

# ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

45 Brook Road

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RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

## **PASTORAL TEAM**

**Priests:** Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

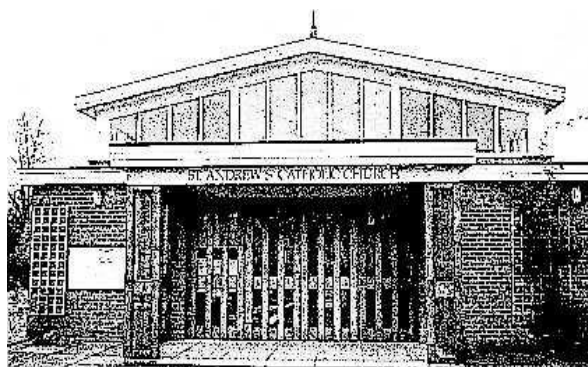
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

**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.*



## 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (B)

#### Message from Deacon Errol

#### **Jesus' Journey to the Cross for my Salvation**

Today we celebrate Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy week and Christian's journey with Christ through his triumphant entry into Jerusalem to do what his Father has asked of him. This journey led Jesus to the Cross, where He unite himself and us with the Father. We reflect on the journey to the Cross and what God has to go through in order to set us free from the bonds of sin and death, and put humankind on the path of eternal life with Him, and are invited to participate in the liturgies of Holy Week with hearts and minds open to God.

The liturgy of Holy Thursday marks the end of Lent as we begin the Triduum (The Mass of The Lord's Supper and also known as the Last Supper, Good Friday and Holy Saturday), three momentous days of the Christian History. Although chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day unfolding for us the mystery of our Salvation. Furthermore, each of these three liturgies comes with own rituals or symbols. During the Mass of the Lord's Supper, we will witness the enactment of Jesus washing of the disciples' feet. This is an act of service to each other, which Jesus is calling each true Christian to be of service to each other.

On Good Friday, we enter the liturgy in silence. The Church gathers at this service to mourn and pray to God. Here the ritual is the Veneration of the wood of the Cross. We prepare ourselves with reverence and deep reflection as we approach the Cross, because our Saviour was nailed and gave his life for us there. We want our gesture to be able to ritualize our acceptance for the love, forgiveness and everlasting life that flows from the cross. We want to feel the love of Jesus, to feel it as being "for me."

On Holy Saturday, the Church keeps vigil and awaits the Resurrection. On this day, those who have come to believe in the Lord (the Elect), are baptised and become full members of the Church and the baptised renew their baptismal promises. The symbolism here is going through waters of baptism to die to sin and rise to new life in Christ.

As we look forward to new life in Christ, may we continue to grow in Faith, Hope and Love in the in Christ. May the Lord grant us the grace to participate well in this sacred time leading up to Easter. Amen.

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

**Isaiah 50:4-7**

**I did not cover my face against insult, I know I shall not be shamed**

**Psalms 21**

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?**

**Philippians 2:6-11**

**He humbled himself, but God raised him high**

**Mark 14:1-15:47**

**The passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark**

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord</i>  <i>Palms blessed and distributed at all Masses</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	Easter Vigil Mass	Victor De Menezes RIP Mary Retema RIP Paul Etuka RIP
	9.30am	Mass – <i>please gather in hall</i>	
	11.30am	Mass – <i>please gather in hall</i>	For the people of the parish
	<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 25<sup>th</sup> March</b>	7.30am	Mass	Apolonia and Carol Okoroafor RIP Errol Quagraine Jnr
	10.00am	Mass	
	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Parish Penitential Service/ Confessions</b>	
<b>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March</b>	7.30am	Mass	Andradi Family - Wellbeing Manyara Nzara RIP
	10.00am	<b>Funeral Mass</b>	
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Mass</b>	Power & Fennelly Families (F)
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Junior Praesidium (hall)</b>	
	<b>7.30pm</b>	<b>Legion of Mary (hall)</b>	
<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Mass – <i>Mass of the Lord's Supper</i></b>	For the people of the parish
<b>Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>Good Friday</i> <i>A day of fasting and abstinence</i>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>	
	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Children's Stations of the Cross</b>	
	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Walk of Witness followed by lunch in the hall</b>	
	<b>3.00pm</b>	<b>Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday</b>	
<b>Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March</b> <i>Holy Saturday</i> <i>Easter Vigil</i>	<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>Easter Vigil Mass</b>	For the people of the parish
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March</b> <i>Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord</i>  (clocks forward 1 hour)	9.30am	Mass	In Honour of Our Lady of Africa Grace Constance Quagraine RIP Anniv
	11.30am	Mass	
	<b>7.00 - 9.00pm</b>	<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	

Church cleaners: this week: Youth Club, next week: Charismatic Group

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### LENT 2024

#### Palm Sunday

Our observance of Lent culminates in the solemn celebrations of Holy Week when on Palm Sunday we follow Christ from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to the foot of the Cross as sorrowful bystanders to His Passion, before rolling back the stone of the empty tomb and the joy of the Resurrection.

Palms will be blessed and distributed at all Masses. For the 9.30am and 11.30am Masses, please gather in the hall before Mass starts for the procession into the Church.

#### 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 12noon on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. All are most welcome.

### **Children's Stations of the Cross**

On March 29<sup>th</sup> we will have the Children's Stations of the Cross at 10am. All children are invited to be part of the service. We will need singers, banner carriers, readers and actors. Please let Bernadette know if you can be there and help. Thank you.

### **Good Friday – Walk of Witness**

Please join us for the Walk of Witness on Good Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> March. This is organised by members of churches in Thornton Heath. We always have a good turn-out from St Andrew's Church so we look forward to seeing you all there again. Please meet outside the Job Centre in Thornton Heath High Street at 11.45am - see the poster for more details.

### **Good Friday CAFOD lunch**

Everyone is warmly welcome to come along on Good Friday to the church hall (following the Walk of Witness) from 12.45pm onwards for a light lunch of soup and rolls to be held in aid of CAFOD who are working for those most in need of our generous support.

### **Easter poster**

Please collect your Easter poster which should be put on your window on Palm Sunday and not showing "He Is Risen" until Easter Sunday and then taking the poster down on Easter Monday.

### **Easter card**

Please take home with you our Easter card with all the information about our services for Easter.

### **Easter envelopes for Priests**

Please take an Easter envelope which is the personal Easter collection for our Priests of the parish.

### **SECOND COLLECTION FOR FLOWERS THIS WEEKEND**

The cost of flowers, as with everything else, has increased! This weekend, 24<sup>th</sup> March, if you would like to help us to provide flowers for our Church, please donate this weekend, however small. Thank you.

### **CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY GROUP**

The group will be meeting today Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March following the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

### **MASS WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

Please note there will only be one Mass on this day at 8.00am as our Priests will be attending the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral.

### **SECOND COLLECTION ON GOOD FRIDAY**

The collection will be for Holy Places: the places connected with Our Lord's Passion have always been centres of veneration and pilgrimage. This Good Friday collection is sent for their upkeep, and to help maintain Christian schooling in the area.

### **GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2024/2025**

Gift Aid Envelopes 2024/2025 are now available for collection, kindly come to collect your boxes after mass. As always please accept a big thank you for your kind and generous donations in support of St Andrew's parish. We encourage you to sign up to donate online, standing order/direct debit or via the contactless machine in the porch. This saves a lot of administration on envelopes. If you are a UK taxpayer, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration Form available at the back of the church or speak to Fr Anthony. In doing so, the parish will receive from HMRC £2.50 for every £10 you donate. The boxes will be placed on the shelf by the side of the font. There will be a list identifying your names and envelope numbers for your reference just in case you could not remember your envelope number.

### **PARISH SURGERY**

Please note there will be no parish surgery on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March as we will be holding our parish penitential service followed by the school holidays. We will resume on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### **MASS FOR THE SICK**

There will be no Mass of the sick until after Easter.

## **ADORATION**

There will be no Adoration on Friday until after Easter.

## **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**

There will be no Divine Mercy Prayer on Holy Saturday morning but will resume on Saturday 6th April at 9am. The Divine Mercy Novena is attached to this newsletter in preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday on 7th April. The novena begins on Good Friday. All are very welcome to attend.

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

Thank you to everyone who has already returned their forms. If you would still like to donate to our repair works to the Church and hall roofs, 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). 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 GOLDEN CLUB**

St. Andrews Golden Club event to be held on Bank Holiday Monday - 1st April, has now been sold out. Thank you to all who expressed an interest. You can still purchase raffle tickets should you wish. Some of our raffle prizes are - tickets to Hampton Court Palace Tulip Festival or tickets to the Artisan Festival, M&S Hamper, a Luxury Spirits and Wine Hamper, 2 Mystery Prizes, Progliss Revamp Air Hair Styler, Yankee Candle Set, Russell Hobbs Rapid Digital Air Fryer, Pamper Hamper for Her, Electric Egg Boiler, Limited edition Dairy Cookbook, Gin and Tonic selection and many more. Raffle tickets are £1 per strip or 6 strips for £5. All profits will go towards the renovations of the church. Raffle tickets are available from Juliette on 07958 537314.

## **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.

## **WARM HUB**

Our Warm Hub has now closed for this winter. A big thank you to everyone who helped with our Warm Hub – we look forward to welcoming you all back in October!

## **REPOSITORY**

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

## **MASS REQUESTS AND OFFERINGS**

Please post your Mass Offering envelopes through the Presbytery door. There are envelopes in the porch which can be handed in to the collection baskets or give to Father after Masses.

## **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.

## **CATHEDRAL MASS CELEBRATING MARRIAGE**

If you are celebrating your 1<sup>st</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/40<sup>th</sup>/50<sup>th</sup>/60<sup>th</sup> or any later wedding anniversary this year, you are invited to renew your marriage vows at a Mass to be celebrated at St George's Cathedral, Southwark, at 3pm on July 13<sup>th</sup>. Close family members can attend with you. In order to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, email to [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk) the following details: your full names, address, phone number, anniversary being celebrated and parish. The deadline for applying is May 31<sup>st</sup>.