

# 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.

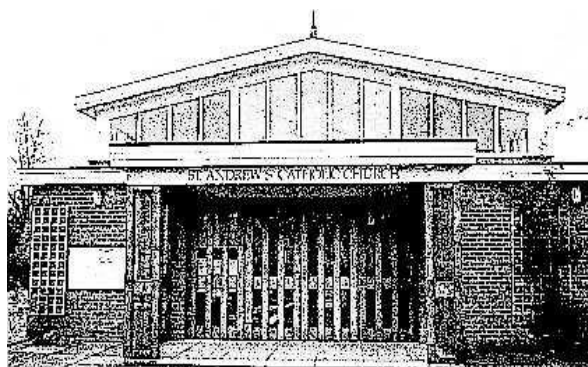
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

**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.*



## 4<sup>th</sup> February 2024 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year (B)

### Message from Fr Anthony

### **Christ Heals, Transforms And, Empowers Us In Order To Help Others**

On this fifth Sunday of ordinary time, the holy mother church invites us to praise Christ, who continues doing good. He, and his apostles carried out their mission as a responsibility and not just for wages. Therefore, he liberates and calls us to serve others freely.

The first reading presents us with the dilemma of Job an innocent and faithful servant of God. Rather than leave the image of suffering and misery, the story of Job should raise our hope and trust in the saving power of God. Job's case reminds us of our own daily struggles with the problems of life. Above all, it reminds us, of what at times, seems to us as the "grave silence or absence of God" in our lives. They are terrible moments that make us ask questions like: God, where are you? Why me? What have I done wrong? God answers these questions at his own time.

In today's gospel, Jesus tirelessly went about teaching, healing, delivering and empowering people. This includes the mother-in-law of Peter. Also, Jesus saw his ministry as a responsibility not principally as a wage earner for him. So, above everything he was passionate about it, and about the welfare of his people. Like Jesus and Paul, we ought to see our call and mission as a responsibility, rather than a wage earner, or for worldly reward as its end. Wages or rewards does not refer to only money or material things. Deliberately seeking praises for our work and mission, is a way of demanding wages too. If we do so, we already have got our wages. So, when we attract undue attention to ourselves for the work we do, it is also a way of gaining a wage for what simply ought to be our responsibility.

Jesus preached, healed and delivered people from all kinds of infirmities and problems. There was no one who encountered him with faith that he did not heal. If Jesus must heal us, we too must have faith in him. Also, if the good news must liberate us, we must believe it.

The power of Jesus is still the same today. He is ready to heal those who come to him in faith. He is ready to have a life changing encounter with those who are ready to approach him with humility. Therefore, let us "praise the Lord who heals our broken hearts." Peace be with you!

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

**Job 7:1-4, 6-7**

**Psalm 146**

**1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23**

**Mark 1:29-39**

**Restlessly I fret till twilight falls**

**Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted**

**I should be punished if I did not preach the Gospel**

**He cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another**

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February</b> <i>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday) First Mass of Sunday 9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass <b>5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	Mary & Pat – Wellbeing Julian – Wellbeing Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP 3 <sup>rd</sup> Anniv  For the people of the parish
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</b>	Pepe Pacheco Canon Francis Moran RIP Anniv
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Tony Green RIP Amon David De Souza RIP 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>6.00pm Junior Praesidium (hall)</b> <b>7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</b>	Lourdes D’Cruz – Thanksgiving Fr John Ehichioya RIP Anniv
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b> <i>Day for Victims of Trafficking</i>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Victor D’Costa RIP
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>10.30 – 12noon Adoration</b> <b>6.00pm Mass for the sick</b> <b>6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</b>	Kenneth Childs – Unwell
<b>Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>9.00 - 9.20am Divine Mercy Prayers</b> 9.30am Mass <b>10.00 – 10.30am Confessions</b> <b>5.00 – 5.30pm Confessions</b> 6.00pm First Mass of Sunday	Paul Etuka RIP  Christine Monahan – Thanksgiving
<b>Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February</b> <i>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</i>  <i>World Day of Prayer for the sick</i>	9.30am Mass 11.30am Mass <b>5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	The Etuka Family – Special Intentions Christian Ilunga & Ilunga Family – Thanksgiving & Wellbeing  For the people of the parish

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

### RECEIPTS

Receipts for the month of December 2023, basket £2,717, standing orders £3,426, card reader £456, Total £6,599 –  
*thank you for your generosity*

Payment to Diocese for Diocesan assessments for the month of December 2023 - £4,985.

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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. Please see the poster for more details or call Alex 07827 611769 or Juliette 07958 537314.

### CONFIRMATION 2024

We are accepting requests from those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend on 4<sup>th</sup> February and 11<sup>th</sup> February. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

## **RECEIPTS**

For your information we will start to publish on a monthly basis the amounts that St Andrew's receives and the amounts payable to the Diocese too.

## **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.

We are sorry to say that the Warm Hub will not be open on **Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> February** due to a Deanery meeting being held on that day in the hall. With apologies for the inconvenience.

## **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 (on the table 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.

## **ST ANDREW'S UNDER 5'S MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP**

The group are looking for volunteers to help on a Monday morning, 9.30-11.30am. If you can help, please contact Maggie 07971882753 for more information.

### **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!

### **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.

### **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.

### **ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK**

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 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.

### **NATIONAL MARRIAGE WEEK**

This national event runs from February 7-14. For a rich resource of information, prayers and events please see the Bishops' Conference website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week-2024/>

### **BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE**

How to get the marriage you want out of the marriage you have. This course, either a morning online or a day face to face, is aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to make them better. There is no personal sharing between couples. Various venues around the diocese are used. For details and dates email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk)

### **CAFOD LENT FAST DAY**

The Lent Fast Day will be on Friday 23rd February. This year's appeal focuses on 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. The collection for the Lent Fast Day takes place on Sunday 25th February, with special envelopes being available nearer the time, more info [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk)

### **ST ANDREW'S AND CAFOD**

The church relies on people getting involved. Our parish, our community, our world needs you. Could your New Year's resolution be getting more involved in the life of our church? Which aspects of church brings you life or joy? Could you give a bit of time to help those parts flourish?

CAFOD, the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to give some time and join them in their mission. Could you help by visiting our local schools? Could you support local volunteers or share your admin or people skills to help CAFOD keep costs low? Training and support are provided. See [cafod.org.uk/Volunteer](http://cafod.org.uk/Volunteer) for more information or get in touch with [southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:southwark@cafod.org.uk) Or could you take part in The Big Lent Walk? [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk) (see poster in the porch)