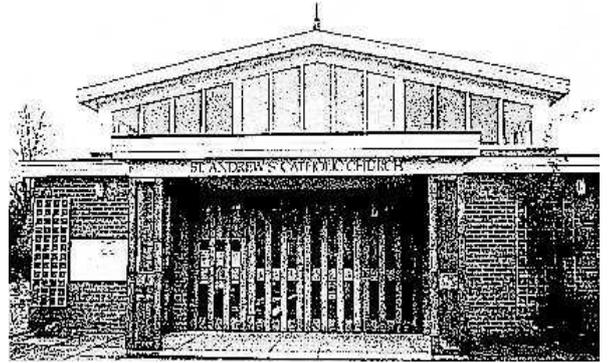

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
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Thornton Heath **Tel:** 020 8684 3013
Surrey CR7 7RD **E-mail:** thorntonheath@rcaos.org.uk
Website: www.standrewsthorntonheath.org.uk
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
Infant Baptisms: Please contact - baptism.standrews@gmail.com

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.

3rd April 2022 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Message from Deacon Tony

I'm going to be controversial. Last week we heard in the Gospel about the prodigal son. But how many of us know what the word prodigal actually means? I would bet that none of us have used the word at any time other than referring to this parable.

The word prodigal has the same stem as the word prodigious, which also uses the same stem as the word produce. Prodigal means to me lavishly generous. So here is where I get controversial. I feel this parable should be called The Prodigal Father. As it was the father who was prodigal in his love, forgiveness and acceptance of his wayward son.

The attitude of the older son is one we can all identify with. We all know people who have been forgiven or exonerated for a failing but we, in our human weakness can have trouble getting past that. In Sunday's gospel about the woman caught in adultery, I can't help but wonder how many people who knew this woman later thought to themselves, "Oh she's ok now, Jesus of Nazareth didn't condemn her".

We have seen all over the media this week about Will Smith and his actions at the Oscars, how many of us believe the Academy were correct in allowing him to receive his own Oscar after such behaviour.

The theme of our Gospel this week and last week are one of forgiveness. Which we can all find tricky, but just remember where Jesus was when he said, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do".

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21	See, I am doing a new deed, and I will give my chosen people drink
Psalms 125	What marvels the Lord worked for us! Indeed we were glad
Philippians 3:8-14	Reproducing the pattern of his death, I have accepted the loss of everything for Christ
John 8:1-11	If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her

Diary for the Week

Sunday 3rd April <i>5th 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	For the people of the parish John, Sarah & Pauline Sherry RIP Anniv Mrs Ihuoma Uche & Sabina Eze – Protection and Wellbeing John Carrasco – Thanksgiving
Monday 4th April	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Deceased Members Ritchie & Hampshire Families RIP Sr Mary Martin RIP
Tuesday 5th April	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.45pm RCIA	Ivor Rozario RIP Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP
Wednesday 6th April	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.30pm Legion of Mary (Church Annex)	Anthony Conway RIP Paul Etuka RIP
Thursday 7th April	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00pm Lenten talk (hall)	Jude Martin Etuka – Special Intentions
Friday 8th April	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30am Stations of the Cross 8.00pm Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 9th April	9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm Vigil Mass	George Robinson RIP For the people of the parish
Sunday 10th April <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Palms blessed and distributed at all Masses</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Douglas and Levena Chappell RIP Chantella & Anastacia Ogwuke – Birthday wishes Andradi Family – Wellbeing

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.

CONFIRMATION

Bishop Paul Hendricks is coming to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 16th July. Sr Jennie and the catechists will be accepting requests to receive this sacrament on weekends, ie after all Masses on 3rd April and 10th April. All applicants must be in year 9 and above and prepared to give their reasons for wishing to be confirmed. Sessions will commence directly after Easter on Sunday afternoons.

MISSIO RED BOXES

There will be a collection of all monies this weekend of 2/3 April. If you would like information on the Missio red boxes please call Savio on 07902 933534.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

There will be a meeting and training for Altar Servers on Saturday 9th April at 9am.

THE ROSARY GROUP

The Rosary is prayed each weekday after the 10am Mass (and Saturday 9.30am). All are welcome to join however long you can stay.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We would like to re-start our Sunday Children's Liturgy Group 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 **urgently** need parent/carer volunteers to help, so far we have not had any volunteers come forward and it would be very sad to have to cancel this as before Covid we had a very well attended group with a number of helpers. Sadly the Liturgy group cannot go ahead until we have received more assistance. Please contact Fr Emmanuel if you can help and then we can confirm a starting date. Thank you.

LENT

Please collect our Easter card which gives you all the services during the Easter period. Also available are the Easter offering envelopes which is your personal gift to our Priests.

There are Easter posters available in the porch for you to take home. A reminder that the Easter poster should be put on your window on Palm Sunday but not showing "He Is Risen" until Easter Sunday then taking the poster down on Easter Monday.

Stations of the Cross

There will be Stations of the Cross this Friday after the 10am Mass and at 8.00pm.

Lenten talks

Fr Emmanuel is holding the last Lenten talk this Thursday 7th April. Please join us in the hall from 7.00 – 8.00pm. We will be following the Journeying with Jesus programme.

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.

PALM SUNDAY

Palms blessed and distributed at all Masses. For the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses, please can you gather in the hall before Mass starts for our procession into the Church.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2022/23

We apologise to those parishioners who are holding box numbers between 101 – 200 to be a little bit more patient please because we are still waiting for delivery. Father will announce at the end of each mass when collection is available. The boxes will be placed on the shelf to the right of the font. There are only 26 boxes so please come forward to collect your box. **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.**

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS 15th APRIL

In our secular world this is rare opportunity for Christians of all denominations to come together and witness to the death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The pandemic unfortunately stopped the Walk of Witness from happening for two years. To have maximum effect we need as many people as possible to take part. Please help us with this relaunch. If you can invite a friend or two to join us it will make all the difference. Organised by a group of churches in Thornton Heath, the procession will begin at the Job Centre in the High Street at 12noon (assemble at 11.45am please) and process to Ambassador House for a short service. We will then process along Brigstock Road to Trumble Gardens where we finish at 1pm. After the walk everyone is invited back to St Andrews Hall for a hunger lunch (soup and rolls), donations gratefully received will be given to the charity CAFOD.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

There will be a second collection next week, 10th April, for Easter Flowers. Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH SURGERY

We have re-started our parish surgery on Monday evenings from 7.00 – 9.00pm, term-time only. Please come along if you need to see a member of the Clergy.

ST DAMIEN'S GROUP

The St Damien's group which was set up during the pandemic to do shopping for those unable to get out because they were isolating is still available to anyone who is a parishioner and needs help because they are unable to get out due to sickness. If anyone knows of someone who has become acutely ill and needs a helping hand with shopping, for a few weeks whilst they return to health, please do not hesitate to call Jane Ritchie 07999 693052.

SUNDAY COFFEE MORNINGS

We have resumed our Sunday coffee morning in the hall after the 9.30am Mass so please do join us for a cup or two of tea/coffee. But at the moment, we do not have any helpers to offer tea/coffee after the 11.30am Mass but we would definitely like to do this if we can find some volunteers. If you are able to help, please contact Adele on 07764 944163 to let her know.

OUR PARISH

Volunteer in the Parish

Our parish needs you. A vital aspect of a Church is people willing to bring their talents, experience and energy to our various ministries and activities. Could you get involved in our parish life? This can be very fulfilling and help build our community.

We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as: Church cleaners, general maintenance in and around the Church, gardening, maintenance in the hall etc. These are just some of the ways you can help but we are also looking for helpers in other roles too; such as volunteering after Sunday morning masses making tea/coffee in the hall, supporting our young children on Sundays with the children's Liturgy, helping in our Repository, becoming Catechists etc.

Since Covid, our volunteer numbers have dropped and the burden has fallen on just a few but as the Proverb says, "A task is soon accomplished if several people help" so we encourage you to get involved as our Clergy would be most grateful for your help. If you would like to have more info or to speak with Fr Emmanuel, please email the office and he will get in touch with you, all help would be very welcome. Thank you.

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.

REPOSITORY

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

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 9th April 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.

ALTAR SERVERS 44TH ANNUAL RALLY

The 44th Annual Rally for Altar Servers is being held at The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent on Monday 2nd May (May day Bank Holiday) with Sung Mass at 11.30am with the Principal Celebrant Archbishop John Wilson. Please see the poster in the porch for more details, all are very welcome to attend.

CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, announced recently that he will consecrate Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of our Blessed Lady (on Friday 25 March), the Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord ('Lady Day'). This act of consecration was performed in communion with the local Churches throughout the world. For information concerning the message of our Lady of Fatima, and Pope Francis' desire to consecrate Russia and Ukraine to her Immaculate Heart, please see the report from the Vatican Media. We continue to pray for everyone involved in the Ukraine conflict, please keep them all in your prayers.

CAFOD are also helping with the emergency Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. If you can help, please phone 0303 303 3030 or send a cheque to CAFOD, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7JB. There are a few leaflets in the porch with some info.

FREE DIGITAL HOLY WEEK AND APRIL ISSUES OF MAGNIFICAT

We are pleased to let you know that the digital Holy Week and April issues are available, free, at the link: www.magnificat.com/april. For individual subscriptions please visit <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat/>