

# 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.

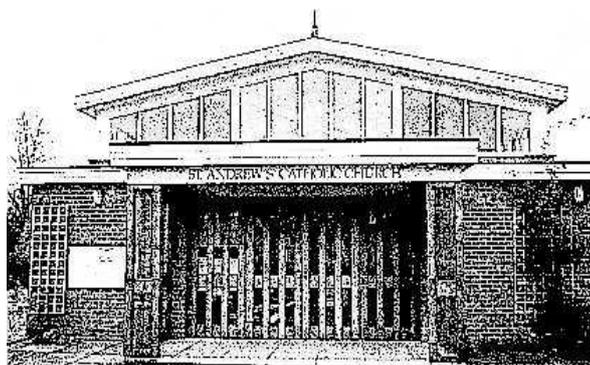
**Deacons:** Rev. Tony Flavin, Rev. Errol Quagraine

**Parish Sister:** Sr. Jennie Eldridge DMJ

**Croydon University Hospital Chaplaincy:** Sr. Sheila DMJ

**Infant Baptisms: Please contact - [baptism.standrews@gmail.com](mailto: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.*



## 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Fourth Sunday of Lent

Message from Fr Anthony

### GOD AS THE LOVING FATHER



Today we offer prayers for all mothers and we give thanks for the love that they give every day of their lives. We think of those mothers no longer with us. We offer a special prayer too for mothers to be and for Godmothers and all who play a maternal role in our lives.

In today's fragmented world, where we risk losing our bearings, a Mother's embrace is essential. How much dispersion and solitude there is all around us! The world is completely connected, yet seems increasingly disjointed. We need to entrust ourselves to our Mothers. The Gospel this Sunday is part of the teachings of Jesus about God's search for sinners. He gives three parables to illustrate this as his explanation of why he was keeping company with tax collectors and public sinners. The first parable is about the Lost Sheep; the second is about the Lost Coin; and the third is about the Lost Son. All these express one sublime truth: the initiative always comes from God. This is what St. Paul rightly pointed out in the second reading: "And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ."

This truth implies two important things: First, when we are in sin, and we want to return to the Lord, we have to pray and ask God for the gift of repentance and conversion. The same is true when we want someone to reform his life: we have to pray and ask God to grant him the grace of repentance. It is God's grace. When we are in sin, we can never rise up by our own power because being in sin renders us totally powerless: we are spiritually dead. It is solely by God's grace that we will come to our senses and humbly say, "I have sinned against God. I will rise up and return to the Father."

#### This Sunday's Readings

**Joshua 5:9-12**

**The people of God keep the Passover on their entry into the promised land**

**Psalms 33**

**Taste and see that the Lord is good**

**2 Corinthians 5:17-21**

**God reconciled us to himself through Christ**

**Luke 15:1-3, 11-32**

**Your brother here was dead and has come to life**

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Mother's Day</i>  <i>(Summer time begins  clocks forward 1 hour)</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	For the people of the parish Betty Botelho & Carrasco Family Mr & Mrs Chimezie RIP Power & Fennelly Families (F)
<b>Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</b>	Okoroafor Family Veronica Payner – Ill-health
<b>Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>6.30pm RCIC (hall)</b> <b>7.45pm RCIA (hall)</b>	For Souls in Purgatory Rita Perrira RIP
<b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.30pm FHC Parents Meeting (hall)</b>	In Honour of Our Lady of Africa “Frank” – Ill-health
<b>Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00pm Lenten Talk (hall)</b>	Jude Martin Etuka – Special Intentions
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>10.30am Stations of the Cross</b> <b>6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</b> <b>8.00pm Stations of the Cross</b>	Timothy & Cleta Andradi RIP Paul Etuka RIP
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April</b>	<b>9.15am First Holy Communion</b> 9.30am Mass <b>10.00 – 10.30am Confessions</b> <b>5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions</b> 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	For the people of the parish
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b> <i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass  6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	John, Sarah & Pauline Sherry RIP Anniv Mrs Ihuoma Uche & Sabina Eze – Protection and Wellbeing John Carrasco - Thanksgiving

Church cleaners: this week: Judie's Crew, next week: Fifi's Group

## 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 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 three consecutive weekends, ie after all Masses on 27th March, 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.

### 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/carers 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

#### *Stations of the Cross*

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

### ***Lenten talks***

Fr Emmanuel is holding some short Lenten talks every Thursday which has already started and will run until 7<sup>th</sup> April. Please join him in the hall from 7.00 – 8.00pm. We will be following the Journeying with Jesus programme and some of the subjects still to be covered are: 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.

### **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.**

### **ALTAR SERVERS**

To all Altar Servers, please can you check your parents' emails and also the Altar server notice board (where you get changed) to confirm your new rota.

If you have not received an email or your name is not on the notice board (behind the Altar), please get in contact with the MC on **mc.saintandrewschurch@gmail.com** who will work with you to find the most appropriate serving slot.

### **MISSIO RED BOXES**

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

### **SAFEGUARDING**

Safeguarding - The final Drop-In session in this round of DBS applications and renewals will be on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April between 10.30am and 12.30 pm in the presbytery. Please attend with your documents if you need your ID Verification to be carried out. If you need to start the online renewal process please email [thorntonheathsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk](mailto:thorntonheathsg1@safeguardraos.org.uk) with your full name and details of the volunteer role you carry out in the parish. After this date Fr Emmanuel will be reviewing the situation to see exactly who is able to continue with these ministries involving children and vulnerable adults in our parish.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or adult at risk, do not delay in contacting the police, using 999 if a child or adult is believed to be in immediate danger. It is the policy of the Catholic Church in England and Wales to report all allegations of abuse to statutory authorities, regardless of whether the abuse occurred recently or in the past, or whether the accused person is living or deceased. If you are in any role within the Catholic Church in England and Wales, you must refer allegations directly to the safeguarding office for your diocese or religious congregation, or directly to the Police. If you are a member of the public, please refer allegations directly to the police and also to the safeguarding office in your diocese. You can contact the Archdiocese of Southwark Safeguarding Office by telephoning 0207 261 1606 or via email at [safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:safeguardingoffice@rcaos.org.uk)

### **GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **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.

### **GOLDEN CLUB**

Please note that as we are in the season of Lent, we will not be having a social on 1st April. The next event will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> May. For further details, please contact Juliette on 0208 765 0258 / 07958 537314.

### **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.

### **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 23<sup>rd</sup> April, from 12.30 – 4.00pm. All are very welcome to come along, for further information please call Simon on 07947 493683.

### **400 CLUB**

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

There are some membership forms and information on how to join in the porch, please take a copy home.

### **CONSECRATION OF RUSSIA AND UKRAINE TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, announced last week 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](http://www.magnificat.com/april). For individual subscriptions please visit <https://catholicherald.co.uk/magnificat/>

### **ST MARY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL VACANCIES**

St Mary's recently received both Ofsted and Diocesan inspections and were rated 'Good' in both, with Catholic Life being identified as 'Outstanding'. They have several vacancies, please visit <https://www.stmaryscroydon.co.uk/Vacancies/>

