
ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

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RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

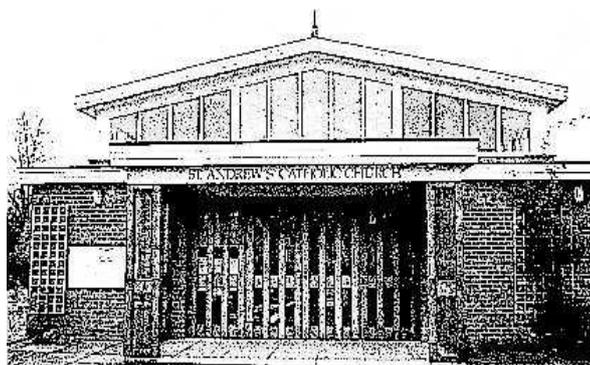
PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Emmanuel Ahua C.S.Sp.
Fr Sylvester Adeniyi C.S.Sp.
Fr 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.

31st October 2021

All Saints Day (B)

Message from Fr Sylvester

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS

The Church Triumphant

The Mother Church commemorates the life of the Saints today. Who are the Saints? Saints are the good men and women of every nation and race, our kits and kins, who lived their lives through the ages in accordance with the will of God in their earthly lives. They are those who have gone before us and now share in the glories of Heaven. The Saints, in full union with God, are referred to as the Church Triumphant. Those who died in venial sins and are awaiting purgation, a process of purification in Purgatory with the hope of sharing the joys of Heaven are the Church Suffering. They get through this process by God's mercy and our prayers. With us still on the face of the earth, we are known as the Church Militant. We continue to work for our salvation with fear and trembling while cooperating with the grace of God.

Very importantly, the Saints though enjoying their eternal reward are also still very much concerned about us, praying and interceding for us. Having passed through the same crucible with us and shared our existential reality, they can identify with us in the most concrete sense. They became friends of God as they proclaimed and witnessed to the gospel message by their lives in an often challenging norm to making the world a better place. Some of them laid down their lives suffering martyrdom silently for the sake of the Gospel. They are men and women whose lives flow seamlessly from prayer to action. We indeed need to hear their stories and be inspired by them. To achieve a thorough passage to Heaven, into God's presence, Jesus Christ offers us the ingredients of salvation. He offers the way of life that leads to true happiness and divine approval. In today's Gospel, Jesus praises those who try their best to live out the demands of the Kingdom of God conducting themselves in a way that is acceptable and in accordance with the dictates of Christian faith which they have received. By implication, you and I are called upon to follow the way of life that is admired in these sayings of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In summary, the life of the Saints challenges us to a life of holiness. Let us not restrict holiness therefore to just a few or look at heaven like a far and distant destination that is difficult to attain. It is a simple journey of daily conversion in cooperation with the grace of God. I wish you all a happy celebration and a blessed week.

This Sunday's Readings

Apocalypse 7:2-4, 9-14

Psalm 23

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

I saw a huge number, impossible to count, of people from every nation, race, tribe and language

Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord

We shall see God as he really is

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven

Diary for the Week

Sunday 31st October <i>All Saints Day</i> Holiday of Obligation <i>(clocks back 1 hour)</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	For the people of the Parish Antonio & Idinihna Carvalho RIP Vicente Fernandes RIP Esther Oyeyinka – Thanksgiving & God's Blessings
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 1st November	7.30am	Mass	November List Deceased De Souza Family RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Tuesday 2nd November <i>All Souls Day</i>	7.30am	Mass	November List Joseph Kwame Baffoe RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 3rd November	7.30am	Mass	November List Souls of the departed Legionaries
	10.00am	Mass	
Thursday 4th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Pam Freeman – Birthday & Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 5th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 6th November	9.30am	Mass	November List For the people of the Parish
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 7th November <i>32nd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass	Jessica Mary Badu RIP – Birthday Deceased Arthur Family Members RIP November List
	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

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.

MASS SUNG IN LATIN DURING NOVEMBER

During the month of November, the 11.30am Choir, the Mass will be sung in Latin.

MISSION APPEAL THIS WEEKEND 30/31 OCTOBER

We welcome Fr Tom Ryan to all our weekend masses to talk about the mission appeal in our parish for The Missionary Society of St. Columban. Some information about The Columban Fathers are:

They were founded in Ireland in 1916 by two graduates of Maynooth National Seminary – Father (later Bishop) Edward Galvin and Father John Blowick. Their first mission was to China. The primary aim of the Columbans is inculturation of the Gospel in Cross Cultural environments. At the heart of their work is the call to help people become fully human, to help establish a world of peace with justice and care for the integrity of creation in solidarity with the poor. In order to do this effectively they strive to read the signs of the times through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, willing to take the risks of meeting the challenges that confront them.

Columbans now have missions in China, Chile, Fiji, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Peru, Pakistan, UK, Ireland, Australia, USA and more.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

The RCIA is for anyone who is interested in becoming a member of the Catholic Church. Please speak with Sr Jennie after Mass if you would like to attend. If you know of anyone who might be interested please encourage them to come along and perhaps come with them.

CAKE SALE: CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

On Sunday 7th November after the 9.30am Mass, this year's Confirmation candidates will be having a cake sale accompanied by teas and coffees in the hall. Proceeds to go to their two chosen charities "The Sickle Cell Society" and "Croydon Association for Young Single Homeless". Please do come along to give them your support and to enjoy a cake or two!

NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

During the month of November we particularly pray for those who have died. A list of the deceased whose funerals took place here at St Andrew's will be displayed in the front of the Altar. Anyone who has a relative or friend who has died elsewhere in the last year should give in their names and date of death to the office or to one of the Priests and the name will be added.

Please put the names in a Holy Souls envelope together with your offerings in the basket before the Altar from the beginning of November. These envelopes will be brought up during each Mass in the month of November. On Saturday 27th November at 9.30am we will hold our annual Mass for those who have died in the last year, we hope you can join us.

400 CLUB

September draw:

- Bernadette Menezes No: 13 - £20
- Sonia Clarke No: 51 - £10
- Anamelchet Oparta No: 111 - £10

October draw will be in next week's newsletter.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY LAST WEEK

Thank you very much for your donations last week. Your prayers and contributions will help missionaries work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Please pray for the work of Missio and all those working to offer the love of Jesus, that we may remain strong in our witness to Christ's love for all peoples. To continue supporting mission throughout the year, please go to missio.org.uk or call 020 7821 9755 (office hours).

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 has resumed 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.

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 13th November 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.

ROSARY GROUP

We have re-started 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.

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses on Sunday. We have some 2022 calendars and Christmas cards already in so please visit to make your purchases early.

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.

COP26 CLIMATE TALKS 31 OCTOBER – 12 NOVEMBER

In 2021 the UK government assumed the presidency of COP26. This provides a unique opportunity for the UK government to present its vision of a 'Global Britain' and lead the way in international efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

As a Catholic community we have been given a very clear steer from Pope Francis about the importance of caring for our common home. In his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'*, His Holiness made it clear that to 'harm the environment was to harm human beings'. Furthermore, it asks us the key question. 'What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?'

In the run up to COP26 and specifically on this last Sunday in October, we are asking people to pray that the leaders meeting in Glasgow (including Pope Francis who plans to attend in person) work together for positive outcomes for people and the planet. To assist with this the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, in partnership with CAFOD have produced a prayer card for use in the home so please take one and pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow and pray that that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26

May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SYNODAL PROCESS

Pope Francis has called a Synod of bishops to meet in October 2023. The Theme of this Synod is not dogma or structure it is unique "Listening to the Holy Spirit". Every Catholic in the world is called to participate by a common process of sharing the Gospel. Every voice and opinion is valid. The First stage is "What is the Holy Spirit saying to us, here in Thornton Heath in this parish of St. Andrew's?" There are three topics, Communion, Participation, and Mission.

This is what is planned over the next three weeks. We will take one of these and we are encouraged to share with honesty, and openness about real life experiences and to reflection on what the Holy Spirit might be revealing in what we share with one another

1. Every Thursday Evening for the next three weeks those who wish to meet in the parish hall from 7.30pm - 9.00pm to prayerfully use the process (October 28th, November 4th and November 11th).
2. Individuals and groups can also do this through prayerfully following the process which is printed on the sheet in the newsletter. There is an email address standrewssynodprocess2021@gmail.com to which all responses from the parish of St. Andrew's can be sent. If you do not wish to be part of the "parish listening", responses can be sent direct to the diocese at synod@rcaos.org.uk

We will give a short feedback in the newsletter on the Sunday after every meeting. We have a month to submit the parish response (*not a lot of time*).

Responses at the meeting or through email to include:

Which passage of Scripture was used to guide and inspire the meeting?

What were some of the key phrases, thoughts and comments shared?

Was there a common thread in what was shared?

Week 2 Participation

Participation is based on the fact that all the faithful are qualified and called to serve each other through the gifts they have all received from the Holy Spirit. The authority of pastors is a specific gift of the Spirit of Christ the Head for the building up of the entire Body

PRAYER

Spiritual conversations normally begin by actively listening to oneself and to what the Holy Spirit is doing at the outset. This involves time for silent personal prayer and reflection, which can take the following form:

1. A brief introduction invites participants to share with the group one or two words that describe their interior state at that point.
2. A longer time of silent personal prayer and reflection over response to a passage of Scripture (suggest Gospel of that day's Mass or the Sunday Gospel). Each one shares only the word or phrase that speaks to them

SHARING

Begin with one question at a time and if time allows respond to more than one. You do not have to answer them all each person is invited to reflect and then speak their response to the question Each person should have up to 5 minutes max to speak. Perhaps consider using a visible timer. The focus is to listen to others, rather than simply thinking about what you want to say. Open your heart and your mind to listen to the one who is speaking. Between each person, take a 30 second pause to recall what was said. The facilitator can nominate someone to start, then participants can share one after the other.

1. Reflecting on 16 months of the pandemic, how has participation in your parish been affected? Were these issues there before?
2. How can participation be strengthened moving forward into the future?
3. What are the means by which different voices can be heard in your parish (particularly those on the periphery of parish life)?
4. Which groups and individuals are least included in your parish?
5. How can you broaden the way you include people whilst keeping always true to the Gospel and our core Christian identity?
6. How do you currently participate, personally, in the life of the Church? How much responsibility do you have as an individual?
7. How can we better enable full participation and co-responsibility in the life of the Church at the parish and diocesan levels?
8. How does your parish effectively identify and use the gifts of its people?
9. How do families and young people effectively participate in the life of your parish? What do you do to support them?

Once everyone has shared, take a breather, and if there is time return for the second round and participants speak spontaneously without any particular order. However each person can only share once. *This is not a time for discussing or refuting what someone else says, nor for bringing up what you forgot to mention in the first round. Rather, it is an opportunity to ask questions like:*

- How were you affected by what you heard?
- Is there a common thread in what was shared? Is there something missing that you had expected would be said?
- Were you especially touched by a particular sharing?
- Have you received any particular insight or revelation? What is it?
- Where did you experience a sense of harmony with others as we shared with one another? Choose one word to describe the overall mood of the group eg. hopeful, depressed, joyful, contentious, excited etc.



standrewssynodprocess2021@gmail.com