

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 Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

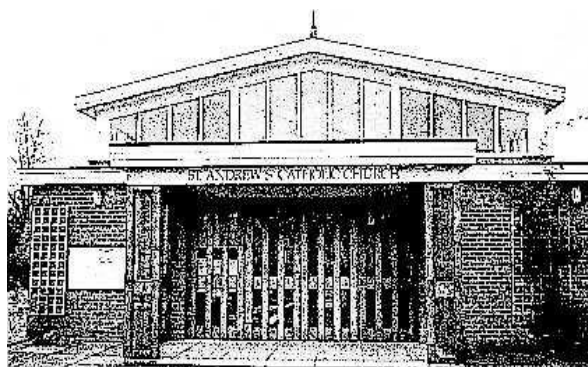
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

Deacons: Rev. Errol Quagraine

Parish Sister: Sr. Jennie Eldridge DMJ

Croydon University Hospital Chaplaincy: Sr. Sheila DMJ

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.



15th October 2023
28th Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Fr Brendan

Who will participate in the Feast of the Lord? cf Is25:6-10a

The banquet theme joins together the first reading and the gospel. The banquet is a symbol of the happiness and joy present in the kingdom of God. Isaiah tells us today that God will prepare a great feast for us. God, the prophet says, is like a great king. He wants to celebrate a great victory and for this He is preparing a great feast, **a banquet worthy of a great sovereign.**

The images with which this banquet is described strike the minds of people who at the time of the prophet are accustomed to eating only once a day.

- It will be a feast of rich food of fine wines
- With every tasty kind of meat

Who will be invited?

- All the people of the earth
- Enemies and those who hated or fought each other will sit down at the same table. Why? Because death has been defeated and the Lord will wipe away tears from all faces. It is worthy of note to remind us that the prophet is not speaking of physical death but of all for us is like death. He is speaking of:
 - A meaningless life
 - Derision, calumny
 - Failure, pain and sorrow
 - Hunger and diseases
 - Marginalisation and hatred

In other words, he is speaking of whatever is “non-life”, will be wiped away. It must be eliminated. The prophet is clearly speaking of the messianic times when there will be only cheerfulness and happiness for all, it will be a time of feasting for all persons.

Can this be achieved? Yes, it can. The gospel tells us that the feast has begun but the kingdom is still awaiting its full realisation. On our part, while we await the full realisation of this banquet, we are obliged to see other persons as brother or sister and to live out the Christian principles, to allow the spirit to take control of our lives. Shalom.

This Sunday's Readings

Isaiah 25:6-10	The Lord will prepare a banquet, and will wipe away tears from every cheek
Psalms 22	In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever

Philippians 4:12-14,19-20 Matthew 22:1-14	There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength Invite everyone you can find to the wedding
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Diary for the Week

October <i>Sunday 15th</i> <i>28th Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Caru Rodrigues RIP Mr & Mrs Charles Nkamuo & Family – Thanksgiving Mark Poupard RIP 19 th Anniv For the people of the parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Monday 16th October	6.00pm	Mass	Doris Neal RIP Andres Velbis
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
	7.30am	Mass	
Tuesday 17th October	10.00am	Mass	Martin Ince Maria De Fatima – Birthday 89 years
	6.30pm	R.C.I.C.	
	7.45pm	R.C.I.A.	
Wednesday 18th October	7.30am	Mass	Power & Fennelly Families (F) Ana Maria D’Souza RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 19th October	7.30am	Mass	Mary Cunningham – Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 20th October	7.30am	Mass	Jude Martin Etuka – Special Intentions
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 21st October	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	Marry Retemah RIP
	9.30am	Mass	
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
October <i>Sunday 22nd</i> <i>29th Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass	Deceased Ritchie & Hampshire Family Members RIP Paul Etuka RIP For the people of the parish
	11.30am	Mass	
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	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

GHANAIAN COMMITTEE MEETING

The group will be meeting today Sunday 15th October after the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

The group will be meeting for their first get-together on Monday 16th October at 7.00pm in our hall.

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.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL

Thank you for your generous donations to CAFOD'S Family Fast Day Appeal. Together, we are supporting local experts like Dr. Nasha in Pakistan to get help to families and communities when they need it most. If you haven't returned your CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal envelope, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you to everyone for your generosity. It's not too late to give online at cafod.org.uk

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. This Tuesday 17th October will be the last day for registration.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Please join us every Sunday evening before the 6pm Mass starting at 5.00pm and finishing at 5.45pm.

400 CLUB

The prize winners for the September 2023 draw are:

No. 79 Moira McCarthy - 1st prize £20

No. 43 Joseph Okoroafor - 2nd prize £10

No. 35 Frank Hayward - 3rd prize £10

WARM HUB

As we are now starting to feel a little chill in the air beginning on Tuesday 24th October the **Warm Hub** will open again from 11am - 4pm every Tuesday, in the parish hall in Quadrant Road. Come along and receive a warm welcome, perhaps meet old friends and/or make some new ones (or just do your own thing). Hot drinks will be served, and there will be a simple soup lunch available. All good reasons to just pop in and see - there will be no charge.

ST ANDREW'S FISHERMAN GROUP

The group will next be meeting on Saturday 4th November from 1.00-4.30pm in the hall.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Thank you to our PPC members who are 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 discuss baptisms, marriage etc 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. We already have our Christmas stock, so please do visit to make your purchases early.

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

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.

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: WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'

Next Sunday, 22nd October, is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a direct debit and gift aid your donation if possible: mission.org.uk or take home one of the envelopes and return next week. Thank you.

THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVP)

The SVP group in our parish has worked hard to support many local individuals and families over the years. Sadly, soaring inflation has seen the cost of food, household items, fuel, energy, council tax, etc., become much higher. This has resulted in our parishioners needing more help and, therefore, the SVP needs more members to cope with these needs. We are going to have a recruitment drive at the end of this month to enrol new members. Would you consider helping people in your community by joining the SVP? Please check our newsletter for more announcements later.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

During the month of November, the month of Holy Souls, we particularly remember and pray in a special way for those whom God has called from this life, especially members of our families and friends. A list of the deceased whose funerals took place here at St Andrew's will be displayed in the front of the Altar. Anyone who has a relative or friend who has died elsewhere in the last year should give in their names and date of death to the office or to one of the Priests and we will add your names to our November prayers.

Please put the names in a Holy Souls envelope (in the porch) together with your offering in the basket before the Altar from the beginning of November. These envelopes will be brought up during each Mass in the month of November and we will say at least one Mass for those souls everyday. On Saturday 25th November at 9.30am we will hold our annual Bereavement Mass for those who have died in the last year, we hope you can join us.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL (PPC)

Due to a great change in Jane Ritchie's personal circumstances and after discussion with the Pastoral team she has decided to step down as Parish Chair at this time. Jane will continue to be part of the Parish Council but Nkemdilim Stella Maduekwe will now take over as Chair. We all hope that God will bless Nkemdilim Stella Maduekwe mightily and that we hope Jane can still continue to serve the parish in small ways.

A DAY OF RECOLLECTION

St Boniface Church in Tooting will be hosting a Day of Reflection for Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers on Saturday 2nd December at 10am finishing with lunch at 2.15pm. Canon Gerard Bradley will be hosting. The idea is to give you an option to attend such a day locally or to those who can't make the diocesan one. Please can you let Fr Anthony know if you would like to attend as we will have to confirm numbers to St Boniface to help with catering. There will be no charge. See the poster in the porch for more info.

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.

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.