

# 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 Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

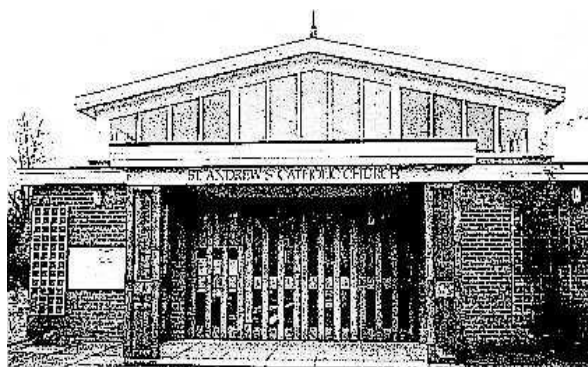
**Deacons:** Rev. Tony Flavin, Rev. Errol Quagraine

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

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

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



## 10<sup>th</sup> September 2023 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year (A)

### Message from Fr Anthony

#### ***THEME: WHERE THERE IS RIGHT RELATIONSHIP, THERE IS THE CHURCH***

Welcome everyone back to the Parish from your summer break. I hope you all had a very refreshing and wonderful time with friends and families.

The readings for the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A focus on a conversion of heart. One of the most difficult things in life to do is correcting another person. Yes, there are people who seem always to be correcting others—but that type of person rarely has any lasting success. What the Lord God wants from us is to find ways to draw others to HIM, by the way we try to correct them. That is a divine task.

In our first reading today the Prophet Ezekiel was told by the Lord to correct others—and he did not want to do it. God told him bluntly: if you do not tell others their faults, then you are responsible for their deaths. This is really strong language - and yet so needed today. None of us wants to tell others their faults especially our children today or that what they are doing is against what God asks us to do!

Our second reading we hear St. Paul saying that love is the fulfilment of the law. Yet today we often think of love as simply feeling good about one another. Love is lived today very much as a “live and let live” kind of way. Hardly anyone of us would think of a Prophet saying difficult things as a loving person. Even modern prophets can say harsh and difficult things, but we rarely think of them as “loving.” Instead, we are careful to think of them as prophet and not as people of love.

The readings today are so clear in this teaching: if you do not correct those in error, you cannot love them. Parents often correct their small children almost automatically and know that it is a loving thing to do. Once a child gets older, parents have to make a choice to correct their children, especially when they know that the child will not accept correction easily. And when we are in the presence of adults, we often tell ourselves that it is not our duty to correct anyone!

Our Gospel today continues with the theme of how to deal with someone who has wronged us. But we can also look at this from the other side where we are the one wronging someone else. It works both ways. The challenge is: how to bring about reconciliation with a deep awareness of the truth of the situation. All of us must learn that we offend others at times, that we misjudge others at times, and that we take advantage of others at times. If we can come to recognise our own brokenness and lack of love towards others, then we will find it much easier to deal with the brokenness and lack of love in others. So our first challenge today is to accept that we are broken and need correction. Only within that context can we see God's love. Then in God's love we might be able to speak the truth to our own culture and to others in our lives then we will be able to form the community of believers in love call the Church.

#### **This Sunday's Readings**

<b>Ezekiel 33:7-9</b>	<b>If you do not speak to the wicked man, I will hold you responsible for his death</b>
<b>Psalms 94</b>	<b>O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts</b>
<b>Romans 13:8-10</b>	<b>Love is the answer to every one of the commandments</b>
<b>Matthew 18:15-20</b>	<b>If he listens to you, you have won back your brother</b>

## Diary for the Week

<p><b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Year</p>	<p>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></p>	<p>For the people of the parish Paul Etuka RIP Apeejemawu Lokosu - Wellbeing</p>
<p><b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September</b></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>11.30am School references</b> <b>7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery/School refs</b></p>	<p>Mrs J Sloam RIP Eileen McCarthy RIP</p>
<p><b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> The Most Holy Name of Mary</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p>	<p>All Souls in Purgatory Pam &amp; Bernard Freeman – Wedding Anniv</p>
<p><b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September</b></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>11.30am School references</b> <b>7.00pm School references</b> <b>7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</b></p>	<p>Frank to BVM – Thank you Apolonia and Carol Okoroafor RIP</p>
<p><b>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> The Exaltation of The Holy Cross</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p>	<p>Joe and Linda Rebello - Thanksgiving Lucas Ubaldina Sylvia &amp; Amon De Souza RIP</p>
<p><b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b></p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>10.30 – 12noon Adoration</b> <b>6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</b></p>	<p>Brigid Lakhani RIP 7<sup>th</sup> Anniv</p>
<p><b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b></p>	<p><b>9.00 - 9.20am Divine Mercy Prayers</b> 9.30am Mass <b>10.00 – 10.30am Confessions</b> <b>5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions</b> 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday</p>	<p>Antoneta Gouveia RIP  For the people of the parish</p>
<p><b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup></b> <b>September</b> 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</p>	<p>9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b></p>	<p>Mr &amp; Mrs Charles Nkamuo &amp; Family – Thanksgiving Annemarie Paterson – Thanksgiving Sr Mary Martin RIP</p>

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

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

#### 10th September: Catholic Education Services

The Catholic Education Service (CES) acts on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference to support Catholic education. They have a strong and positive working relationship with the British and Welsh Governments, sharing the aims of high academic standards for all and increased parental choice. Catholic schools make up 10% of the national total of maintained schools. There are over 2,000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England educating over 800,000 pupils. The Catholic Church and the Church of England together provide one-third of all the schools in the country. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education, and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.

#### 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.

#### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is on Sundays during 9.30am Mass, term-time only. We will resume again today Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September. Please can parents note that the class is only for children who have not had their First Holy Communion.

### **GHANAIAN COMMITTEE MEETING**

The group will be meeting today Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September following the 11.30am Mass in the hall and again on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September for the Community Harvest.

### **400 CLUB**

The prize winners for the July 2023 draw are:

- No. 26 Mr Mario Fernandes - 1<sup>st</sup> prize £20  
No. 5 Mr Barry Coutinho - 2<sup>nd</sup> prize £10  
No. 1 Ms Ignacia Fernandes - 3<sup>rd</sup> prize £10

### **SCHOOL REFERENCES**

As we commence this process 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 Parish 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!

### **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**

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.

**MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP:** The group will resume again on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September.

**BROWNIES & GUIDES:** The group will resume again on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Message from Maggie: “The Guides and Ranger Guides would like to say a big Thank You for all the support given at our recent cake sale. We raised £137 towards their trip to Belgium. Anyone wanting to join or find out more about Guiding please get in touch”

### **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.

### **ROSARY GROUP**

The Rosary is prayed each weekday after the 10am Mass and Saturday 9.30am Mass (Fridays 10.30 – 12noon Adoration). After Mass and after a few minutes of silence the Rosary will be prayed and then, after a short pause, other devotional prayers will be prayed. All are welcome to join however long you can stay – there is no formal membership, just a desire to pray the Rosary.

## **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK**

### **17th September: Bishops' Conference (Home Mission)**

This collection provides the Bishops of England and Wales with resources to support “Home Mission”, the spread of the Gospel in our own country. The money collected enables a breadth of work to be done in support of parish evangelisation.

## **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.

Josiah Oyeyinka will be starting a new group for ages 7 – 12years in September. Details to follow.

## **ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK**

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 23rd September 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.

## **YOUTH CHOIR**

After the summer break the youth choir resumed rehearsals in the first week of September after the 9:30am Mass. We are keen to encourage new children to join. Parents please kindly contact Maxine directly on 07903401107 to discuss the commitment as a youth choir member. Thank you

## **WALK WITH US**

Our walking group celebrated its first anniversary earlier this year. We are keen to welcome new members. We walk locally on Saturdays from 9:30 am to 10:30am. Once a month we challenge ourselves with a walk outside of the borough. According to Harvard Medical school, *'The simple activity of walking has so many powerful health benefits. Done correctly, it can be the key to losing weight, lowering blood pressure and cholesterol, and boosting your memory, as well as reducing your risk for heart disease, diabetes, cancer and more.* Our members will say they enjoy walking because it can provide emotional and practical support, motivation to start the day and friendship. If you are interested in joining, please contact Maxine on 07903401107.

## **CHURCH CLEANING**

We are very grateful to those who help to clean our church. We are still appealing for more hands to help with this important task of cleaning God's house. If you can spare an hour every few weeks or so and would like to help by joining one of our groups, kindly contact Fifi on 07932 764273. Thank you.

## **MASS OFFERING BOOKINGS AND DONATIONS THROUGH PAYPAL**

If you would like to use the facility to book your mass intentions and make donations through Paypal, please go on our website where you will find the “Donations” menu. Please follow the instructions given there. Mass bookings can still be booked in the normal way using envelopes in the porch. Please post your Mass Offering envelopes through the presbytery door or hand over to a Priest.

## **ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK 2023 AUTUMN ASSEMBLY**

You are invited to the Southwark Justice & Peace Commission on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at St Edmund Catholic Church, Beckenham. Mass 10am continuing 10.20am in the parish hall. Entitled ‘The Right to Stay: Free to Choose’. Entrance free, lunch provided, everyone welcome. Keynote speaker Bishop Paul McAleenan. To reserve a place email [justiceandpeace@rcaos.org](mailto:justiceandpeace@rcaos.org)