
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.

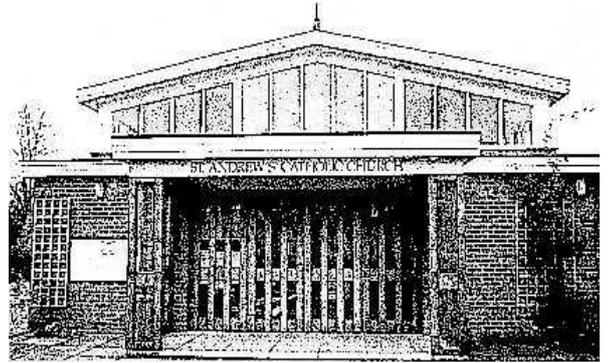
Fr Sylvester Adeniyi C.S.Sp.

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.

6th March 2022 First Sunday of Lent

Message from Fr Sylvester

The temptations of Jesus, our own temptations

Since Ash Wednesday we have entered the season of Lent, a time of reconciliation with God and our neighbour so that we may celebrate the Easter in the most beneficial way, gaining grace. Lent offers us the opportunity of making amends for our mistakes of the past and learning new ways of cooperating with God for our own salvation. On this First Sunday of Lent, we read about the temptations of Jesus which tells us that all that we pass today as temptations are tests, which our Lord Jesus passed and conquered. The story of Jesus' temptations is not to be taken lightly. It's a warning that we can ruin our lives if we stray from the path God wills for us.

The Gospel for the First Sunday of Lent coming from St. Mark is very brief. It is about the temptation of Jesus. But unlike the other Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the version of St. Mark does not mention the three temptations. But one thing is obvious that Jesus was tempted. Temptation as it were is not in itself sin. Sin comes in only when we succumb to temptation; and also when we expose ourselves unnecessarily to temptation.

Jesus subjected himself to Satan's temptations for two main reasons: first, to show that he is one with humanity, that he experienced every aspect of human life, including that of temptations; he was also tested in every way. By undergoing these temptations, he has clearly shown that he is, indeed, true man. And second, to show that, though he was tested, he remained strong and victorious over all the power and machinations of the devil; this gives us inspiration and hope in our daily struggles against temptations and against the evil one.

In our lives, we also have temptations like Jesus – it starts with doubts. The lesson we can learn from Jesus' temptation is to cling to the Father just like Jesus and do whatever to do to the best of our knowledge and strength and not for a passing and vain glory.

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Psalms 90

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

This Sunday's Readings

The creed of the chosen people

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress

The creed of the Christian

Jesus was led by the Spirit through the wilderness and was tempted there

Diary for the Week

Sunday 6th March <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP Betty Botelho & Carrasco Family Joseph E. Asmah RIP & Dorothy Synper For the people of the parish
Monday 7th March	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Jude-Martin Etuka – Wellbeing & protection Adrian Gladwin Freeman RIP
Tuesday 8th March	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Paul Etuka RIP
Wednesday 9th March	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Mrs Maureen Hale RIP
Thursday 10th March	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Sr Mary Martin RIP
Friday 11th March	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30 – 12noon Adoration 6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)	Salus Rebello RIP Birthday
Saturday 12th March	9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Stefan D’Silva – Thanksgiving Birthday Daniel Messina RIP Anniv
Sunday 13th March <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Betty Botelho & Carrasco Family Lily Brew Arthur RIP 1 st Anniv For the people of the parish

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

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 Church.

CHILDREN’S LITURGY

Our Sunday Children’s Liturgy Group have resumed for the 9.30am Mass. This will be for children ages 3 – 8years old. Parents with younger children can come along too but will need to stay with their children. We welcome volunteers to help as always but you will need to be DBS checked, please contact Bernadette to discuss this on 07729 322571.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK

There will be a second collection this week for Poor Parishes. This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese.

CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS MEETING

There is a meeting for Confirmation catechists in the Convent at 4.00pm on Sunday 6th March.

LENT

Lenten talks

Fr Emmanuel will be holding some short Lenten talks every Thursday starting from 10th March to 7th April. Please join him in the hall from 7.00 – 8.00pm. We will be following the Journeying with Jesus programme and the subjects covered are: In the wilderness; At the well; On the mountain; Along the road; At table; On the cross and On the road again. Fr Emmanuel looks forward to welcoming you and sharing the Lenten talks with you all.

Croydon University Hospital

There will be Mass at 12noon in the Hospital Chapel (near the Woodcroft Entrance) every Monday during Lent. All are most welcome.

400 CLUB

The winners for February are:

John & Sheila McEneaney No: 121 - £20

Henry Barrie No: 78 - £10

A Castelo No: 41 - £10

If you would like to join the 400 Club, or would like further information, please contact our new 400 Club Secretary, Kalate Raki, email: club_400@hotmail.com

Next week we will publish more information on how to join the 400 Club but in the meantime, there are some membership forms and information in the porch, please take a copy home.

UKRAINE: HEEDING THE CALL OF POPE FRANCIS FOR PEACE

Last week on Ash Wednesday, the day designated by Pope Francis as a day of prayer and fasting for peace in Ukraine, we held a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration. Thank you to everyone for your continued prayers for peace in Ukraine.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - LENT APPEAL, FRIDAY 11TH MARCH

Every child should grow big and strong. Family Fast Day is Friday 11th March, a day when we eat simply and give generously to support mums around the world, like Amie in Sietra Leone, with expert training in growing and making healthy food. Your small act of love this Lent will make a big difference to many communities affected by extreme hunger and children suffering from malnutrition. You can donate in church using a CAFOD envelope, please take one home and return next week or by visiting the CAFOD website, cafod.org.uk/lent

GOLDEN CLUB

With apologies to everyone, due to unforeseen circumstances the Golden Club gathering was cancelled at short notice last week Friday.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

Your gift aid envelopes for 2022/2023 are ready for collection. This year we have halved our normal order of 200 boxes. If your current number falls within the range of 101 to 200, you will be allocated with a new number. We will write to you informing you of your new number. In previous years the average collection rate was 60% with 40% wastage. In this second year of lockdown when a few more parishioners began returning to church the uptake was 30%. Therefore 70% was destined for the recycle bin. Some parishioners have gone on to make payments online or by standing orders. There is also a contactless card reader at the entrance to the church which accepts credit or debit cards. It is extremely easy to use. Should you need assistance please ask any priest. If you are able to do so, we strongly encourage you to contribute online. This method minimises administration and provides the parish with a regular source of income. If you know you have requested a box please take responsibility and come forward to collect it. However, should you not want the box kindly let the priests know, or you may want to keep it for second collections.

The boxes are available for collection after every mass for two weekends on 12/13 and 19/20 March.

Please remember the new envelopes must be used from 6 April 2022 which means the first weekend for use will be 10 April 2022. This will be the first envelope in your box. The date is clearly marked.

HOLY WATER

We now have two Holy Water dispensers in the Church. Please note that it works by sensor and you only have to place your hands just under the dispenser for the Holy Water – there is no need to touch, press, move or push the dispenser as it has already become dislodged.

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

CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP

Please join our group for 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” are meeting 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 March, from 12.30 – 4.00pm. All are very welcome to come along, for further information please call Simon on 07947 493683.

WALK WITH US

Do you want to improve your physical and mental wellbeing through walking with other like-minded people? Are you over 55? If the answer is yes, please kindly contact Maxine for further details on 07903 401107.

DIOCESAN RETREAT FOR LENT (ONLINE):

Make some space to develop your relationship with God this Lent. Sign up for our Diocesan ‘retreat at home’ called **Saving Grace**. Every week you will receive an email with links to a 25 minute video in which our Archbishop John will introduce the theme and the reading, Chris Chapman will deliver the retreat, with others contributing. You will also receive materials to use in your own prayer and reflection. All you have to have to do is sign up and then set aside what space you can for Saving Grace!

See the poster in the porch for more details and for more info and to register follow this link: http://eepurl.com/hnK_Rz

CAFOD

This Lent CAFOD have launched “The Walk Against Hunger Challenge”. There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So this Lent if you’re up for the challenge, walk 200km over the whole of Lent and help give hunger its marching orders! If you can walk 5k a day, your way, for 40 days, and you’ll conquer your 200k target in time for Easter. Sign up at cafod.org.uk/walk and they will send you a diary to help track your achievements. Please collect a leaflet in the porch for further details.

CATHOLIC BISHOPS’ CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES - GUIDANCE FOR LENT AND EASTER 2022

As the Government has now lifted most of the covid-19 restrictions and exhorted all people to adopt the recommendations of the “Covid Response: Living with covid-19” document, the principal means of protecting people who attend Catholic Churches in England and Wales is through participation in the Government vaccination programme. Those who are fully vaccinated (i.e. two routine vaccinations plus booster) will have significant personal resilience against major illness from the covid-19 virus and its variants. The Catholic Church has promoted the participation of all in the vaccination programme as part of its mitigation of virus transmission in church and ancillary buildings. Alongside the positive effects of covid vaccination, it should be stressed that any people displaying symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and not participate in acts of worship in church. This is good practice for any transmissible illness. Medical advice should be sought as appropriate for those who are ill.

The following points are suggested as methods of good practice against the transmission of the virus in our churches:

- Hand sanitiser should be available for all to use at places of entry and exit to our churches.
- The necessity for social distancing is removed so churches should operate up to their normal capacity figures.
- Those who wish to wear a face covering may do so during the celebration of Mass.
- The use of hymn books and other worship aids are permitted as part of the liturgy. Servers and their various ministries (acolyte, book-bearer, incense) are to be encouraged to return.
- The vessels containing the altar breads for consecration at Mass should remain covered until the moment of distribution of Holy Communion to the faithful.
- Holy Communion is to be distributed to the faithful under one kind only (i.e. the Sacred Host). At concelebrations involving a number of priests, communion for them should be by intinction of the Sacred Host in the Precious Blood.
- Those who distribute Holy Communion should wear a face covering and sanitise their hands before doing so.
- Singing can occur and there is a general encouragement to wear face coverings while singing. However, it is recognised that not everyone will feel able to do this.
- Contact tracing ended on 24th February and so there is no need for track and trace QR codes or other means (e.g. Mass booking systems) in our churches from now on.

Specific notes for Lent and Easter

On **Holy Thursday**, the Washing of the Feet as part of the rite of the *Mandatum* is restored. The celebrant should wear a face covering whilst performing this rite.

On **Good Friday**, the Veneration of the Cross is also restored. Those who approach the Cross, after making the customary reverence before it, can either touch the Cross in a devotional way or kiss the Cross provided that an alcoholic wipe is used to clean the place that is venerated after each kiss by the faithful.

The **Easter Vigil** is restored in its full Rite. The faithful gathering for the ceremonies can have candles and the baptismal liturgy can take place along with any associated confirmations. For the anointings as part of this, the thumb or a cotton bud can be used, with the celebrant taking care to cleanse his hands appropriately. The sprinkling of the faithful during the *vidi aquam* is permitted.