

# 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.

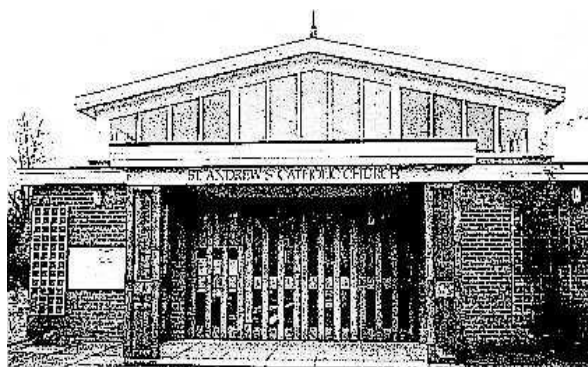
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

**Deacon:** 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.*



12<sup>th</sup> May 2024  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (B)

## Message from Fr Anthony

### **THEME: THAT THEY MAY BE ONE**

Jesus has gone up to heaven. We still receive His teaching in His Word and in His Spirit. These days are deeply important in calling on the Spirit to deepen us in faith and in living that faith in love.

The Acts of the Apostles today tells us of the choice of Matthias to take the place of Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus. There is some sense that the number of the apostles must be kept. This does not seem to last long in the early Church. Rather the Church begins to recognise that the office of apostle can be passed along to more than just twelve. Nevertheless, the office of apostle is important and we hear it echoed throughout all of the New Testament. The First Letter of John today tells us that we know that we remain in Him and He is us because He has given us of His Spirit. Today we must pray that this Spirit come upon us even more strongly so that we are strengthened, as were His early followers, to give witness and testimony, even to the point of seeming foolish.

John's Gospel today contains that wonderful prayer of Jesus: keep them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one just as we are one. What an incredible prayer for us! That we may be one! So much one that we are one just as the Father and His Son are one! Beyond anything that we could imagine. Yet we must pray for this gift of unity.

The Church is what unites us because the Church is Christ present in our world. We so often see only the blemishes, the sinfulness, the scandals, and the brokenness. So many saints have been able to see all of that and still recognise that the Church is Christ present in our world. That is a grace of the Holy Spirit for which we can pray. The Church is you and me. The Church is all of us united with the Pope of Rome and with the bishops in communion with Him. The Church is you and me, accepting the teachings that have been handed and the teachings that are still given to us. The Church is Christ incarnated in our world today. May we each have a special gift of the Spirit so that we can see Christ suffering in His Church for the salvation of us all.

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

**Acts 1:15-17, 20-26**

**Psalms 102**

**1 John 4:11-16**

**John 17:11-19**

**We must choose one of these to be a witness to his resurrection with us**

**The Lord has set his sway in heaven**

**Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him**

**That they may be one like us!**

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May</b> <i>7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</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>	Robert Rutledge RIP Anniv Mr & Mrs Jacintha & Darryl D'Cruz – Thanksgiving 39 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniv Chuks Etuka – Special intentions  For the people of the parish
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</b>	Mary Rettema RIP Maria Roz & Fernandes RIP
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am <b>Funeral Mass</b>	Andrew Da Cruz – Birthday Gemma Alma Moses RIP
<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>6.00pm Junior Praesidium (hall)</b> <b>7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</b>	Angela Berriman RIP Past members of the Durkin Family
<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00pm Fr Anthony's Induction Mass with Bishop Philip Moger</b>	Paul Etuka RIP Adele Rutledge – Blessings
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>10.30 – 12noon Adoration</b> <b>6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</b>	Antonio Gonsalves RIP 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv Sr Mary Martin RIP
<b>Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May</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	Adele Rutledge – Blessings  Antonio Gonsalves RIP 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv
<b>Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May</b> <i>Pentecost Sunday</i>	9.30am Mass ( <b>RCIA Sending Forth</b> )  11.30am Mass <b>5.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b> 6.00pm Mass <b>7.00 - 9.00pm Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	Mr & Mrs Charles Nkamuo & Family – Thanksgiving & Wellbeing Lucas, Ubaldina, Sylvia & Amon De Souza RIP  For the people of the parish

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

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### FR ANTHONY'S INDUCTION MASS

Fr Anthony Saffa is delighted to invite you all to his Induction Mass as Parish Priest of St Andrew's Church. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Philip Moger on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 7.00pm. There will also be a small reception in our hall following the Mass. Please do come along and join Fr Anthony in the celebrations.

### SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: WORLD COMMUNICATIONS SUNDAY

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seeks to be of service both to the Church and the world in offering professional channels of communication and provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales and wider Church in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues.

### 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.

## **THANK YOU**

A big thank you to all our children in the Liturgy Group, and their families, who held a sponsored walk in aid of our Church repairs. A fantastic £847.30 was raised! It was a wonderful day for a walk, Fr Anthony was also there, and everyone had fun. Fr Anthony would especially like to thank the helpers and parents too who got involved and he says, "rest assured that I will always keep you all in my daily prayers". Thank you all again.

## **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.

## **DAN TURNER'S ORDINATION TO THE PERMANENT DIACONATE**

We congratulate Dan Turner who is receiving his Ordination to the Permanent Diaconate. This will be held on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July at 12:30pm and the Ordination will be conducted by Archbishop John Wilson at St. George's Cathedral.

Please diarise and it would be wonderful to see as many parishioners at the service as possible in support of Dan. Once again, congratulations to Dan.

## **PARISH DAY OUT TO AYLESFORD**

Once again we shall have a parish day out to Aylesford on the 20th July. The cost will stay the same as last year at £20 per adult and £10 per child. We hope that this year more people will be able to join us before the summer holidays are in full swing. Coaches need to be booked and so we will be taking names, mobiles and payment after each Mass this Sunday.

## **NEW ALTAR SERVER APPLICATIONS**

Applications are now open for those young people in Year 5 and above who wish to become an Altar Server. The application forms may be found at the back of the church. The forms should be returned to the Priests' house by Friday 24th May latest.

## **MASS FOR THE SICK**

Please note that we are now only holding one Mass for the Sick on the last Friday of every month at 6.00pm. Please let all your family and friends know - come and receive God's healing and anointing.

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

There are still a few Gift Aid Envelopes 2024/2025 for collection, nos: 8, 25 and 139. The boxes are placed on the shelf by the side of the font.

## **REPOSITORY**

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

## **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.

## **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Please join us every Sunday evening before the 6pm Mass starting at 5.00pm and finishing at 5.45pm.

## **WEEKLY MASS IN CROYDON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

There will be regular weekly Masses in the hospital. Mass will be on every Wednesday at 12noon in the Chapel. All are most welcome.

## **GHANAIAN COMMUNITY MEETING**

The group will be meeting on Sunday 19th May in the hall after the 11.30am Mass.

## **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: PENTECOST SUNDAY – SPIRITAN COLLECTION**

This collection is for the Holy Ghost Fathers and the missionary work carried out worldwide. Your support for this important work will be most welcome. You can use an envelope (The Spiritans) from the porch. Thank you.

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

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our repair works to the Church and hall roofs, Work has now begun to tackle the most urgent problems. Fr Anthony says “I am well aware of the financial struggle that everyone is going through at the moment which is why I am most grateful that you can donate this money to us. I will keep you all in my daily prayers. Thank you all again”. Please speak directly with Fr Anthony if you would like more information and you can still donate to us – please hand directly to Fr Anthony.

## **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.

## **MASS OFFERING BOOKINGS AND DONATIONS THROUGH PAYPAL**

If you would like to use the facility to book your mass intentions and make donations through Paypal, please go on our website where you will find the “Donations” menu. Please follow the instructions given there. Mass bookings can still be booked in the normal way using envelopes in the porch. Please post your Mass Offering envelopes through the presbytery door or hand over to a Priest.

## **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 a few groups 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.

## **THE ALL NATIONS CHARISMATIC GROUP (ANCCG)**

The All Nations Catholic Charismatic Group (ANCCG) would like to invite you all to the ‘Life in the Spirit Seminar’ programme which started on 7<sup>th</sup> April until 2<sup>nd</sup> June here at St Andrews. This seminar is to take place in line with Pope Francis’ address to the worldwide retreat for clergy to organise seminars of Life in the Spirit in parishes. The programme will consist of talks on various topics every Sunday from 7-9pm by prominent speakers helping the participants to be ignited with the power of the Holy Spirit. All are most welcome to come along.

## **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>.

## **ACT NOW TO STOP DIY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH**

MPs Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy have both tabled amendments to the Government’s Criminal Justice Bill that would decriminalise abortion. In different ways, they would essentially legalise DIY abortion up to birth, for any reason. Please contact your MP urgently, asking them to oppose these extreme proposals. You can do this using SPUC’s easy to use webtool, at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments>. The Bill will be debated on 15th May, so please contact your MP now. Please pray for the defeat of these amendments, for protection of unborn babies, and help and comfort for mothers in need.