

# ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

45 Brook Road

Thornton Heath

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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:**

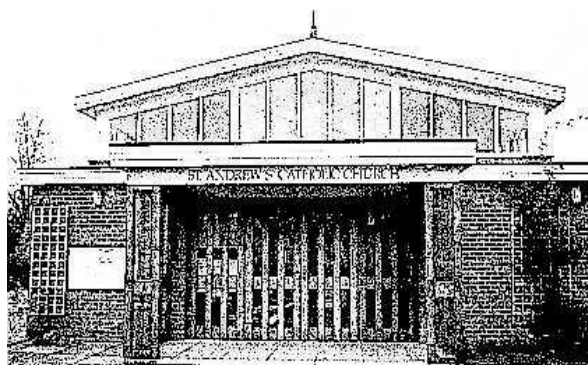
Rev. Errol Quagraine

**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.*



## 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent (B)

### Message from Fr Anthony



### ***THEME: LISTEN TO JESUS, THE SON OF GOD***

The transfiguration of Jesus will assist us in our reflection as we journey through the season of Lent. It is proper that we climb the mountain of transfiguration as Jesus did in order to accept the necessary changes due to the demands of our Lenten obligations. The changes may be burdensome and unappealing at first; as such we need time alone to figure out where to begin. The forty days of lent is a transfiguration experience that will enable us accept these changes for what they are – transformation.

Abraham's experience in the first reading is a paradigm of the will of God. The demands of God can be unappealing and burdensome at first. Abraham's faithfulness in a God that is incapable of deceit enabled him accept offering in sacrifice his only son Isaac. We should not be afraid to climb the mountain of transfiguration with Jesus Christ. The second reading reminds us that if God is with us, no one can be against us! It is understandable that change can be difficult with age and in certain circumstances, but it is even worse to ignore the call to change. Let us listen to the beloved Son calling us to access again our Christian values through the Commandments and the teachings of the church.

**Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18**

**Psalm 115**

**Romans 8:31-34**

**Mark 9: 2-10**

### **This Sunday's Readings**

**The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith**

**I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living**

**God did not spare his own Son**

**This is my Son, the Beloved**

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Rose Freeman RIP Anniv In honour of Our Lady of Africa, for Celeste Joseph Accoli Esther Oyeyinka & Family – Protection and Wellbeing  For the people of the parish
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	<b>7.00 - 9.00pm</b>	<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am	Mass	Joseph Okoroafor – Thanksgiving and favours granted
	10.00am	Mass	
	<b>7.00 – 9.00pm</b>	<b>Parish Surgery</b>	
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am	Mass	Antoinette Underwood RIP Birthday
	10.00am	Mass	
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am	Mass	Quintus Nathaniel Anniv Thanksgiving
	10.00am	Mass	
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Junior Praesidium (hall)</b>	
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Legion of Mary (hall)</b>	
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am	Mass	Tony Green RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>  <i>St David's Day</i>	7.30am	Mass	Amon David DeSouza RIP 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv
	10.00am	Mass	
	<b>10.30 – 12noon</b>	<b>Adoration</b>	
	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Brownies/Guides (hall)</b>	
	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	
<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b>9.00 - 9.20am</b>	<b>Divine Mercy Prayers</b>	Ryan Townsend – 30 <sup>th</sup> Birthday  Luis Gomes RIP
	9.30am	Mass	
	<b>10.00 – 10.30am</b>	<b>Confessions</b>	
	<b>5.00 – 5.30pm</b>	<b>Confessions</b>	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday (1 <sup>st</sup> Scrutiny RCIA)	
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent</i>	9.30am	Mass	Ruby D'Souza RIP Paul Etuka RIP  For the people of the parish
	11.30am	Mass	
	<b>5.00pm</b>	<b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	<b>7.00 - 9.00pm</b>	<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	

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

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### LENT 2024

#### Stations of the Cross

Please join us on Friday evenings at 8.00pm.

#### Parish Penitential Service

Please join us for our Parish Penitential Service on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm. This is a great way to prepare for Easter so please join us if you can. We hope to have other priests in attendance too to hear confessions.

#### Lenten Masses in Croydon University Hospital

There will be Mass in the Hospital Chapel at 12 noon on Monday 4<sup>th</sup>, Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. All are most welcome.

#### SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY - LENT APPEAL

The Lent Fast Day was on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February. This Lent your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people like James who is a fisherman in Liberia and to give him and others the resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Please hand in your special CAFOD envelopes. For more info visit [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

### **EASTER RAFFLE DRAW**

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Easter raffle draw. We are happy to say that all our tickets have now been sold and we look forward to seeing you all at the draw on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April starting at 11am - please come along and join us in the hall for teas and coffees too on the Easter Monday. If you would still like to support us by giving us a cash donation for the hall and church maintenance fund you are still welcome to do so – please give any money directly to Fr Anthony in an envelope marked “Easter Raffle Donation”. Also we have received many donations – thank you again – maybe we will have to keep a few until our next raffle! Thank you all very much for your support.

### **CONFIRMATION**

Our Confirmation candidates will be enrolled during the 6pm Mass on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

### **NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

The group will be meeting on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March in the hall following the 11.30am Mass.

### **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.

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> and last Fridays of every month at 6.00pm. Please let all your family and friends know - come and receive God’s healing and anointing.

### **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.

### **JUNIOR PRAESIDIUM**

We meet every Wednesday in St Andrew's Church Hall from 6.00pm to 7.10pm. You are more than welcome to join us if you are aged between 7 and 17 years old.

### **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.

### **MAINTENANCE OF OUR CHURCH FABRICS - FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Money is always a difficult topic to broach; however, the roof of the church needs to be repaired and as you may have noticed the hall ceiling is leaking. These issues need to be dealt with as quickly as possible.

St Andrew’s are hoping to set up a ‘repair fund’ to manage this. We need to raise this money as quickly as possible and would ask parishioners to consider whether they would be able to give the amount they earn in one hour per month as a standing order towards these repairs. Having a standing order means that the church is confident of receiving this money and can plan ahead. We are all aware of the difficulties that many families are in financially and if an hour a month is not possible, £1 a week would help. No amount is too small! Please consider taking a standing order form and filling it in (in the porch) and if you have ticked to say that you pay tax, please complete a separate gift aid form too (also in the porch).

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their form. If you are not working but would like to make a small donation each month it would be gratefully received. We greatly appreciate your support for maintenance of our church building and the hall. Please speak directly with Fr Anthony if you would like more information.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **ST ANDREW'S GOLDEN CLUB**

St. Andrew's Golden Club invite you to the Easter Monday social on Bank Holiday Monday - 1st April. The event will be held in the church hall commencing at 12.30hrs to 19.30hrs. Join us for bingo, raffle and dance the afternoon away to the sounds of Maz & Gaz. A licensed bar will be available. Tickets at £17.50 include an entrance drink and a four course meal. All profits will go towards the renovations of the church. Tickets on sale after Saturday and Sunday Masses or available from Juliette on 07958 537314 or Jason on 07507 472288. Book early to avoid disappointment!

### **CAFOD: DAILY LENT REFLECTIONS**

CAFOD would like to invite you to join them to receive their daily Lent reflections delivered straight to your inbox. This year, as part of their reflections on one of the readings of the day, CAFOD will be sharing the stories of people from a fishing community in Liberia. Join this journey by signing up for CAFOD's daily Lent email, go to CAFOD's website.

### **SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS**

The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has re-launched several activities in 2024 for those aged 10-35. For more details about what is on offer, please sign up to [tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](https://tinyurl.com/scysnetwork) or see the posters in the porch.

### **CARITAS SOUTHWARK**

This March, we celebrate the first anniversary of Caritas Southwark. Archbishop John will celebrate Mass at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 12.30pm. Save this date in your diaries and there will also be an event in Amigo Hall afterwards, where you can hear about some of the wonderful projects happening in our parishes.

### **FOR THE BEREAVED**

*Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ* is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. This weekend, March 22-24, will take place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance. The residential cost is £230 for a single, £210 for a shared room. Due to the special nature of this weekend retreat, held at Aylesford Priory in Kent, places are ordinarily limited and subject to a telephone call to determine if it is right for you. Tel: 01622 717 272. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

### **THE ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS**

The date is July 13, at 3.00pm at St George's Cathedral. Couples celebrating a special anniversary – one, 10, 25, 40, 50 or 60 or more years – and wishing to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, should email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk)

### **ALTAR SERVERS RALLY 2024**

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on May Day Bank Holiday Monday 6th May at The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent with Canon Victor Darlington the Episcopal Vicar for the South East Area of Southwark, as the principal celebrant. During the Rally, Servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen, while those already in the Guild may renew their promises. The gathering also encourages servers to socialise, share and renew their faith, helping build God's kingdom. All are most welcome to attend, including anyone who wishes to 'Come and See', to learn more about serving in their parish. The Guild looks forward to welcoming families, and friends at The Friars on the May Bank Holiday. Please see the full programme of the day on the poster in the porch.