

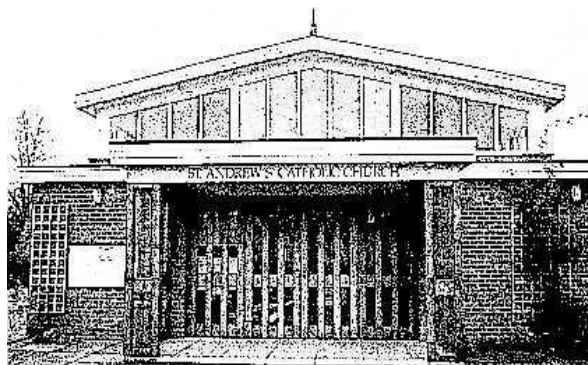
ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery
45 Brook Road
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 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.

17th September 2023 24th Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Deacon Errol **Be merciful, as your Father is merciful**

In the liturgy today we are given some principles that when applied will bring us into the divine life of God; that is to be kind and merciful. This is what defines us as followers or disciples of Christ, which may counter certain opinions on what it means to be human.

Looking at society today, we might feel our interrelation now is better than in the past, which may be true in some ways, however, our human vices of hatred, anger, and revenge, prejudice, an eye for an eye and immorality in all its forms are still rife today. This is not what God intends for humanity after the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, to bring us into the light of His divine presence. To help us Jesus refers to the Old Testament ethics, then declares; "I say to you....."

May we take stock of our lives and see where we need to make changes to bring us in line to what it means to be truly Christian, for the God we follow is kind, slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

God in his infinite mercy and love knows that we cannot do anything well by ourselves, so like Moses mediated for the people of Israel, for God to forgive and withhold punishment, and foreshadows, Jesus Christ, who on the Cross prayed "Father, forgive them" and is still interceding for us in heaven. (*Heb 7:25*).

May the Lord grant us the grace to live in a sacred relationship with him and with each other.

This Sunday's Readings

Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7

Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven

Psalms 102

The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy

Romans 14:7-9

Alive or dead we belong to the Lord

Matthew 18:21-35

I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy-seven times

Diary for the Week

Sunday 17th September <i>24th Sunday of the Year</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 Mr & Mrs Charles Nkamuo & Family – Thanksgiving Annemarie Paterson – Thanksgiving Sr Mary Martin RIP
Monday 18th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery	Antonia Flores Cabarles RIP Paul Etuka RIP
Tuesday 19th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.45am Funeral: Sonia Daye RIP 7.00pm School references	Winnie Rojo Sosa RIP Anniv Bernard Freeman – Birthday & Welfare
Wednesday 20th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)	Kevin Moran RIP Sr Mary Martin RIP
Thursday 21st September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Michael Jeffery Chambers RIP Anniv Matthew & Ira Coutinho RIP
Friday 22nd September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30 – 12noon Adoration 6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall) 7.00pm School references	Sandra Evans – Illness Alponsus Ogwuke RIP Anniv
Saturday 23rd September	9.00 - 9.20am Divine Mercy Prayers 9.30am Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Magdalena Colaco and Santano Rebello RIP Laura Anne Murtagh RIP 25th Anniv
Sunday 24th September <i>25th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Family Members RIP Christina Etuka – Special Intentions For the people of the parish

Church cleaners: this week: Fifi's Group, next week: St Jude's Group

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

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.

400 CLUB

Prize winners for the August 2023 draw are:

No. 38 Roderick Joseph - 1st prize £20

No. 11 Michael Hibberd - 2nd prize £10

No. 36 Judith Ababio - 3rd prize £10

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.

GHANAIAN COMMITTEE MEETING

The group will be meeting today Sunday 17th September following the 11.30am Mass in the hall for the Community Harvest.

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (RCIC)

This is for children whose parent is a baptised Catholic and who are over the age of 7 years and have not been baptised. It is also for children in school year 5 and above who have not made their First Communion. Please come to registration and Session 1 on Tuesday 26th September in the parish hall Quadrant Road at 6.30pm - 7.30pm. Please note accompanying parent or adult to stay with their child for the full session

(NB this is not the First communion Programme for children in school years 3 and 4 this will not commence until much later)

THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

This will commence on Tuesday 26th September at 7.45 - 9pm in our hall. This is for anyone who may be interested in the Catholic Faith and/or becoming a Catholic. If you are interested or know someone who is, please encourage them to come along to a warm welcome and it is OK if they are only curious.

YOUTH CLUB

We are happy to introduce you to a new youth club for our church. The group will be meeting once a month and we hope to start meeting in October (date and time to be advised) and the group will be for boys and girls in years 7-13.

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.

Please register your child's interest at <https://forms.gle/GiZkq4tQ6WxUszcd6> by 30th September.

Please send all enquiries to yc.standrewschurch@gmail.com For more information please contact Fifi 07932764273 or Rosemond 07956865022.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is on Sundays during 9.30am Mass, term-time only. Please can parents note that the class is only for children who have not had their First Holy Communion.

NIGERIAN COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The group will be meeting on Sunday 24th September following the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

SCHOOL REFERENCES

Please come along to 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 remaining dates are:

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

We are sorry but we have had to cancel the morning school references scheduled for Tuesday 19th September at 11.30-1.00pm, we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

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!

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Thank you to our PPC members who will start next weekend for four weeks counting the numbers.

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.

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.

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

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 23rd 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

ANNUAL SERVICE ON 27 SEPTEMBER

You are invited to the annual service for those that have been harmed by abuse. The Service will be led by Archbishop John Wilson and will be held on the 27th September at 6.30pm at St George's Cathedral. This Service allows the Archdiocese to acknowledge, pray and reflect on the pain that is caused by abuse and to demonstrate the Archdiocese's commitment to supporting those that have been abused and creating safe environments.