

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

45 Brook Road

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Live Mass streaming <https://www.churchservices.tv/thorntonheath>

RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

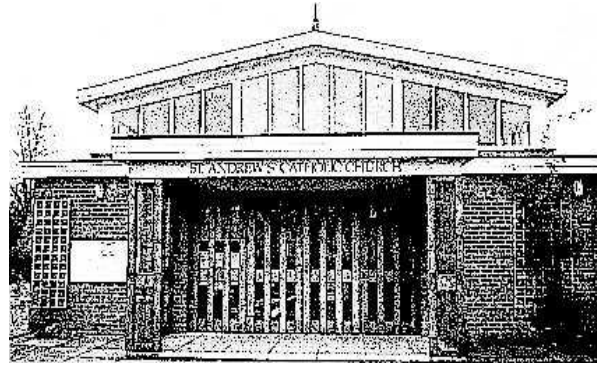
Priests: Fr Emmanuel Ahua C.S.Sp.
Fr Sylvester Adeniyi C.S.Sp.
Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

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.



23rd January 2022 3rd Sunday of the Year (C)

Message from Fr Anthony



THE WORD OF GOD IS ALIVE AND ACTIVE

A father was having problems with his family; his wife was often out of their house with her friends. His children were not different; often they were out of their house also. Naturally the father was thinking of how he can bring back peace, normalcy and stability to their home.

Many ideas floated in his mind until he remembered the advice given to him by his grandmother years ago. The advice was for him to have a regular habit of leading his family to read and reflect about the words of God in the Bible. So, he did, initially by himself then after a few weeks he asked his wife and children to join him. After a short period of time they lived a happy and contented life. Yes, there were still problems from time to time but they were able to fix it.

The words of God in the Bible are living spirit that gives life, it unites us, it enlightens us and refreshes us. We must fully take advantage of this gift by giving it regular time for reading, reflection and meditation. But sad to say many Catholics seldom open their Bible to read, reflect and thereafter partake of its wisdom and miracles. In our gospel, Jesus was in the synagogue for the day of Sabbath. He read aloud the words of the prophet Isaiah that was meant for Him. Jesus never kept it to himself He shared it with those who were present. We must not only be content also with reading our Bible we must have the courage to share and live it.

Many are afraid to venture into sharing the words of God; they only keep it to themselves. If we do this, we restrict the power of God's words within us. We also forgo the opportunity to share in the evangelization ministry of Jesus. God wills us to share what we know about Him so that many lives will be enlightened in that process many souls will be saved.

As Jesus shared the wisdom of the Bible so we must also. Let us not be afraid of the obstacles and with our personal limitations for God will always be there to help us.

This Sunday's Readings

Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10 Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood what was read
Psalm 18 Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life
1 Corinthians 12:12-30 You together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it
Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 This text is being fulfilled today

Diary for the Week

Sunday 23rd January <i>3rd Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday	For the people of the parish Roque & Rosalind Cabral RIP Arthur Family – Thanksgiving Mr Kinsella RIP
	9.30am Mass	
<i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	11.30am Mass	Canon Peter Wilkie – Wellbeing (sick)
	6.00pm Mass	
Monday 24th January	7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Rita Goveia RIP Anniv
Tuesday 25th January	7.30am Mass	Antonio J & Alzira Rodrigues – 25 th Wedding Anniv
	10.00am Mass	
Wednesday 26th January	7.30am Mass	Linda & Socrates Papapetrou RIP
	10.00am Mass	
Thursday 27th January	7.30am Mass	Shamin Maria Dias RIP 1 st Anniv
	10.00am Mass	
Friday 28th January	7.30am Mass	Mr Ollerton RIP
	10.00am Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon Adoration	
	6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 29th January	9.30am Mass	Sr Mary Martin RIP
	10.00 – 10.30am Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions	
	6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 30th January <i>4th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am Mass	Paul Etuka RIP Mrs Anita Alban 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

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.

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS 2021

Our Christmas Crib is on our Altar and will be here until 2nd February (The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Day). The tradition of erecting a Crib was started by St Francis of Assisi because of the fact that many people could not read at that time. He would erect the Crib at the beginning of December and it would be there until the end of February. This tradition is continued in Rome where the Crib in St Peter's Square stays up until that time.

This year our Christmas Crib Offerings will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land. Friends of the Holy Land is a charity supporting the vulnerable Christian Community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan. They have two Catholic and Anglican Leaders as their Patrons – Cardinal Vincent Nichols, and Justin Welby (Archbishop of Canterbury) – helping to lead Christians in the UK to help our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. Further information from: www.friendsoftheholylord.org.uk. Tel: 01926 512980. Thank you for your continued support.

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. The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 12th February 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.

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.

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.

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.

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, the next one is on 26th February, from 12.30 – 4.00pm. All are very welcome to come along, for further information please call Simon on 07947 493683.

NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The group will be meeting this Sunday 23rd January in the hall after the 11.30am Mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

For First Holy Communion programme 2022, we are asking parents of children who are in year 3 or 4 from September 2021 to complete an application to register their children for the next programme by 13th February. Please complete the online form by following the link <https://forms.gle/EEDYdumEj2x3GEU78>

In order for the Sacraments to go ahead, we will need help from you. Thank you if you have already come forward but we still need more volunteer Catechists. If you have a child who would like to join the programme, please consider becoming a Catechist so we can move forward with our programme. Send your details via email into the office.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

There will be a second collection next week (30th January) for the White Flower Appeal for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). Please give as much support as you can to the pro-life cause.

COME HOME INITIATIVE

The diocese has produced the *Ultimate Relationship Booklet and invitation cards*. These have been produced to help us to reach out to parishioners who might have drifted from practice. Please collect an Invitation Card as you leave Mass and we encourage you to think of those you haven't seen in a while and to give the card to them. If you want to personalise these cards by adding your contact details, please do so.

Also we have The Ultimate Relationship Booklets which are also available in the porch and will hopefully be an opportunity for those receiving them to rediscover what our faith has to offer. We want to let everyone know that they are very welcome in our Church and although this is still a very challenging time for us all, we know that in Christ Jesus He will be here for us and we want to share this with everyone. Please take home with you and share with others.

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

DAY OF HEALING

Please see the poster in the porch for *Day of Healing* being held on Saturday 19th February, 10 – 5pm at St George's Cathedral. Further info from bit.ly/Healing2022.

OBERAMMERGAU 2022

Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Austria and Oberammergau including the Passion Play 27 May – 3 June 2022

You are invited to join the Ecumenical Pilgrimage to Austria and Oberammergau including the Passion Play in May/June 2022. Led by The Rt Revd Jonathan Clark, Anglican Bishop of Croydon and The Rt Revd Paul Hendricks, Catholic Bishop of Croydon. The cost of this holiday is £1,785 per person. Some information is on our notice board. You will need to complete a booking form and send it with a deposit of £600 per person to the group organiser. Please ensure you mark your booking form with the departure date and tour leader as Croydon Deanery. Please contact Mrs Toni Suffolk, 18 Alwen Cottages, Badgers Hole, Oaks Road, Shirley, Croydon, CR0 5HR. Tel: 0208 654 9035, mob: 07786 935 554, email: toni.suffolk@btinternet.com

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for a Parish Secretary at Mortlake, a Youth Minister for the Bromley Deanery, an Office Administrator for Safeguarding and a Caretaker for the Cathedral site. More details can be found on the Diocesan Website: [Work with Southwark: Archdiocese of Southwark \(rcsouthwark.co.uk\)](http://Work with Southwark: Archdiocese of Southwark (rcsouthwark.co.uk))

YOUTH MINISTRY DAY ON 29th JANUARY

There will be a post Confirmation ministry and our Confirmation candidates are all invited to come along to a special gathering to meet other Confirmation candidates for mutual support during this event.

We want to keep our young people interested coming to Mass as we know God has a plan for each young person. Each young person is unique and irreplaceable in God’s plan for the world and the Church. With help young people move from a received faith, the faith they were brought up in, to a personal faith, a faith which they own. The aim of youth ministry is that the young people come to a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

So to this end there is an afternoon planned at St Mary’s West Croydon on the 29th January for youth leaders and potential youth leaders and catechists are also welcome and of course clergy. The aim of the day as with a similar day which was held at St Columba Selsdon in 2019 is to help volunteers to start groups and use the programme. Volunteers should ideally be adults and older young people who are spiritually mature, have a reasonable knowledge of Church teaching and have a heart for young people.

Please let the Clergy know if you are interested in attending as a volunteer so we can pass on your name by Monday 24th January to allow for time to prepare. Please see the following with more details and do pass on your name to the Parish Office if you are interested in attending so we can let St Mary’s know.

Young People into Action

Induction afternoon for Post Confirmation Groups with a focus on the LIFE programme published by Redemptorist Publications.

This will take place at St Mary’s West Croydon from 12 – 4.00pm on Saturday 29th January and will be facilitated by Tom Caluori retired RE teacher and school chaplain and formally Croydon Deanery Youth Ministry Coordinator (2003 – 8). For more information contact Tom on 07982 999319 or email tomcaluori@hotmail.com

Booking Slips (or by email)

Post Confirmation INDUCTION AFTERNOON 29th January 12 – 4.00pm at St Mary’s West Croydon Parish

Names (Block Capitals) and Telephone (please give to the Parish Office)

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