

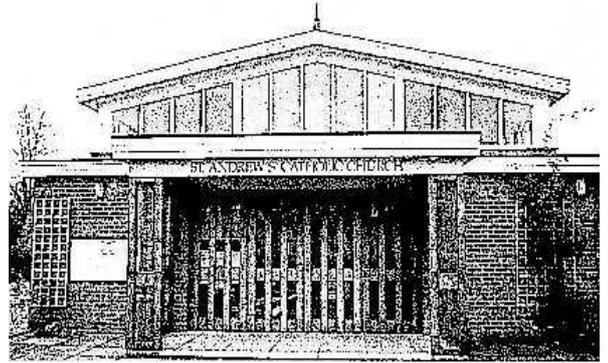
ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

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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.

14th November 2021 Remembrance Sunday

Message from Deacon Tony

How scary are this Sunday's readings? Firstly we have Daniel telling us there will be a time of unparalleled distress. This is followed by the letter of the Hebrews "When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings." If we forget an offering will we be damned to eternal suffering?

And then we have Jesus, our help and our salvation telling us quite emphatically that a time of great distress is to come. What hope is there for any of us? What are we to do?

Let us look back to the readings of last Sunday. In the first reading we heard of the widow who is about to prepare the last meal before she and her son die. Elijah asked her to prepare something for him too. The widow was left knowing the Lord spoke through Elijah and she and her son did not die.

This was reflected in the Gospel in the story of the widow's mite. Jesus tells us how this woman shares all that she had to live on. In both cases, these women will have to put their complete and utter faith in God in order to survive.

This week we have Jesus giving us woeful news, which is then followed in Mark's Gospel with his sharing of the Last Supper, his trial and crucifixion. Jesus, like the two women, had to place himself completely in God's hand.

This will be the same for each of us when the time of great distress comes. Whether we be alive or dead, we will not escape it. Therefore it's most important that we asked as suggested in this Sunday's Gospel acclamation.

Stay awake and stand ready,
because you do not know the hour
when the Son of Man is coming.

This Sunday's Readings

Daniel 12:1-13	When that time comes, your own people will be spared
Psalms 15	Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you
Hebrews 10:11-14, 18	By virtue of one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying
Mark 13:24-32	He will gather his chosen from the four winds

Diary for the Week

Sunday 14th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	For the people of the Parish November List For the War Dead Deceased Members Arthur Family RIP
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 15th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Justice Edu RIP Anniv
	10.00am	Mass	
Tuesday 16th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Sheridan Family (F)
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 17th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Ify Ezike – Birthday
	10.00am	Mass	
Thursday 18th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Patrick Sheehan RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 19th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Antonio Carvalho – Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 20th 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 21st November <i>Our Lord Jesus Christ,</i> <i>King of the Universe</i>	9.30am	Mass	Deceased Members Freeman Family RIP Thomas & Snigdha Arthur – 34 th Wedding Anniv November List
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	

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

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.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR THIS WEEKEND

The second collection this weekend will be for the Archbishop's Administration Fund. This collection helps to meet the cost of the central administration of the diocese.

CONFIRMATION GROUP

The Confirmation Candidates would like to thank everyone who supported them at the cake sale last Sunday in aid of their two charities, The Sickle Cell Society and Croydon Association for Young Single Homeless. It raised the amazing amount of £154.67, thank you again.

MASS SUNG IN LATIN DURING NOVEMBER

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

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.

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.

A DAY WITH JESUS

The A Day with Jesus Group have resumed their meetings in St Andrew's Church. Please join them to pray together, sing praises, worship, say the Rosary, Divine Mercy and Adoration. The group meet every fourth Saturday of every month (27th November and but not this December) from 12.30 – 4.00pm. All are very welcome to come along, for further information please call Simon on 07947 493683.

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 18th December 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

The funeral for Darren Kowlessar RIP will be on 22nd November at 12noon followed by a reception in our hall afterwards.

MISSION CALENDAR

There are some 2022 calendars in the porch, please take one home.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Please take home with you a CAFOD World Gifts booklet for 2021-22. By buying World Gifts you are standing in solidarity with people suffering injustices all over the world and giving an opportunity to build a better future.

Also we have received a letter from CAFOD to thank us for our Harvest Day collection, we raised £267.70, thank you for your continued support.

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.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

The second collection next week will be for the Catholic Youth Services. The collection taken on National Youth Sunday supports youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

CATHOLIC RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

The Archdiocese of Southwark is delighted to formally announce that it is divesting from fossil fuels to protect our impact upon the environment. The head of the Catholic Church in England and Wales, Cardinal Vincent Nichols, has written to the Prime Minister asking him to support poor and vulnerable communities facing "devastating effects of climate change". Pope Francis calls on the political decision makers who will meet at COP26 in Glasgow to urgently provide effective responses to the present ecological crisis and in this way to offer concrete hope to future generations.

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

Here is a gift for husbands and wives, an opportunity to spend a morning online exploring and improving your relationship. It's for couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to make them a bit better. There is no group sharing. The date: Saturday January 8, 9am–1pm. Booking is essential: phone 07983 524 727 or email mflkent@rcaos.org.uk There is a nominal charge of £10 per couple.

GRIEF IN LOSS: HOPE IN CHRIST

Have you been bereaved? This weekend being held at Aylesford Priory is for you, for anyone who has lost a loved one through death; an opportunity to mourn but also to share with and be supported by others. The date is March 4-6. For more information phone Elizabeth Partridge on 01303 670 880 or email enquiry@thefriars.org.uk

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 reflect on what the Holy Spirit might be revealing in what we share with one another.

1. Next Thursday Evening **November 18th** those who wish to meet in the parish hall from **7.30pm - 9pm** to prayerfully use the process
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 directly 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).

Participation (this was from last week)

Please list which questions were used. If you reflected on questions other than those offered on the diocesan website, please provide them here as well.

Q1 a) Reflecting on 16 months of the pandemic, how has participation in your parish been affected?.

A1.1 - Reduction in mass attendance (especially of young families)

A1.2 - Hard to get catechists etc - pool of people reduced

A1.3 - Parishioners feel threatened

A1.4 - Finance and the Sacraments, Prayer-life and the people also affected by Pandemic

A1.4 - Their faith may have been shaken – "God, where are you?"

A1.5 – Early during the Pandemic, Prayer session held in the Church car-park and communion shared

Q1 b) Were these issues there before?

B1.1 General lack of participation prior to Covid all of which was supplanted by the Pandemic

Q2 How can participation be strengthened moving forward into the future?

A2.1 – Church should show a friendlier face – welcome newcomers at the end of mass – collective prayer for parishioners’ birthdays.

A2.2 – Re-start teas and coffees after Sunday morning masses

A2.3 – Find a project that will unite people across all masses

A2.4 – Inviting; Welcoming; Belonging

A2.5 – Priest to communicate homily concisely and clearly to engage the congregation

A2.6 – Develop a sense of the sacred

A2.7 – People don’t know what it’s like if they haven’t been so scared – don’t know what procedures are in place. Some smaller churches notice when someone is missing but as we such a big parish, it’s too difficult.

A2.8 – Welcome new faces and encourage them to join in and participate

(summer fayres – but these are at the schools)

A2.9 – Meet to build community – resurrect the 5 councils

Parish council; Finance; Social; Maintenance; and Liturgy. It’s our parish and shouldn’t be down to the Clergy and Pastoral team.

Parish AGM.

A2.10 – Morning Prayer and Use of Missal – not possible as books not allowed. Prayers not known as books not available.

A2.11 – How do you reach people who aren’t involved in groups? We feel guilty because we see people and don’t know their names. People who go to the same mass as we do but don’t know them. If someone has died. You may know their face but not their name. One parish puts picture by their name – it is helpful.

A2.12 – Newcomers’ Mass – important

A2.13 – Communication *so* important – Newsletter – none during Covid

A2.14 – If on your own during covid – great if someone could do your shopping for you but very scary. Had a welcome call from Rev Tony – helpful

A2.15 – A bit of an issue before pandemic, but pandemic exacerbated situation – lack of participation – people felt that others were not coming and /or socializing. Some Parishes have not moved as far as we have – some not allowed out of benches – no Readers – no Eucharistic Ministers. Choir now back (and everything) Priests did asks that it would be nice to keep our masks on and sing. A lot of courage to come back and feel welcome.

A2.16 – Planning – Promotion – Encouragement – Communication – Collaborative Effort

A2.17 – Need to introduce and encourage groups within the church to facilitate Bible studies which fosters interactions and inclusion

A2.18 – To reach active parishioners who may be sick or house-bound

A2.19 – Introduce sports and games arena

Q3 – What are the means by which different voices can be heard in your Parish (particularly those on the periphery)?

A3.1 – Priest are there 24/7 – a channel of communication is need (electronic)

A3.2 – Conscious that we are not connecting with some eg spouses of Catholics – but we have no solutions.

A3.3 – Representatives from schools, hospitals, nursing homes – giving talks- enlightening Parish on how to help. Fire Brigade / Police to give talks in the hall / Neighbourhood Watch as well

A3.4 – St Damien’s Group, Legion of Mary, S V P – develop these groups

A3.5 – Single People often not included as greater effort needed. Families and Children included through the school. The elderly especially as we do not have the Seniors’ Group meeting now – especially in the evenings as we do not have the minibus. Loss of the minibus a tragedy – even with drivers – is it still viable in terms of cost etc..

A3.6 – Those on the periphery - reach out – smile – kind words – also active listening – to enable them to heal - connecting, chatting with people – “I am here – you matter – I too matter. Many people full of their own self-importance leads to society fragmenting – to loneliness – families and young people coming to mass – lack of teenagers – readers - they need to be consulted and respected in their wishes – aspirations and to be affirmed – Pantomime outings – get the youngsters to support the elderly. Young mothers to be supported in the life of the church and given opportunities to pray together- eating out.

A3.7 – Suggestions boxes – promotion of Email communications – Promotion of Parish Surgery – Groups are conducive to communication

A3.8 – Parish could organise Sacramental Talks (life in the Spirit Seminars)

A3.9 -Missionaries giving talks

Q4 Which Groups and individuals are least included in your Parish

A4.1 – Physical impaired people

A4.2 Lapsed Catholics – Sensory impaired people

A4.3 – Youth – Special Needs – Bus Drivers – Re-start – Regenerate

A4.4 – Welcome Newcomers – Welcome for First-Timers

A4.5 – Birthdays – Anniversaries

A4.6 – Youth – Teenager to 20s – Single men and women

A4.7 - All- abilities groups

A4.8 – Mothers and Toddlers

A4.9 – Youth Club

A4.10 – Youth Representative on Council – Voice of Youth

Q5 – How can you broaden Christian identity?

A5.1 – Catechesis Classes eg for the Divorced

A5.3 – Inspirational Film Nights

A5.4 – Legion of Mary reaching out door-to-door – home visits

A5.5 – Book barrow in front of the Church

A5.6 – Is there a difference is we include people? – if people ask you about your faith at the gym, for example, RCIA and RCIC – then people may be baptized even!

A5.7 – Home visits – Distribution of Holy Communion – Faith Sharing – Creation of small Christian Communities – use of Minibus for Parishioners' transportation – Home confession – More food/ food donation for food bank

A5.8 – By sharing your faith with other people – even with other denominations

A5.9 – involve people in the church's ministry – by making them responsible

A5.10 – Invites couples to share their experience at Mass – such as on Holy Family Sunday

Q6 – How do you currently participate personally in the life of the church? How much responsibility do you have as an individual?

A6.1 – Reader at weekday mass – cleaner at church – St Damine's Group – Attending Mass – Legion of Mary bridges three Parishes – St Michaels/St Andrews/ St Elphage's – and that's the way forward!

A6.2 – Full-time minister at School – Full-time Parish Sister, catechesis and visiting

A6.3 – In the hospital - Reader and Eucharistic Minister – Catechist, hard work and difficult but rewarding and fruitful – safeguarding always busy but important – Teas and Coffees after mass – when you children have left school you are not so involved – parade mass and children's liturgy

A6.4 – Visiting people of the parish who are sick – who are in prison – or dying

A6.5 – We can always encourage and advise people when the church is open

Q7 – How can we better enable full participation and core responsibility in the life of the church at the Parish and Diocesan levels?

A7.1 – Start Deanery Meetings for the laity – Confirmation Syllabus – United Syllabus for Sacrament Preparation

A7.2 – Promotion of collaborative ministry – Servers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Greeters, Offertory – Jobs and Role- Sharing

A7.3 – Catechesis through sub-groups for older groups, younger groups – to promote confidence to discuss their challenges with the faith and their identity

A7.4 – Organise a talent hub

A7.5 – Come to the parish with any instrument you know how to play

A7.6 – Identify the gifts and talents of the parish and encourage them to share them

A7.7 – learn to delegate and empower

A7.8 – encourage those who are yearning to help

A7.9 – we are all “the Church” – collaborative ministry and pastoral team – inviting people to join in co-responsibility

A7.10 - Episcopal Vicar for the Religious had to phone lots of people during Covid – not able to visit in care homes – many isolated and suffered death

A7.11 – Deanery is important too – we have lost a lot of that too during Covid – what are other parishes doing?

A7.12 – We could do more – Christmas meal for people

A7.13 – Diocesan events coming up?

Q8 – How does your parish effectively identify and use the gifts of its people?

A8.1 – Newsletter to remind people of their gifts

A8.2 – Challenge parishioners to make a friend

A8.3 – Time Talent and Treasure – from years ago

A8.4 – Stewardship – how do we get to know people's gifts?

A8.5 – If you get others involved you get them to do tasks – we could work on this definitely asking for volunteers – everybody could do something.

A8.6 – Recognise our own gifts – how do we use them to build up the parish?

A8.7 – AGM Report is so important to recruit new volunteers is so important.

A8.8 – Young mums group – a sister got them involved by asking them at masses – it was something for ourselves – supportive.

A8.9 – Skills and capabilities database – experience

A8.10 – By group sharing

A8.11 – Parish has to be friendly and welcoming to invite them to use their talents (young ones)

Q9 – How do families and your people effectively participate in the life of your Parish? What do you do to support them?

A9.1 – Children's Liturgy

A9.2 – Organise Church events

A9.3 – Easter events in the Parish – Nativity plays

A9.4 – Dramatise the Passion /Stations of the Cross

A9.5 – Re-enact the Last Supper

A9.6 – Social Events with an element of Lectio Divina

A9.7 – Rotating the presentation of Gifts between families for each mass (Chalice/Ciborium)

A9.8 – Uniform Groups still meeting but not Parade Masses as yet.

A9.9 – We really need the PPC to meet again as then all the other groups will get the information

A9.10 - Lectio Divina and Legion of Mary

A9.11 - Sacramental Programmes are still going but if no other activities, what will the young people do afterwards?

A9.12 – Choir has re-started and very enthusiastic and supportive of first Holy communion and Confirmation Masses – a great blessing after Covid.

Great deal of unity among the group – Realistic – Not trying to go beyond this – take things a step at a time – Touched by the mention of the presence of Christ – everything will flow. Begin with a simple initiative – Book Barrow/ Film Night – on-threatening – no demands on them. Feeling overwhelmed and a need to trust in the Holy Spirit.

Mood – Hopeful, Excited, Joyful, Positive, Guilty (because been here so long looking back on what we had)