

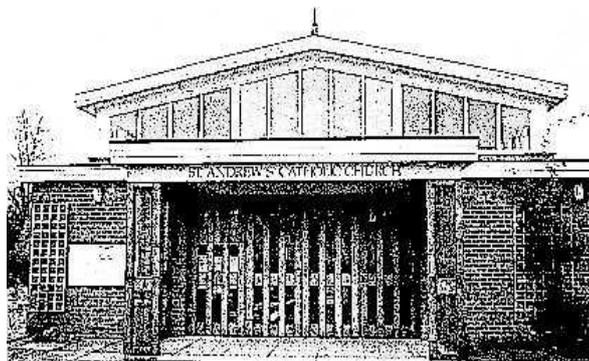
ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
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Live Mass streaming <https://www.churchservices.tv/thorntonheath>
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 Anthony Saffa 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.

3rd October 2021
27th Sunday of the Year (B)

Message from Fr Anthony



JESUS TALKS ABOUT MARRIAGE

Today's Gospel deals with something that can be even more painful than death: when one has given one's heart to another in love and in trust and the other person does not honour the commitment and breaks the trust. As well as the dangers of tragedy or death, we have to face the possibility and the pain of relationships failing or turning sour. Love is beautiful, but it is also delicate, and it can be fragile. The rending of a love relationship can leave us shattered in such a way that healing seems impossible.

Jesus is asked his opinion on the topic of divorce which often disadvantages women and leaves them completely vulnerable. He challenges the men of his time to focus on God's design for marriage as a relationship based on love, respect and equality. It is a way of life in which men and women can grow, through unselfish commitment, to become humble and grace-filled adults. This is not to say that every marriage is made in heaven. Sometimes we human beings, even with the best will in the world, enter into destructive relationships that cannot bring either person to this mature loving. In such cases we need the courage and the humility to acknowledge our mistake and to go through the pain of separation. We will need as much understanding and love from the community as it can give.

Whatever path we walk in our journey of giving and receiving love, we are not meant to be alone. We need community, and it is here that the Church has a key role, in supporting us as we strive to build love and in supporting us when our efforts collapse about us. Wherever we find ourselves in our relationships, let us remember the good news that God is love, and that all God's grace is now being offered us to find the truth that will set us free. Everyone in this church, whatever our past history, is capable now of loving and receiving love.

This Sunday's Readings

Genesis 2:18-24	They become one body
Psalms 127	May the Lord bless us all the days of our life
Hebrews 2:9-11	The one who sanctifies, and the ones who are sanctified, are of the same stock
Mark 10:2-16	What God has united, man must not divide

Diary for the Week

Sunday 3rd October <i>27th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Cecil Lobo RIP Birthday Nigerian Catholic Community – Independence Anniversary Zara Arthur - Wellbeing For the people of the Parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
Monday 4th October	7.30am	Mass	Pete Hunter RIP Hilda Colaco RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Tuesday 5th October	7.30am	Mass	Michael D’Souza RIP – Birthday Remembrance Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 6th October	7.30am	Mass	Samuel & Emily Ward (F) Velencio Rodrigues – Birthday & Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
Thursday 7th October	7.30am	Mass	Eucharistic Adoration Apostolate Wilson Rodrigues – Birthday & Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 8th October	7.30am	Mass	Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Families RIP Anthony Cunningham – Illhealth
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
Saturday 9th October	9.30am	Mass	Paul Etuka RIP Dennis Meskill RIP Anniv
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 10th October <i>28th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass	Josiah Oyeyinka – Recovery from illness Christina Etuka – Wellbeing & God’s Protecion For the people of the Parish
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	

Church cleaners: this week: St Jude’s Group, next week: Judie’s Crew

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

MESSAGE FROM POPE FRANCIS ON MARRIAGE

BROTHERS AND SISTERS

Pope Francis has consistently said that the Church is not a museum for saints but a hospital which heals the wounded, strengthens the weak and lifts up the lowly. Our very credibility is at stake when we lack merciful and compassionate love for those who are struggling or are removed and disengaged with the lived reality. Let us endeavour to be the Church where everyone can feel welcomed, forgiven, loved and encouraged to live according to the Gospel.

FACEMASKS

Please can we ask you to continue to use a face covering if you are able to and to use the hand sanitiser when entering our Church.

SECOND COLLECTION CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - HARVEST (FRIDAY 1ST OCTOBER)

This Family Fast Day we can help the poorest people in the world adapt to the climate crisis. This is a crisis that will affect each and every one of us – and is damaging our world.

Our local experts are helping people all over the world to adapt to climate change and protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this Family Fast Day you can help communities affected by the worst impacts of the climate crisis.

Donate online through the CAFOD website or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also easily give via text. Text CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10 (texts cost £10 plus one standard rate message) or choose to give any whole amount between £1 and £20 by texting CAFOD, following the amount you would like to donate to 70580.

If you are using a CAFOD envelope from the porch, please return to us this weekend. Thank you for your continued support.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2021/22

To help us with the re-ordering of the Gift Aid boxes, please can we ask you to tick “yes” or “no” if you want them. All the current names are displayed on the notice board in the porch.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Thank you to our counters. Kindly record the numbers on the sheet on the table just outside of the Priest’s Sacristy, thank you.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR CHILDREN (RCIC)

The RCIC is for children whose parent is Catholic and are over the age of 7 years and have not been baptised and also for children in year 5 and above who have not made their First Communion. Registration was on Tuesday 28th September but please speak with Sr Jennie if you would still like to attend. Please note that an accompanying parent or adult must stay with the child for the full session.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

The RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church. Registration was on Tuesday 28th September but please speak with Sr Jennie if you would still like to attend. If you know of anyone who might be interested please encourage them to come along and perhaps come with them.

DBS CERTIFICATES FOR VOLUNTEERS

Please could existing volunteers who need DBS (Disclosure and Barring) checks please email their full name to thorntonheathsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk

The online process will then be actioned. This includes; Eucharistic Ministers, Catechists for Children, Adult Altar Servers, Children’s Liturgists and any parish group helpers for vulnerable adults or children. It is everyone’s responsibility to ensure that our parish is a safe place and the DBS certificate issued must be through the RC Diocese of Southwark and not another body even if it is current and valid.

ST ANDREW’S CHOIR

The Choir at St. Andrews warmly welcome parishioners who would like to join the choir. If you can play an instrument, read music or have a love for singing you are most welcome. For more details or to sign up please speak to one of the choir leaders after Mass.

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Please join us as our group have resumed our prayer meetings every Sunday evening in the Church from 7.00 – 9.00pm. All are very welcome to come along and join us in praises, prayers, Bible studies and youth group ministry. For further details please call Stella on 07983 775879.

SCHOOL REFERENCES

Please come along to the remaining dates for you to see Fr Emmanuel. Please come prepared with the school’s Priest reference forms and your child’s Baptism Certificate. The following remaining dates are:

Monday 11th October 11.00 – 1.00pm and 7.00 – 9.00pm

Tuesday 12th October 7.00 – 9.00pm

Wednesday 13th October 11.00 – 1.00pm

Please note that these will be the only dates that Fr Emmanuel will see you to sign the school forms, so please make every effort to attend. In the last two years we have had to see many parents with very late forms giving lots of different excuses as to why they missed the original dates.

These dates will be the only dates available – no excuses! Fr Emmanuel

EMMANUEL U.P. ADIZUA-NWANEGBO RIP

Bernardine Adizua-Nwanegbo's husband sadly passed away in Nigeria on 2nd January 2021. Bernardine would like to invite you to her husband's Remembrance and Thanksgiving Mass at 1.00pm on Saturday 9th October in St Andrew's Church followed by a short reception in our hall afterwards.

ADORATION

Please come in and spend some time in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration every Friday from 10.30am – 12noon.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK - FOODBANK

The group have launched a food bank project in order to help families who are in need of extra help with regards to some food items. This will be held in St Andrew's hall every second Saturday every month until the end of the year. The next one will be on Saturday 9th October approximately from 12.00 – 1.00pm. We would welcome any food donations, tinned, dry packets, etc. Please see the poster in the porch for more info and contact details. If you know of any families who may benefit from this, please let them know.

ACTIVE RETIREMENT GROUP

It is with sadness and regret that we have to let you know that Bill and Gwen Whalley have decided to retire from the Wednesday Active Retirement Group. After some 10 years this has been a difficult decision for Bill and Gwen to make but they believe that as they step aside this will allow for hopefully others to take over and put a new emphasis and impetus to the club.

Please can we ask our members to let others know as soon as possible, especially those that do not attend St. Andrew's.

As a parish we would like to say a big thank you to Bill and Gwen for their many years of service and we send our good wishes to them for the future.

ROSARY GROUP

We would like to re-start our Rosary Group in the Church. If you would like to join us, please do come along Monday to Saturday after the 10am Mass during the week and on Saturdays after the 9.30am Mass. All are very welcome to attend.

CHURCH CLEANERS WANTED URGENTLY

We really need more people to help with the task of cleaning God's house. Especially over the past year the burden has fallen on just a few who are having to cope on their own so if you can spare an hour or two and would like to help by joining one of our groups, please contact Fifi on 07932 764273. Thank you.

ST JAMES THE GREAT RC SCHOOL

The school is having some open mornings in October, please contact the school for further information, the dates are:

Friday 8th October 9.30 - 11.30am

Friday 15th October 9.30 - 11.30am

Friday 22nd October 9.30 - 11.30am

SOUTHWARK MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE TEAM

Here are a couple of upcoming events being organised by the Southwark Marriage & Family Life team. Please make contact directly if you would like more information:

STARTING LIFE AGAIN AS A SINGLE

If you are single again following divorce, separation or the death of your partner, a residential Beginning Experience weekend to help you heal will be held from October 8-10 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. For more details, please ring 01322 838415 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

Do you wish to understand your faith and your relationship better? The Sycamore online course, which is aimed at engaged and married couples, aims to help you do just that. It gives you the opportunity to explore your beliefs, think about questions that really matter and share ideas. Each session involves a short film and time for discussion. Everyone is welcome. The four one-hour sessions run on consecutive Saturdays mornings beginning October 16. For more details email Carole on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk