

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

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RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

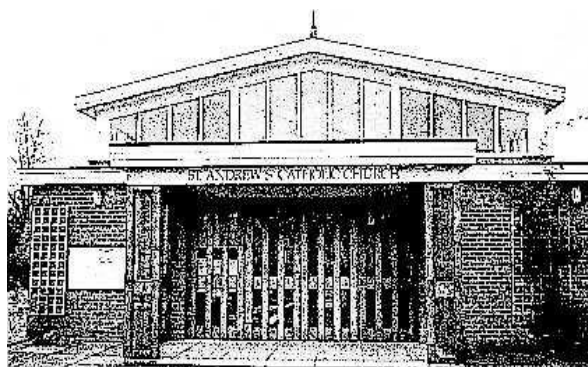
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

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.



14th January 2024 2nd Sunday of the Year (B)

Message from Deacon Errol

Is God calling Me?

The readings this Second Sunday in Ordinary Time focuses our minds and hearts to God's call to us to be His faithful disciples. How do we respond? The boy Samuel heard the Lord calling in the middle of his sleep – three times (1 Samuel 3:3-10,19). Samuel responded every time the Lord called: Even if at first it appeared to be Eli. What is striking is the way Eli helped Samuel realise his calling. Each generation has its own Elis and Samuels. It is not simple in this day and age to find out what God wants us to do. It can be confusing with all the things we are exposed to, however, God works through different channels to help us find our calling or vocation. This can be through the very people around us; our parents, friends, church members, and at times even strangers, pointing us to what God is calling us to do.

Are you thinking of becoming a Priest, a Deacon, Religious, or to Marriage? Confused, talk to a wise person. We are all called to be faithful witnesses to Christ in our lives, whether it is in marriage, religious life, in our workplaces or vocation for the sake of God's Kingdom. Speak to the Parish Clergy or the Sisters who are more than to help you to realise your vocation.

The Gospel from John 1:35-42, tells us about Jesus' own call in life. Jesus, the sacrificial Lamb of God who comes to take away our sins. He takes our troubles, our worries to bring us freedom; Jesus gives himself to God in his fellow human beings. So he calls his first disciples Andrew (Our Patron Saint) and Simon his brother. Like Samuel in the first reading, Andrew and Simon Peter grew in their calling which began with curiosity.

Andrew and Simon Peter wanted to know where he was staying so they could get to know him better and have a relationship with him. They realised their call or vocation through that. How is our relationship with Christ?

The Second Sunday is also Peace Sunday, and we are called to pray for world peace. Our world needs peace. Our families need peace. We must all work for this peace to be realised, as God created humankind in His image and likeness. We cannot leave it to others.

This Sunday's Readings

1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19

Psalm 39

1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20

John 1:35-42

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening

Here I am Lord! I come to do your will

Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ

They saw where he lived and stayed with him

Diary for the Week

<p>Sunday 14th <i>January</i> <i>2nd Sunday of the Year</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>For the people of the parish Eugenia Amarteifio – Birthday Joseph Emmanuel Asmah RIP Anniv Paul Etuka RIP</p>
<p>Monday 15th January</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</p>	<p>Tony Cook – Illhealth Virginia Athayde RIP</p>
<p>Tuesday 16th January</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p>	<p>Marie Edgely RIP Joseph & Lucy Pereira RIP</p>
<p>Wednesday 17th January</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 6.00pm Junior Praesidium (hall) 7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</p>	<p>Andrew Gracias RIP</p>
<p>Thursday 18th January</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass</p>	<p>All Souls in Purgatory RIP</p>
<p>Friday 19th January</p>	<p>7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass 10.30 – 12noon Adoration 6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</p>	<p>Cecelia Angress (F) Apolonia & Carol Okoroafor RIP</p>
<p>Saturday 20th January</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Dionah Vibish Antonainus For the people of the parish</p>
<p>Sunday 21st January <i>3rd Sunday of the Year</i> <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i></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>William Freeman RIP Mr & Mrs Charles Nkamuo & Family – Thanksgiving and wellbeing Richard Cowie (F)</p>

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

A BIG THANK YOU

A very big thank you to everyone who helped with preparations in readiness for Christmas. As always we are very grateful to everyone who give up their time to help - we are truly blessed to have so many religious sisters and brothers within the St Andrew's family.

SECOND COLLECTION: PEACE SUNDAY (PAX CHRISTI)

The second collection today 14th January is for Peace Sunday (Pax Christi). Advocating for a just peace around the globe is a part of the ongoing work of Pax Christi, alongside building a culture of nonviolence, campaigning against war, nuclear weapons and the arms trade.

Pax Christi produces resources on peace and nonviolence issues, organises events and vigils, represents the Catholic church in the peace movement and works with young people in both schools and churches. The theme for Peace Sunday is Pope Francis' theme for the World Day of Peace - 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. This is a highly relevant theme as Governments across the world, including our own, wrestle with the ethics and consequences of significant and potentially dangerous developments in technology. Pope Francis'

overriding concern is that artificial intelligence should be used in the service of humanity and the protection of our common home and not to further injustice and inequality or to fuel division and violent conflict. For further info on Peace Sunday please contact info@paxchristi.org.uk

EASTER RAFFLE DRAW

For fundraising we are holding an Easter raffle draw to raise some much needed funds for the maintenance of our Church and hall. Please "save the date" and join us in the hall for tea and coffee on Easter Monday 1st April starting at 11am for our raffle draw. The raffle tickets will cost £1 for one strip of tickets or £5 for 6 strips. Some of the fabulous prizes include a £100 cash prize, bread maker, M&S vouchers, whiskey bottle and much more. We are also looking for donations for the raffle. Tickets will be on sale after Sunday masses from Sunday 21st January. Please see the poster for more details or call Alex 07827 611769 or Juliette 07958 537314.

400 CLUB

The 400 Club prize winners for the December 2023 draw are:

No. 116 Angela O'Connor - 1st prize £20
No. 105 Sarah Gater - 2nd prize £10
No. 12 Richard & Evelyn Palmer - 3rd prize £10

CONFIRMATION 2024

We will be accepting requests from those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on the weekends of 21st January, 28th January, 4th February and 11th February. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Saturday 1st June at 11am in St. Andrew's church. Those who apply must be in year 9 or above. Please make your request to Sr. Jennie or a Catechist after any of the Masses and be prepared to say why you wish to be confirmed.

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS 2023

Our Christmas Crib is still on our Altar. The tradition of erecting a Crib was started by St Francis of Assisi because at that time many people could not read. He would erect the Crib at the beginning of December and it would be there until the end of February. This tradition is continued in Rome where the Crib in St Peter's Square stays up until that time.

This year our Christmas Crib Offerings will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land. The Friends of the Holy Land, is a non-political Christian Charity. Their mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan - the part of the world that Christians call the Holy Land.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

This weekend is the last for registration for the First Holy Communion programme 2024. We are asking parents of children who are in year 3 or 4 from September 2023 to register their children for the programme commencing in February 2024 using the link <https://forms.gle/qbaMyTVVhTnEMaeFA> (please note this is not for children in school year 5 and above)

In order for the Sacraments to go ahead, we will need help from you. If you have a child joining the programme, please consider becoming a Catechist, thank you. Please send all enquiries to fhc.saintandrewschurch@gmail.com or see the poster in the porch and scan the QR code.

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. The next one will be on Monday 14th January.

WARM HUB

Please come along and join us 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.

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.

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 - come and receive God's healing and anointing.

THANK YOU – MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity in response to its Foreign Currency initiative. It raised a terrific £248.25 which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 12 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals or go online for more info.

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.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 27th January 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.

REPOSITORY

The Repository will be open after the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses on Sunday.

GHANAIAN COMMITTEE MEETING

The group will be meeting on Sunday 21st January after the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

CHURCH CLEANING – URGENT APPEAL

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. Our groups have now been reduced to two groups from five so if you can spare an hour every couple of weeks we would love to hear from you. All are welcome regardless of age! Please contact Fifi on 07932 764273. Thank you.

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 2024

Racial Justice Sunday will be on Sunday 28th January. On that day, Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate a Mass at St Georges Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY at 10am followed by a light refreshment at the upper deck of the Amigo Hall. You are asked to come in your traditional attires and costumes and possibly bring a flag of your country of origin. This will add vigour and colour to the occasion. All parishes, schools, chaplaincies, institutions in the Archdiocese are invited to be part of this colourful celebration led by Archbishop John as he invites everyone to prayers and actions that will harness the richness in our diversities and route out any form of exclusion in our communities and the wider society. If you would like to attend, please let the parish office know as we are required to give an approx. number attending from our parish.

FEAST OF CANDLEMAS

On the feast of Candlemas, there will be a Mass at Southwark Cathedral with Archbishop John to celebrate the world day of prayer for consecrated life on Friday 2nd February starting at 2pm followed by refreshments in Amigo Hall.

Please come and join with religious from across the Archdiocese as we celebrate the gift of religious life together. Please let the parish office if you would like to attend as we are required to give an approx. number attending from our parish.

CAFOD – THE BIG LENT WALK

The Big Lent Walk is back! You are invited to take part in CAFOD's Big Lent Walk with the challenge to walk 200km over 40 days to help people overcome poverty. Please see the poster for more details and to sign up to CAFOD.