

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
45 Brook Road
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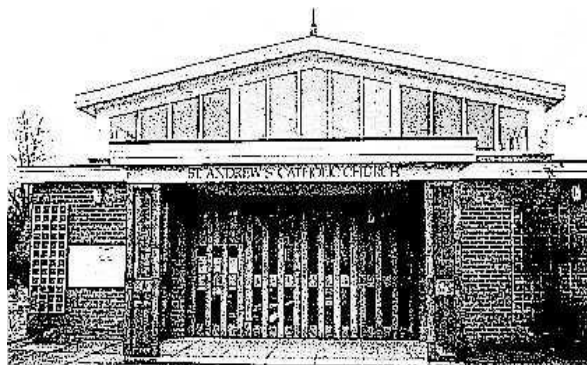
Live Mass streaming <https://www.churchservices.tv/thorntonheath>
RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Emmanuel Ahua C.S.Sp.
Fr 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.



22nd January 2023
3rd Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Deacon Tony

This Wednesday, 25th, is the feast day of the conversion of St Paul and this really is something to celebrate. Let us consider who he was. Born as Saul he was a scholarly chap and an ardent Jew. His mission in life was to persecute the followers of Jesus and is believed to have held the cloaks of the men who stoned St Stephen to death.

He did not hide from his past, telling us in the letter to the Galatians “you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it.” But the event we celebrate on Wednesday is well known by all. When travelling on the road to Damascus a bright light blinded him and he heard Christ's voice asking why Saul was persecuting him. It is from this we get the phrase ‘a damascene conversion’.

His call to spread the good news of the Gospel led him to a very interesting life. His traveling around the Mediterranean saw him shipwrecked twice and spent much time in prison. His relationship with St Peter, with whom he shares a feast day on 29th June is understood to have been a fractious one but they both had the same common goal, to lead the people to the way, the truth and the life.

Over half the books in the New Testament are attributed to Paul and we hear from him most Sundays in the second reading, so his conversion to Christianity really is one of great celebration.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 8:23-9:3

Psalm 26

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4:12-23

In Galilee of the nations the people has seen a great light

The Lord is my light and my help

Make up the differences between you instead of disagreeing among yourselves

He went and settled in Capernaum: in this way the prophecy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled

Diary for the Week

Sunday 22nd January <i>3rd Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Irene Smith RIP Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Family Members RIP Dieter Muller RIP For the people of the parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
Monday 23rd January	6.00pm	Mass	Timothy & Clela Andradi RIP George Villamer Sr. Anniv
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
	7.30am	Mass	
Tuesday 24th January	10.00am	Mass	F. Cunningham – Thanks to B.V.M. Mrs Christina Etuka – Special Intentions
	7.45pm	RCIA	
	7.30am	Mass	
Wednesday 25th January <i>Conversion of St Paul</i>	10.00am	Mass	Michael Tabinshi RIP Phillip Johnson RIP Birthday
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
	7.30am	Mass	
Thursday 26th January	10.00am	Mass	Roland Neave RIP Paul Etuka RIP
	7.30am	Mass	
Friday 27th January	10.00am	Mass	Andradi Family – Wellbeing Brendan Grennan RIP
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 28th January	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	Katherine Hynes – Wellbeing
	9.30am	Mass	
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
Sunday 29th January <i>4th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	Dieter Muller RIP Esther Oyeyinka & Family - Wellbeing For the people of the parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass (RCIA: Rite of welcome)	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

FR EMMANUEL

It is with sadness that we inform you that Fr Emmanuel is leaving St Andrew's just after Easter. He has been elected to the Leadership Team of his home province. He will return to Nigeria to continue his ministry there for at least the next four years. We thank Fr Emmanuel for his three years with us at St Andrew's and we hope to let you know soon a date and time for a leaving celebration.

SAFEGUARDING

It has been noticed that some young children are attending Mass without a parent or carer. Please can we remind parents and carers that we should not have primary school aged children attending Mass unaccompanied. This would mean that no one is in loco parentis and St Andrew's parish cannot be held responsible for any concerns or incidents that might happen whilst a child is unsupervised. Whilst it is everyone's responsibility to safeguard children and vulnerable adults; parents and carers have a duty to act responsibly and not send their young children to Mass, which is a public place, on their own.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is on Sundays during 9.30am Mass, term-time only. Children who have not received their First Holy Communion and their parents are welcome to come into the hall for the Children's Liturgy session.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For the First Holy Communion programme 2023, we are asking parents of children who are in year 3 or 4 from September 2022 to complete an application to register their children for the next programme by 12th February. Please complete the online form by following the link <https://forms.gle/rvdhHUyCT784Ba8D9>

In order for the Sacraments to go ahead, we will need help from you. 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. Please send your details via email into the office.

CONFIRMATION 2023

This weekend and for the following two weeks we will be accepting requests from those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 3rd June at 11am in St. Andrews parish. This will be administered by Canon Gerard Bradley our Episcopal Vicar for South West London. Those who apply must be in year 9 or above. Please make your request to Sr. Jennie or a Catechist after any of the Masses and be prepared to say why you wish to be confirmed.

PARISH SURGERY

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

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses on Sunday. We also have copies for sale of the new Catholic Directories for 2023, which is plain bound priced at £4.50.

YOUTH CHOIR - WE NEED NEW MEMBERS!

The youth choir has successfully led the 9:30am Mass once a month since 2016. We are keen to invite new members aged 8 years upwards to join the choir. If you like singing or can play a musical instrument why not come along to meet us on any Sunday after Mass at 10:30am when we practice in the church for approximately half an hour. You might be preparing for Holy Communion or Confirmation and wondering what you can do to celebrate and support the Church. Why not consider being in the youth choir? If you have any queries, please call Maxine on 07903401107 to discuss – thank you. If you would like to join any of our choirs, please do have a chat with any of the choir leaders – you would be most welcomed.

ST ANDREW'S WARM HUB

We are pleased to announce that St Andrew's Church hall will be open on Tuesdays between the hours of 11.00 and 4.00pm to provide a place of warmth and refreshment during these hours. Please feel free to join us during this time. As well as hot drinks we will provide a soup meal for lunch. We will continue to leave a collection box near the Altar as we would like to ask you for some donations for our Warm Hub. If you can help please donate soup, biscuits, teas/coffees and long life milk – thank you for your continued support.

HYMN BOOKS

'He who sings prays twice' St Augustine

Some of our hymn books have become very tatty and so we are going to try and replace 100 of them. We are still collecting your dedications so please do hand in your envelopes. If you would like to dedicate a book to someone who has died or to your own family or a friend, please just write the name of the person in CAPITAL LETTERS on the front of the envelope with a donation of £10 and give it to one of the pastoral team at the end of Mass. Thank you in advance for helping with this project.

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 28th January 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.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Our Parish Pastoral Council has resumed with some new members and they are busy putting together lots of ideas and projects. If you would like to contact the group, please email Jane Ritchie, Chair, on thorntonheathppc@rcaos.co.uk

DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS

Please join us in the Church every Saturday morning, 9.00–9.20am for devotions including the Divine Mercy Chaplet. *Please note the change of times.* All are very welcome to attend.

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 info please call Stella on 07983 775879. Please note we are not meeting on Christmas day.

CHURCH CLEANERS WANTED

We really need more people to help with the task of cleaning God's house. If you can spare an hour and would like to help by joining one of our groups, please contact Fifi on 07932 764273. Thank you.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

The second collection on the weekend of 29th January will be for the White Flower Appeal – The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC). SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion.

According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers by highlighting this urgent crisis. Please collect a SPUC card from the porch with more info.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK

The group would like to help families who are in need of extra help with regards to some food items. We are now running two sessions per month as there is a need for this. The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 28th January 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.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY CELEBRATION WITH ARCHBISHOP JOHN WILSON

Archbishop John Wilson will be celebrating Racial Justice Sunday on 5th February at St George's Cathedral, at 10.00am in collaboration with the Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion which is led by Canon Victor Darlington and followed by refreshments in the downstairs hall. Mass is for parishes, schools and chaplaincies and all are invited to attend and are encouraged to wear cultural dress and are asked to be seated by 9.45am. For more information about the event, please contact Jennifer Da Silva on 07712 273024 or via email jenole@hotmail.co.uk

CATHOLIC POST NEWSPAPER

We have been sent some free copies of the latest edition of The Catholic Post. This monthly National Catholic newsletter was launched over a year ago and has been growing since then. They offer a printed version as well as the digital version. St Andrew's will not be subscribing but you might want to subscribe yourself by calling Natasha: subscribe@catholicpost.co.uk In the meantime, please take your free copy home.

GETTING INVOLVED

Our Church relies on people getting involved. Our church, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? What aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish?

One of the ways you can help is by joining CAFOD. CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help in our parish, bringing people together to help build a better world or by visiting local schools? Or raise a voice and campaign for justice or perhaps speak for CAFOD throughout the diocese? Could you support local volunteers or share your office skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support are provided. See cafod.org.uk/Volunteer for more information or get in touch with Celeste and Sarah: southwark@cafod.org.uk