damien's group is happy to help anyone who is confined to home during this lock down period and cannot go out to collect prescriptions or shopping. We are also able to help with transport if it's needed to take anyone to have the vaccination. If you need help please phone Jane Ritchie on 07999 693052 before you make your appointment so that together a convenient date can be organised.

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open for a short while before the start of the 11.30am Mass on Sundays only.

MASS OFFERING BOOKINGS AND DONATIONS THROUGH PAYPAL

If you would like to use the facility to book your Mass intentions and make donations through Paypal, please go on our website where you will find the “Donations” menu. Please follow the instructions given there. Mass bookings can still be booked in the normal way using envelopes in the porch.

CAFOD’S FAMILY FAST DAY – FRIDAY 26th FEBRUARY

This Lent, CAFOD’s Family Fast Day is an opportunity to continue to express our shared love and concern as one global Church family. We want to reach out to some of the poorest, most marginalised of our sisters and brothers.

On CAFOD's Family Fast Day, a day we are invited to pray, fast and give to help people like Abdella. Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says: "I am wasting my life. I am a young man; I should be doing something else". Your gifts will help vulnerable communities around the world have access to clean water and other vital support.

On Friday 26th February, we ask you to eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Abdella. Next weekend please collect your Family Fast Day envelope and return your envelopes on the weekend of 27/28 February. You can donate online through the CAFOD website, or by using one of the envelopes. Thank you for your continued support.

HALL EXIT DOOR

Please can we ask that parishioners do not leave the Church after Mass via the hall exit door. Once Mass has finished, please exit via the Church side exit doors – thank you.

PAYPAL DONATE BUTTON

During this Covid period, to help parishioners donate to the Church, the Archdiocese has asked us to allow different ways in which you can make donations, hopefully to make it easier. Please find below a URL link and QR code. You can scan the QR code with your phone camera and be directed to the paypal button to donate. This information is also on our website, so please do have a look.

1. URL link:

https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=RHW92Z268AJN8

2. QR code:



LIVE STREAMING EQUIPMENT FOR ST ANDREW'S

For quite a while I have been thinking of live streaming our Masses. This has been requested by some of our parishioners but I have waited a while to "see what happens". But since the current situation is not changing in the foreseeable future, I now want to arrange the live streaming equipment soon but of course, this has not been an easy decision because of the costs involved. I know that many parishioners are also facing difficult financial circumstances, so I am sorry to have to ask again, but our Church is struggling financially as donations have dropped dramatically.

If you can help us get together some money to pay for the live streaming, this would help us enormously. Ultimately we are thinking long term as we hope many of our parishioners will be able to benefit from this and we could live stream well into the future. If you think you can help us please do let me know. We hope to raise £3,000 as there is a budget for this but this would include all the equipment and labour costs to install as well. Please do speak with me if you would like more information and you will be able to donate any way you like. Thank you to everyone who have already spoken to me or have already donated, Fr Emmanuel.

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

Dear Husband and Wife

You are invited to give each other a gift by spending March 13th online, 10.00 – 1.00pm exploring and improving your relationship. The event is entitled 'Building A Better Marriage'. It will provide you with valuable insights into your communication skills and the call of the Church to the married. Please note that there is no group sharing. This is not marriage counselling but a chance to make average-to-good marriages a bit better. That applies whether you have been married five years or 50. Booking is essential: telephone 07983 524 727 or email mflkent@rcaos.org.uk.

