

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

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Thornton Heath

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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 Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

Deacons:

Rev. Tony Flavin, Rev. Errol Quagraine

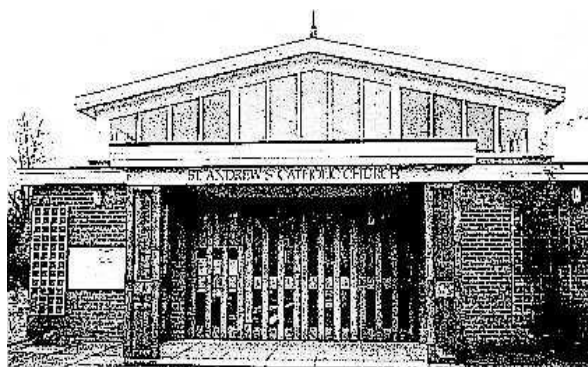
Parish Sister:

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.



23rd July 2023 16th Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Fr Anthony



The Lord, Our Merciful Judge

In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse that we began reading last Sunday.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

This Sunday's Readings

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

After sin you will grant repentance

Psalms 85

O Lord, you are good and forgiving

Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words

Matthew 13:24-43

Let them both grow till the harvest

Diary for the Week

Sunday 23rd July <i>16th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	For the people of the parish Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Family Members Juliana Hayfron RIP Jude-Martin Etuka – Special Intentions
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 24th July	7.30am	Mass	Marie Myles RIP
	10.00am	Funeral Mass	
Tuesday 25th July	7.30am	Mass	James Brennan – Surgery Joanne Rodrigues RIP Recently deceased
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 26th July	7.30am	Mass	Mr T. Cunningham – Illhealth & Wellbeing Lucas Ubaldina Sylvia & Amon DeSouza RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 27th July	7.30am	Mass	Christina Etuka – Special Intentions
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 28th July	7.30am	Mass	David Jack Rich RIP Chuks Etuka – Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
Saturday 29th July	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	Marie Crepaz RIP Recently deceased For the people of the parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 30th July <i>17th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass	Esther Oyeyinka & Family – Wellbeing
	11.30am	Mass	Marie Muriel D’Souza RIP
	6.00pm	Mass	Rev Deacon Errol Quagraine – Birthday celebration
	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

MAKING THE SIGN OF PEACE DURING MASS

If you want to shake hands with others for the sign of peace during Mass, you are welcome to do this now but it is of course up to you should you wish to do so.

JUNIOR PRESIDIUM 23RD JULY

During the Masses today, Sunday 23rd July, we welcome the Junior Presidium of the Legion of Mary from St Mary’s Church in West Croydon who will be here to talk to us about the need to have a Junior Presidium of the Legion of Mary in our Parish.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND FOR THE SOCIETY OF AFRICAN MISSIONS

The Diocesan Appeal for 2023 will be for the Society of African Missions. Each Year a Missionary group in the UK is invited to the Archdiocese (Southwark) to raise awareness of its work across the world in proclaiming the Gospel. This weekend, 22/23 July, we welcome Fr Henry from the Society of African Missions (SMA) to share with us some of their work around the world and take a second collection to support their ministry.

The Society of African Missions (SMA): "The Society of African Missions (SMA) is committed to preaching the Good News of Jesus Christ chiefly in Africa and to people of African origin. We regard solidarity with the poor and the powerless, commitment to reading the signs of the times, activities for justice and peace, dedication to building a better world, including care for the environment, as constitutive dimensions of witnessing to the Good News. We do this through education, health care, development projects and conscientisation for justice. We also

help in caring for African immigrants in Europe and the USA and draw attention to those structures that oppress them and other people of the Third World." <https://www.sma-gb-org/> Thank you.

SIERRA LEONE COMMUNITY MEETING

Further to Fr Anthony's recent announcement he would like to invite all our Sierra Leone parishioners to a first meeting on Tuesday 25th July at 7.00pm in the hall. He looks forward to meeting you all.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Further to Fr Anthony's recent announcement, please can **all** Eucharistic Ministers attend a meeting on Friday 28th July at 7.00pm in the Church annex. If it is not possible for you to attend, please let Fr Anthony know.

PARISH DAY OUT AT AYLESFORD

Last year we had a wonderful parish day out at Aylesford. This year it will take place on Saturday 19th August. We shall leave at 8.30am from St Andrew's and arrive back for 6pm Mass. On the coach we shall celebrate Lauds and we shall then have Mass at Aylesford, walk the Rosary Way together, and have a talk given by Fr Anthony. Afterwards we will then enjoy our lunch with games together on the green.

The coach will take 53 people. Tickets will be £20 for an adult and £10 for a child. Tickets will be on sale this Sunday. Please bring a packed lunch/food to share.

TEA/COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY 9.30AM MASS

Please do go along to the hall after the Sunday 9.30am Mass where tea/coffee and cakes are always served. All are welcome.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYERS

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

PARISH SURGERY

Parish Surgery has now finished for the summer break. The next one will be on Monday 11th September, 7-9pm.

GROUPS

Mother & Toddler Group: The group have now finished for the summer and will resume again on Monday 11th September.

Brownies & Guides: The group have now finished for the summer and will resume again on Friday 15th September.

Message from Maggie: "The Guides and Ranger Guides would like to say a big Thank You for all the support given last Sunday at our cake sale after 9.30 Mass. We raised £137 towards their trip to Belgium. Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer. Anyone wanting to join or find out more about Guiding please get in touch"

Children's Liturgy: Has also finished and will resume again after the school summer break

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.

REPOSITORY

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

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.

YOUTH CLUB

We are happy to introduce to you a new youth club for our church. The group will be meeting once a month and we hope to start meeting in September (date and time to be advised) and the group will be for boys and girls ages 12-18 years.

Our goal is to teach young people within our church to continue trusting and growing in their relationships with God, to help build their confidence and live a happy life in a positive manner. So we are asking for parents to encourage their children to come along, meet, talk and have fun with others. We are also looking for volunteers to help run this new club – anything you can do would be most welcomed. For more information or to put your child's name forward please contact Fifi 07932764273 or Rosemond 07956865022 or Josiah Oyeyinka.

SCHOOL REFERENCES

This process commences after the school summer break. We are once again offering parents many dates for you to come along and see the Parish Priest for school references. Please make sure you bring with you all the relevant school forms and your child's Baptism Certificate. One parent/guardian who is known to the Parish Priest should come along to the Presbytery during the times shown, you do not need an individual appointment time. For **all** school priest references the following dates are:

Monday 11 September	11.30am – 1.00pm and 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 13 September	11.30am – 1.00pm and 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Tuesday 19 September	11.30am – 1.00pm and 7.00pm – 9.00pm
Friday 22 September	7.00pm – 9.00pm
Wednesday 27 September	11.30am – 1.00pm and 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Please note that these will be the only dates that the Priest will see you to sign **all** school forms (nursery, primary, secondary), so please note the dates and times and make every effort to attend. In the last few years we have had to see many parents with very late forms giving lots of different excuses as to why they missed the original dates. The above dates are the only dates available – no excuses!

CELEBRATION OF WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY–23RD JULY

Endorsed wholeheartedly by Pope Francis, it's a day to celebrate grandparents and all elderly people. Heavenly Father, we pray for grandparents, all elderly people, ever grateful for their love and commitment: bless them in every way possible.

CATHEDRAL MASS IN CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

There is still time for you to apply for a personal invitation from Archbishop John if you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th or any later wedding anniversary this year. You are invited to renew your marriage vows at a Mass to be celebrated at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, at 3.00pm on September 23rd. Close family members can attend with you. In order to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, please email your details to mflsw@rcaos.org.uk The details needed are full names, address, phone number, anniversary being celebrated and parish. The deadline is July 31st.

PILGRIMAGE OF REPARATION & PRAYER FOR THE SANCTITY OF LIFE, TO WALSINGHAM

Saturday 5th August, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald, please join the group on the pilgrimage, if not in person then online, go to www.prolifepilgrimage.org for more info.

NEWSLETTER/OFFICE

Next weekend will be our last newsletter before the summer break. After the summer break, the next newsletter will be on Sunday 10th September.

Please note the office will be closed from Thursday 17 August to Friday 8th September due to staff leave. During this time the office answerphone will not be manned so please do not leave messages but should you have any urgent messages, please email the office for the attention of Fr Anthony. The office will reopen again on Monday 11th September.

SUMMERTIME 2023: 1st – 4th August

Closing date for applications 25th July. For altar servers aged 11 – 17. The venue is the oratory school in Reading. Total Cost £169. Forms are available from the website www.stanselmsdartford.wordpress.com or email dartford@rcaos.org.uk. It is a brilliant few days of prayer and recreation. For more details contact Fr. Stephen Boyle, chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen tel: 01322 220075.