

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

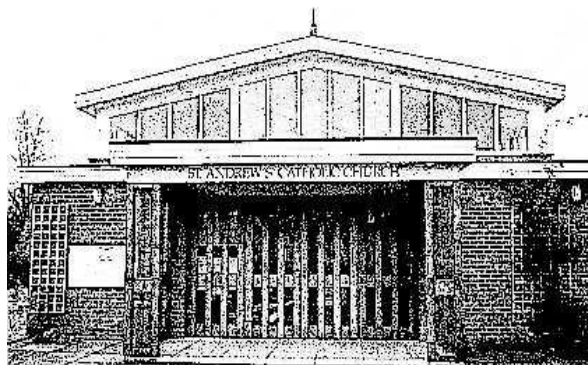
Priests: Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

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.



3rd March 2024 3rd Sunday of Lent (B)

Message from Deacon Errol

Be Reconciled

The primary purpose of Lent is that God may have His way with us, in other words, we subject our will to the will of God. It is a personal choice we make in this season of grace, as we fall short of all God wants us to be and in need of constant repair. Because we are unable to repair the damage our sin has caused to our relationship with God, Jesus came to show us the way. Scripture tells us, life and death is set before us – *Deuteronomy 30:15* however, the choice is ours. To help God's chosen people, Israel, God gave the Law to Moses, but human as they are, they did not abide by it. Therefore, God sent Jesus to fulfil the Law, so that those who believe in Jesus are not bound by the Law, but by the commandment Jesus, 'to love God and neighbour'. Jesus said, 'I have come, that you may have a life that is complete'. *John 10:10* So, He took our sins that brings ultimate death upon Himself and nailed it to the cross, to remind us of what sin can do to us whenever we see the cross. Our brokenness has brought about a broken world, where love is misunderstood in a confused generation.

Our love for God has diminished and gradually being replaced with other things; hence our concept of love has also changed to the point that we don't recognise sin anymore. Jesus came to the world to seek the lost, and Lent offers us the opportunity to change our ways and allow God to have His way with us. God loves us and wants to prepare us for his eternal kingdom. We can only gain admittance to the eternal kingdom through Christ Jesus and His work of reconciliation on the Cross (*2 Corinthians 5:17-21*) Jesus paved the way for sinful man to be reconciled with a holy and righteous God. May we listen to the still small voice of the Holy Spirit, deep in our hearts, telling us to 'repent and turn back to God'. *Acts 3:19-20*.

To the only God our Saviour who is able to keep us from stumbling and to present us before His glorious presence without fault and with great joy be glory, majesty, and power through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This Sunday's Readings

Exodus 20:1-17	The Law was given through Moses
Psalms 18	You, Lord, have the message of eternal life
1 Corinthians 1:22-25	Here we are preaching a crucified Christ, an obstacle to men, but to those who are called, the wisdom of God

Diary for the Week

Sunday 3rd March <i>3rd Sunday of Lent</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Luis Gomes RIP Ruby D'Souza RIP Paul Etuka RIP
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00pm	Mass	For the people of the parish
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 4th March	7.30am	Mass	Mrs Venie Pinto - Wellbeing Ronish – Thanksgiving and Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
	7.00 – 9.00pm	Parish Surgery	
Tuesday 5th March	7.30am	Mass	Pat Holland RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Wednesday 6th March	7.30am	Mass	Joseph HS Underwood RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Junior Praesidium (hall)	
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 7th March	7.30am	Mass	Adrian Freeman RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 8th March	7.30am	Mass	Christina Etuka – Special intentions
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.00pm	Mass for the sick	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
	8.00pm	Stations of the Cross	
Saturday 9th March	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	Katherine Hynes – Wellbeing
	9.30am	Mass	
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 10th March <i>4th Sunday of Lent</i> <i>Mother's Day</i>	9.30am	Mass (RCIA 2 nd Scrutiny)	Noel Rozairo RIP Paul Etuka RIP
	11.30am	Mass	
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00pm	Mass	For the people of the parish
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

FR ANTHONY

Fr Anthony will be away from Wednesday 28th February to Wednesday 6th March. The office will also be closed from Wednesday 28th February to Monday 4th March, we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. During this time please see Fr Brendan for any urgent matters.

LENT 2024

Stations of the Cross

Please join us on Friday evenings at 8.00pm and also on Fridays after the 10am Mass.

Parish Penitential Service

Please join us for our Parish Penitential Service on Monday 25th 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 4th, Monday 11th and Monday 25th March. All are most welcome.

Children's Easter sponsored walk

On March 23rd, the children of the parish will be taking part in a sponsored walk to raise money for the maintenance of the parish. They will be walking around the Recreation Park four times, please can our parishioners help to support them by sponsoring them. After the walk there will be an Easter party for the children and their families with food and games. All are welcome. Please let Bernadette know if you are coming 07729322571. Thank you.

On March 29th 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.

NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

The group will be meeting today Sunday 3rd March in the hall following the 11.30am Mass.

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 1st 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”. Thank you all very much for your support.

PARISH SURGERY

Please note that there will not be a parish surgery on Monday 4th March as Fr Anthony will be away. The next one will be on Monday 11th March.

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

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

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

There will be no Adoration on Fridays until after Easter as there will be Stations of the Cross after the 10am Mass.

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.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY GROUP

The group will be meeting on Sunday 10th March following the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 9th March 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.

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.

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. Tickets on sale after Saturday and Sunday Masses or available from Juliette on 07958 537314 or Jason on 07507 472288. See the poster for more details.

CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL

Thank you for giving to CAFOD's appeal this Lent. Your generous donations will support families around the world and help them with the resources to feed their families for good. You can still give online at cafod.org.uk

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 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 16th 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.

CATHEDRAL MASS CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

If you are celebrating your 1st/10th/25th/40th/50th/60th 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 13th. Close family members can attend with you. In order to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, email to mflsw@rcaos.org.uk the following details: your full names, address, phone number, anniversary being celebrated and parish. The deadline for applying is May 31st.

ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK DAY PILGRIMAGE

For the Year of Prayer 2024 Bishop Philip Moger has arranged a Diocesan day pilgrimage to Our Lady at Walsingham, Norfolk on Saturday 27th April. Bishop Philip will be leading the day itself. Coaches have been arranged so far from three parishes; Virgo Fidelis Upper Norwood, St George's Cathedral and Precious Blood in Borough. If you would like to join the pilgrimage please see the poster for contact information and costs.