

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

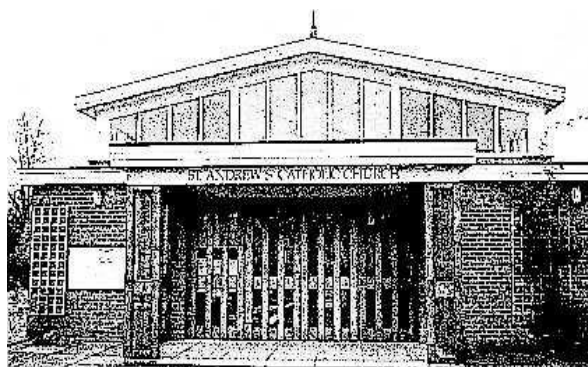
Priests: Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

Deacons: Rev. 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.



19th November 2023 33rd Sunday of the Year (A)

Message from Deacon Errol

Discipleship – Are you Active or Passive?

This Sunday's readings from Proverbs 31, Thessalonians 5, and Matthew 25 direct our minds to 'good and active discipleship'. The Day of the Lord will take us by surprise, so we must be alert. Remember, there can be a passive disciple, the one who simply does nothing. However, idleness does not reward anyone, but it takes away the opportunity to make a difference in the name of the Lord.

The Gospel speaks of how Jesus' disciples are to comport themselves as they await the Kingdom of Heaven. In the preceding passages and in last week's Gospel, Jesus taught that there is no way to predict the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. His disciples must, therefore remain vigilant and ready to receive the Son of Man at any time.

Christian discipleship is the message the parable imparts using business metaphors. The master entrusts to his servants a different number of talents, before he leaves on a journey, giving to each according to their abilities. A **talent** is a coin of great value. Upon the master's return, he finds that the first and second servants have doubled their money, and both are rewarded. The third servant, however, has only preserved what was given to him because he was afraid to lose the money. He has risked nothing; he did not even deposit the money in a bank to earn interest. The master reprimands this servant and his talent given to the one who brought the greatest return.

We are all disciples of Christ by way of baptism and some are called to be Bishops, Priests, Deacons, Religious lay-apostolate and so on. God calls each of us to use our gifts and talents to bring the Good News to the corner where we are, to bear fruits, and to win souls. Our life of prayer helps us to discern the gifts that God has given us for His purpose, each according to his ability. This prayer and discernment ought to lead us to use our gifts in the service of God and our neighbour. Remember, Christian spirituality is not passive or inactive, hence, Jesus always preparing us to send out to make disciples of all nations.

This Sunday's Readings

Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

Psalms 127

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

Matthew 25:14-30

A perfect wife – who can find her?

O blessed are those who fear the Lord

Let not the Day of the Lord overtake you like a thief

You have been faithful in small things; come and join in your

Diary for the Week

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| <p>Sunday 19th <i>November</i> 33rd Sunday of the Year <i>World Day of the Poor</i></p> | <p>6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</p> | <p>Ify Ezike – Birthday November List Deceased Ritchie and Hampshire Family Members RIP For the people of the parish</p> |
| <p>Monday 20th November</p> | <p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</p> | <p>November List Martin Eldridge RIP</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 21st <i>November</i> Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</p> | <p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p> | <p>November List “Frank” to BVM – Wellbeing & Illhealth</p> |
| <p>Wednesday 22nd November</p> | <p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Junior Praesidium (hall) 7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</p> | <p>November List Roque & Rosalind Cabral RIP</p> |
| <p>Thursday 23rd <i>November</i></p> | <p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p> | <p>November List Robert & Marie Curry RIP</p> |
| <p>Friday 24th <i>November</i></p> | <p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30 – 12noon Adoration 6.00pm Mass for the sick 6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</p> | <p>November List Paul Etuka RIP</p> |
| <p>Saturday 25th <i>November</i></p> | <p>9.00 - 9.20am Divine Mercy Prayers 9.30am Bereavement Mass 10.00 – 10.30am Confessions 5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday</p> | <p>November List Jose Fernandes RIP – Ist Anniv</p> |
| <p>Sunday 26th <i>November</i> Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</p> | <p>9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass 5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 6.00pm Mass 7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</p> | <p>November List Larry D’Mello RIP For the people of the parish</p> |

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

MASS SUNG IN LATIN DURING NOVEMBER

During the month of November, the 11.30am choir, the Mass will be sung in Latin. Please all join us in the singing of this traditional and beautiful music.

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.

GHANAIAN COMMITTEE MEETING

The group will be meeting today on Sunday 19th November in the hall after the 11.30am Mass.

FR EMMANUEL AHUA

We welcome back Fr Emmanuel who will be visiting us for a short while. He will be here on Wednesday 22nd November to celebrate his 25th Ordination Anniversary. We will be holding his 25th Ordination Anniversary Mass on Sunday 3rd December at the 11.30am Mass. We hope to see as many of you as possible there.

FAREWELL FOR DEACON TONY

As you know Deacon Tony has now joined the parish of St. Aidan in Coulsdon. We wanted to offer a thanksgiving Mass for him at which he would attend followed by a small reception but due to his busy schedule it has been decided we would postpone this. For the moment we would at least like to send him an appreciation of our grateful thanks from our parish for his twenty years of ministry here at St Andrews. If you would like to contribute towards a leaving collection for Deacon Tony, please use one of the envelopes in the porch and return all envelopes to us by the end of this weekend. Thank you.

ST ANDREW'S CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY GROUP MEETING

The group are meeting on Monday 20th November at 7pm in the hall.

WARM HUB

As we are now starting to feel a little chill in the air we have started the **Warm Hub** 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. Hot drinks will be served, and there will be a simple soup lunch available. All good reasons to just pop in and see – any donations welcome.

MASS FOR THE SICK

We will be having Mass for the Sick in St Andrew's every 2nd and last Fridays of every month. Please let all your family and friends know and we hope to see you there - come and receive God's healing and anointing.

ST ANDREW'S DAY: THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

On St Andrew's Day we have planned a special Mass at 6.00pm. This will be followed by a talk in the Church on St Andrew and we also will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. We do hope many of you will be able to come to celebrate with us.

FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER – PARISH FEAST DAY OF ST ANDREW

This year as part of our celebrations for the parish feast day of St Andrew, we will be having a social evening in the hall on Friday 1st December 7.00-10.45pm. There will be Mass at 6.00pm followed by the social evening in the hall afterwards. *Please note this is a change of date as previously we had advertised it for Saturday 2nd December – we apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.* This will include a two course meal, tickets will be available after all Masses this weekend. It promises to be a really good evening and there will also be a bar and a raffle. Tickets adults £10 and child £5, please note that all tickets must be bought and paid for by Sunday 19th November.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024

For the First Holy Communion programme 2024, we are asking parents of children who are in year 3 or 4 from September 2023 to attend a parents meeting on 21st November. The meeting will be in the parish hall at 6:30pm - 7:30pm. *(Please note this is not for children in school year 5 and above)*

MAINTENANCE TEAM

Please could those in the parish who have the necessary skills consider joining our Maintenance Team. We are desperately in need of people who can take care of the fabric and facilities of the church. If you can help in any way, please speak with Fr Anthony or give your name and contact details in to the office. Thank you in advance.

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.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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

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.

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 every day. 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.

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.

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.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 25th November 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.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: CATHOLIC YOUTH WORK

This collection is taken on National Youth Sunday to support youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S FEAST

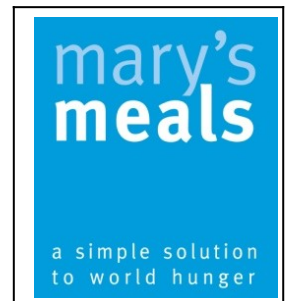
The St Francis Xavier's feast celebration will be held on Saturday 2nd December. Goans warmly invite all parishioners to celebrate the 49th feast of St Francis Xavier Celebration beginning with the Eucharistic celebration at 1.00pm in St Andrew's Church followed by a social in the church hall. Tickets priced at £20 for adults and £6 for children (5-12 years) which include snacks and meal and Live Music by "String-a-long" (Inacio). Please come and join in the fun with lots of surprises, raffles, dancing etc. For further details and tickets please call Perpetua Fernandes 07595302856, Vanessa Fernandes 07791709861, Joe Rebello 07742953809, Jennifer/Cyril Da Silva 07712273024

MARY'S MEALS: FOREIGN CURRENCY COLLECTION

Mary's Meals have asked us to help them with collecting all your foreign currency* no matter how old or obscure to turn it into cash to feed hungry children. There are envelopes at the back of church for you to take home and put all your foreign coins and notes into. Please return these and put into the collection baskets. Last collection of envelopes will be on the weekend of 25/26 November.

Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign coins and notes you can help feed the next hungry child. Mary's Meals feeds in over 18 countries. Because of their low costs they can do this for as little as £19.15 per child per year! Thank you for your generosity.

** They will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender*



THE CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY CHRISTMAS GIFT/TOY APPEAL

Every year The Catholic Children's Society runs a Christmas gift appeal. Last year they distributed new toys and gifts to almost 2,500 children and families. The charity are made aware of families that need this support through headteachers who have identified families at their school that are living under difficult circumstances. These include looked after children, children living in hostels or other temporary accommodation, child carers, refugee children, and families in financial hardship. They help children and families of all faiths and none. They would be so grateful if you could please donate **NEW** toys or gift vouchers for children aged 0-18years. Gift vouchers for Amazon, Argos, or All for one are ideal because they can be used to buy a wide variety of items. For more suggestions on what to buy please see the poster. Please **DO NOT** wrap the presents.

We will be accepting donations on the weekend of Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd of December. These presents are more than just material goods they bring so much happiness and hope to the families the Catholic Children's Society work with. If you would like to know more about the charity, please visit www.cathchild.org.uk. Thank you for your generous support.

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL

CAFOD are holding an appeal for this crisis. They ask if you can donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc or call 0303 303 3030 if you can help to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts

in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your support and prayers.