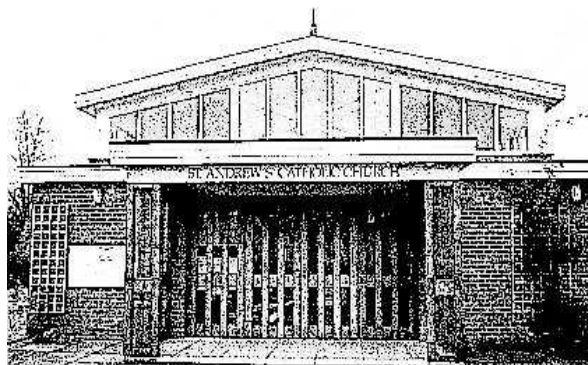

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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.

26th September 2021 26th Sunday of the Year (B)

Message from Fr Sylvester

He that is not against us is for us

There are times when as human beings we get into unnecessary competitions with each other. Even while professing faith in the same God, people try to outdo each other to win more followers and sometimes to bolster their ego. How does God look at us in such situations?

In the Gospel (Mark 9:38-40) Jesus the Word of God and Wisdom personified teaches the disciples how to deal wisely with those who may not belong to the same fold with them. These disciples were simply being human, they were protecting their territory. Not long before this passage in the same gospel, a man brought his son who was possessed and the disciples could not cast out the spirit that was tormenting him. You could then imagine how they felt seeing a man in the town, not a member of the group, casting out demons in the name of Jesus. "Teacher, we saw a man casting out demons in your name, and we forbade him because he was not following us". They were proud to report this to Jesus, but he said to them, "Do not forbid him; for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon after to speak evil of me. For he that is not against us is for us". That was a rude shock obviously to these disciples who were seeking to protect what they believed was their franchise. The fact that this man was, apparently, successful where the disciples themselves had recently failed would have also been a blow to their pride.

We have a great lesson to learn from them too. We need as many hands to evangelise the world and for as long as they are doing good in the name of Jesus, do not forbid them. Help correct their errors and excesses but do not stop them. If you fight the one who professes the same faith with you and does good works in the name of Christ, how can you love those who differ with you in faith and works?

This Sunday's Readings

Numbers 11:25-29	Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets!
Psalms 18	The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart
James 5:1-6	Your wealth is all rotting
Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48	Anyone who is not against us is for us. If your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off

Diary for the Week

Sunday 26th September <i>26th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Gemma Moses & Family - Thanksgiving Deceased Members of Freeman Family RIP Alan Ogwuke RIP Anniv For the People of the Parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
Monday 27th September	7.30am	Mass	Michelle Mannion RIP Anniv
	10.00am	Mass	
Tuesday 28th September	7.30am	Mass	Pete Hunter RIP Anton Benedict – Anniversary
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 29th September	7.30am	Mass	In Honour of Our Lady of Africa Abigail R. Rodrigues – 18 th Birthday
	10.00am	Mass	
Thursday 30th September	7.30am	Mass	Francis & Ursula Kershaw (F) Mrs Margaret C. Grillo RIP Anniv
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 1st October	7.30am	Mass	Timothy & Clela Andradi RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
Saturday 2nd October	9.30am	Mass	Mr Cecil Lobo RIP Birthday
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 3rd October <i>27th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass	Nigerian Catholic Community – Independence Anniv Zara Arthur – Wellbeing 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

FACE MASKS

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.

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. This list will only be available for one month, so please make sure you tick your name please.

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.

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 on the weekend of 2/3 October. Thank you for your continued support.

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. Please come to registration and Session 1 on Tuesday 28th September in the parish hall on Quadrant Road 6.30pm - 7.30pm. 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. This begins on Tuesday 28th September at 7.45pm in the parish hall on Quadrant Road until 9.00pm. If you know of anyone who might be interested please encourage them to come along and perhaps come with them.

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

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.

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses on Sunday.

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

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CERTIFICATE

The Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis is pleased to announce the launch of the Archbishop's Certificate (previously the Diocesan Catechetical Certificate), refreshed to support not just the work of catechesis but also that of evangelisation and formation in our diocese.

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is an online course for all in Southwark who wish to know their Catholic faith more deeply. Participants will take a two-year journey through the Church's teaching to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy.

The course will commence in October 2021 and the cost will be £365 per year. Registration must be completed in advance. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>

SOUTHWARK MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE TEAM

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

DEALING WITH RELATIONSHIP BREAKDOWN

Relationship breakdown can be the hardest experience of a person's life. No one should have to face it on their own. By joining a Restored Lives course, you can become part of, and supported by, a local group working together to find a way forward. The next eight-session online course starts on October 4th. For more details and to book visit the website restoredlives.org

GRIEF AND LOSS: HOPE IN CHRIST

Have you been bereaved? If so, this weekend being held at Aylesford Priory is for you, an opportunity to mourn but also to share with and be supported by others. The date is October 8-10. For more information phone 01303 670 880 or email mflgac@rcaos.org.uk

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

THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE

The Bible Timeline Course with Mauro Iannicelli. During lockdown, Mauro Iannicelli delivered a very well-received overview of salvation history using the Bible Timeline Course. Hundreds of Southwark parishioners participated and Mauro is offering the course again this autumn. The Bible Timeline Course: Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this free of charge, worldwide-famous course delivered online live by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts Wednesday 29th September. Eight Wednesday sessions (7pm - 8:40pm). Info and registration: www.comeandsee.org