

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.

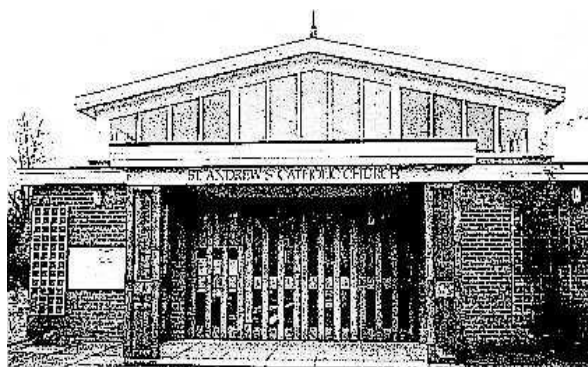
Deacons: Rev. Errol Quagraine

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.



24th September 2023
25th Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Fr Brendan

PREAMBLE

Before sunrise i.e. 6.15am the owner is out looking for labourers. He hires all those he can find. There was a bargain and they agreed on the pay- one denarius. He must be in a hurry to finish the work because 3 hours later he went out again looking for more labourers. He finds some and sent them to the vineyard to start working. He goes out goes out looking for labourers 5 times and hired the last group at 5.00pm when there is only 1 hour of the daylight left.

REFLECTION

The vineyard owner is concerned that nobody should be without work. How is it that in our Christian communities we have people who act as if they were spectators? Is there not enough work for everybody? We must all ask where my place is, what my task is, in the vineyard of the Lord. In the evening the owner lines up all his workers and begins to pay them starting with the ones he hired last. Yes, for some reason he called in first those who had been working only one hour and he gave them a full day's wage. He paid the others off, then he came to those who had been working all day and he gave them a denarius. They began to grumble

They said "we worked in the hot sun all the day and these other fellows just worked an hour, but you gave them as much as you did us. Very kindly the man said, "friend you bargained to work for that price and I paid you according to the bargain. You don't have to complain dear. I will pay these others what I please. It is my vineyard and my money".

Think of it why do you grumble, what if he never called you to work in his vineyard. What if he had gone to the other side of the square to call people and you were left out. In the church there are people who expect to receive more because they were here first. There may be Christians who consider themselves veterans. Remember we are all equal. Nobody is superior to anybody else. Some don't want to work themselves nor will they let others work. They affect the life of the whole group, the whole Christian community, the whole parish as the case may be and prevent all those who come after them from doing anything.

In the *vineyard of the Lord*, we volunteer our work, nobody will claim a salary higher than anyone else. We see here not only the justice but the generosity of God. We also see here that not only is salvation by grace, but that our rewards are also of grace. The man who worked only an hour didn't deserve a day's pay. It came through the generosity of the owner of the vineyard. We didn't deserve anything it is grace, unmerited favour that brings both salvation and rewards to poor sins. What a great God we do have. May we volunteer to work. Shalom.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 55:6-9

My thoughts are not your thoughts

Psalms 144

The Lord is close to all who call him

Philippians 1:20-24, 27

Life to me is Christ

Matthew 20:1-16

Why be envious because I am generous?

Diary for the Week

Sunday 24th September <i>25th 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	Laura Anne Murtagh RIP 25 th Anniv Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Family Members RIP Christina Etuka – Special Intentions For the people of the parish
Monday 25th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery	Lauren – Illness Chris Nicholas – Thanksgiving
Tuesday 26th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.30pm RCIC registration (hall) 7.45pm RCIA registration (hall)	Teresa Po – Wellbeing Deceased Freeman Family Members RIP
Wednesday 27th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 11.30am School references 7.00pm School references 7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)	Michelle Mannion RIP Pasquale Migliore – Birthday
Thursday 28th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 12noon Funeral Service: Jeanette Rashti RIP	Special Thanksgiving Edwin Athayde RIP
Friday 29th September	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30 – 12noon Adoration 6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)	Paul Etuka RIP Abigail Renegia Rodrigues – Birthday
Saturday 30th 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	Francis & Ursula Kershaw (F) Margaret Grillo RIP
Sunday 1st October <i>26th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group	Ann Margaret Manthorpe (F) Nigerian Catholic Community Independant Harvest Anniv For the people of the parish

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

DEACON TONY FLAVIN MOVES TO COULSDON PARISH

Greetings of peace and joy.

Deacon Tony Flavin was ordained to the diaconate ministry in June 2003. Since then, he has graciously carried out his ministry in our parish of St. Andrew's, labouring for the Gospel of Christ and applying himself to other duties as are applicable to the ministry of deacons. During these years he has also worked in school chaplaincy in various places, and now he serves as chaplain at St. Francis Xavier Catholic Sixth Form College in Balham.

In 2011, Deacon Tony and his family moved to Caterham but continued to come all the way to Thornton Heath to serve because of his love for our parish. However, to make it easier for him to continue to minister in the Croydon deanery, since deacons are ordained for a deanery, Deacon Tony has now been moved to the parish of St. Aidan in Coulsdon. Our parish is grateful for the twenty years of ministry of Deacon Tony among us. We also commend him to the maternal intercession of Our Blessed Lady, the ever-glorious Virgin Mary and of St. Andrew the Apostle for his wellbeing and continuous fruitful ministry at Coulsdon and into the future.

We shall agree with him on a date to show our appreciation to him as a parish and congratulate him on his new role. In the meantime, please keep Deacon Tony in your prayers.

NIGERIAN COMMUNITY MEETING

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

DAN TURNER

Message from Dan Turner:

Request for Your Prayers

My name is Dan Turner. Some of you may know me through my better-half and wife of 35 years, Maggie, who runs St Andrew's Brownies and Guides as well as the Under 5s Group on a Monday morning in the church hall. Others may know me as a Catechist for Confirmation candidates for the best part of 17 years. I write here to ask you for your prayers and support as I enter my third year of studies towards being ordained a Permanent Deacon, particularly on the approach to my being instituted an Acolyte on 4th November, the second and last of the minor ministries.

Knowing that I am in your prayers would, not only be of great support but would also be appreciated immensely. May the Lord bless us and keep us from all evil and lead us to everlasting life.

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/GiZkq4tQ6WxUzcd6> by 30th September.

Please send all enquiries to yc.standrewschurch@gmail.com

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.

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 date is the last one:

Wednesday 27th September 11.30am – 1.00pm and 7.00pm – 9.00pm

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

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

MONTH OF THE ROSARY

October is a month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. Please join our Rosary Group each weekday after the 10am Mass and Saturday 9.30am. All are very 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

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.

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

ANNUAL BUTTERFLY SERVICE

This is an open invitation to all families who would like to join the Butterfly Service at the hospital, to remember and celebrate the lives of those lost through a baby/child loss.

It is being held at St Barnabas Worship Centre at Croydon University Hospital on Sunday 8th October commencing 3pm. All are very welcome.

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.

GRIEF IN LOSS, HOPE IN CHRIST

If you are mourning the death of a loved one, this weekend may be for you. It's being held at Aylesford Priory from October 6-8; cost £230 single, £210 shared. For more details phone 01622 717272 or email reception@thefriars.org.uk

NEW BEGINNINGS

For those who have suffered a divorce or separation or the death of their spouse, this Beginning Experience residential weekend will help provide healing. It's on October 13-15 at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. For details ring Maura on 07795 498445 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com.

BISHOP HOWARD TRIPP RIP

Bishop Howard Tripp's first anniversary of death is on 3rd October. There will be a Year's Mind Mass for him - celebrated at St George's Cathedral - the day after, on Wednesday 4 October at 12.30pm. Bishop Paul Hendricks will be the main celebrant. This Mass will be simply the usual lunchtime Cathedral Mass, but it was felt important to mark Bishop Howard's first anniversary in some small way, in the place where he lies at rest in the Cathedral crypt. May he rest in peace and rise in glory! Everyone is most welcome to attend the Mass.