

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

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RC Archdiocese of Southwark - A Registered Charity No. 1173050

PASTORAL TEAM

Priests: Fr Anthony Saffa C.S.Sp.

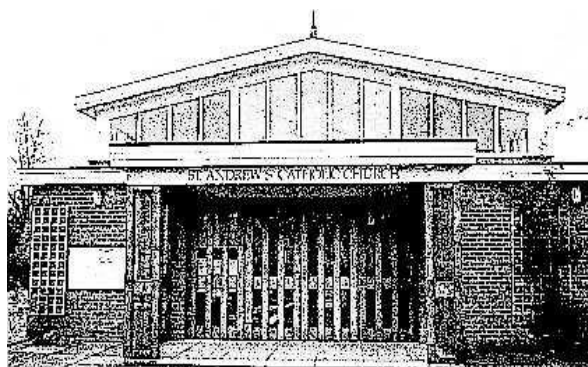
Fr Brendan Ona C.S.Sp.

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.



26th May 2024 The Most Holy Trinity (B)

Message from Fr Anthony

Theme: The Most Holy Trinity, Our Model Of Unity

Today we celebrate one of the greatest mysteries of our Christian faith, the Holy Trinity. This celebration reminds us that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are working together. They are never separated, though; each one of them is a distinct divine person. There is unity of essence and relation within the three divine persons.

In our first reading, Moses reminds us, of the wonderful and mysterious nature of the works of God. In order words, that it takes a loving and mysterious God to accomplish such a wonderful and mysterious task of salvation. Hence, he encourages us to strengthen our faith in God by simply obeying his commandments.

In today's gospel, Christ himself revealed the mystery of the three divine persons to us. He revealed this with a mandate: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the son and of the Holy Spirit." This is the Trinitarian formula. So, any sincere prayer offered in the name of the Holy Trinity bears a mark of excellence.

Today, the church reminds us that the three divine persons are not divided in their actions of grace. Instead, they work and walk together. They have the same mission, which is, the salvation of the world. The Father sent the Son to redeem the world (Jn 1, 1-3). And the Father and the Son sent us the Holy Spirit as our Counsellor and Advocate (Act 1, 8. 2). None of them have absolute dominance of a particular period or time. This is because, in spite of being three distinct persons, they have one essence. They are eternally one and united.

So, the prayer of Christ to the father: "May they be one, as we are One" (Jn 17:22), is a prayer that arises from Trinitarian love. Therefore, the whole church, and each family that forms the universal Church is the sacrament of the Trinity, and as such must be characterised by love and unity.

Therefore, what we celebrate today is a model for our unity. We have many lessons to learn from the Holy Trinity. The most important is that, like the Holy Trinity, we can live and work together as one family of God. This is because, we bear one and the same image of God, and were baptised by the same Spirit of God whose mark we bear (Eph 4, 30). So, in spite of our individual personalities and differences unity is possible and a fundamental option.

Hence, today's celebration has much to teach us about unity in our relationships, friendships, marriages, families, communities. It also reminds us that in spite of our different talents, gifts, social, and economic levels, we can live and work together for our salvation and our salvation of the world.

Finally, the celebration of the Holy Trinity reminds us that if we remain united, our different personalities would become our strength, rather than our weakness or the cause of our disintegration. For their love and unity, let us praise the Most Holy Trinity: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, Amen.

This Sunday's Readings

Deuteronomy 4:32-34, 39-40	The Lord is God indeed, in heaven above as on earth beneath, he and no other
Psalms 32	Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own
Romans 8:14-17	You received the spirit of sons, and it makes us cry out, 'Abba, Father!'
Matthew 28:16-20	Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit

Diary for the Week

Sunday 26th May <i>The Most Holy Trinity</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	Raphael Etuka – Good health & wellbeing
	9.30am	Mass (RCIC First Communion)	Ronald Haslam RIP
	11.30am	Mass	Agnes Amma Nsiah RIP Anniv
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00pm	Mass	For the people of the parish
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 27th May <i>Spring Bank Holiday</i>	10.00am	Mass	For Our Suffering Souls Anniv (FOSS)
Tuesday 28th May	7.30am	Mass	Oliver Danso-Dapaah – Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	Tom Corduff RIP
Wednesday 29th May	7.30am	Mass	Ann Dempsey RIP
	10.00am	Mass	Ida Moraes RIP
	6.00pm	Junior Praesidium (hall)	
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 30th May	7.30am	Mass	Adele Rutledge – Blessings
	10.00am	Mass	For all souls in Purgatory RIP
Friday 31st May <i>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	7.30am	Mass	Paul Etuka RIP
	10.00am	Mass	Anu Alfonso – Birthday
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.00pm	Mass for the sick	
Saturday 1st June	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	
	9.30am	Mass	Josephine Fernandes RIP
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	
	11.00am	Confirmations with Bishop Philip Moger	
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	Helene Grima RIP
Sunday 2nd June <i>The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)</i>	9.30am	Mass	Henry, Muriel, Hughie Rozario RIP
	11.30am	Mass	Paul Etuka RIP
	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: Charismatic Group

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

11.30AM MASS THIS SUNDAY

This Mass will be sung in Latin. We will be singing the Missa De Angelis Mass. We hope that you will all be able to join in.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The Children's Liturgy is on Sundays during 9.30am Mass, term-time only. All children are welcome to come in now above the age of 3 years.

NIGERIAN CATHOLIC COMMITTEE

The group will be meeting today Sunday 26th May following the 11.30am Mass in the hall.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES CAKE SALE

Thank you to all those who supported the Confirmation candidates with their cake sale last weekend on Sunday. They made the great amount of £97.73 for their two charities of CAFOD and The Sickle Cell Society.

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 begin. Coaches need to be booked and so we will be taking names, mobiles and payment after each Mass this Sunday.

MONDAY 27TH MAY

This day is the Spring Bank Holiday and there will be no 7.30am Mass and no Parish Surgery in the evening. The 10am Mass will be on as normal.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to all our candidates for this year's First Holy Communion and Confirmations. Our sincere thanks to all our Catechists and helpers who have worked tirelessly to ensure that all our candidates completed their studies, making them ready to receive these two vital Sacraments. Please do keep all our candidates in your prayers.

CORPUS CHRISTI – 2ND JUNE

We are planning to have a Corpus Christi procession this year in the parish. The route is still being planned but we hope to let you know the details soon. Please diarise for this important event.

SUNDAY 30TH JUNE

On this day St Andrew's will be holding a special Cultural and International Day in our hall and also using the outside of the Church (please note there will be no parking). There will only be one Mass at 10.30am on that day (there will still be a 6pm Mass on Saturday evening). We are planning to hold various events which is being organised by our different groups and communities. On that day there will be lots of food to buy for lunch etc. Please keep the date free as we hope to welcome as many of our parishioners as possible (please pray for good weather!).

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.

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.

SR SHEILA MOLONEY

This year, our Sr Sheila Moloney, celebrates her 60 years of profession. To celebrate her on-going work and ministry in the hospital chaplaincy, and with the Vicariate of Religious, the Archdiocese has put together a video. Please do view online:

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/news-events/news/we-are-encountering-christ-at-each-bedside/>

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.

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 until 2nd 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Ida Moraes RIP who died on 15th May 2024. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Our condolences and prayers as a parish go out to the family. Funeral details will follow in due course.

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 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.

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.

CATHEDRAL MASS CELEBRATING MARRIAGE

This is the last week to apply so 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.

CATHOLIC MARITIME CHARITY STELLA MARIS

Catholic maritime charity Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) would like to invite you to an online update and thank you webinar to report back on the use of funds that parishioners have given over the last year. Please visit the webinar on Tuesday 28th May from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. You will hear about the impact of your generosity on the lives of seafarers, fishers, and their families. The CEO and chaplains will share inspiring stories of how they have helped seafarers and fishers through your support. To register for this virtual event, please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyou2024

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 amendments will be debated on 4th June, 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.