

# 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.

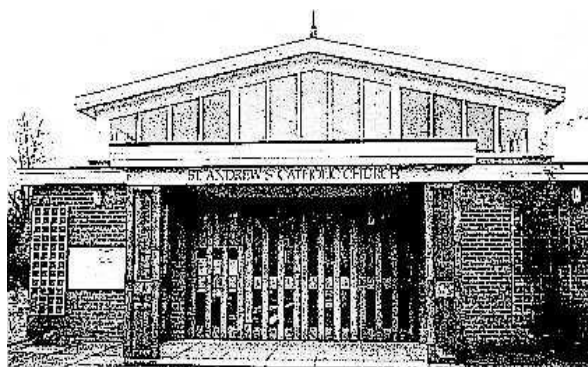
Fr Sylvester Oyeka C.S.Sp.

**Deacon:** Rev. Errol Quagraine, Rev. Dan Turner

**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.*



13<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year (B)

## Message from Fr Sylvester

### The Ultimate search for the Greatest Treasure

As long as one is on earth one's heart yearns for something more; a treasure that brings serenity, calmness and fulfillment. This quest is universal, yet its success hinges on making the right choices. But what guides these choices? Our orientation in life and exposure to moral values significantly influence our decisions. Amidst life complexities, we must dig deeper to uncover the greatest treasure. It is a journey that requires surrender to the Holy Spirit.

The first reading offers a profound insight into this quest. Wisdom is revealed as the ultimate treasure, surpassing silver, gold, thrones and scepters in value. It is more precious than health itself. This wisdom stands alone, unparalleled and unique. As St Thomas Aquinas so eloquently described, God is the embodiment of perfect wisdom. Therefore our search for the greatest treasure is in essence a search for God.

The second reading affirms that the word of God who is the perfect wisdom is living and active and sharper than any two edged sword. This implies that living by the word God, who is wisdom himself makes one alive and resistible to any force. The fear of God becomes the beginning of wisdom. In the same line the Gospel presents a man who is in search for eternal life and wanted to know from our Lord Jesus Christ what he would do.

Our Lord Jesus Christ did not recommend silver neither did he recommend Gold or diamond to the man in search of eternal life. He rather made an assertion; **“go and sell everything you have, give the money to the poor and follow me”**. This mere assertion scared the man, who was unable to give up his wealth, from our Lord Jesus Christ as he left him sorrowfully. The search for God is the search for wisdom and the discovery of the greatest treasure that gives perfect happiness to the soul. It is therefore very important to make a deeper reflection and give up those things that are irrelevant in our lives in order to have a better glimpse at that which gives sustainable happiness; the ultimate wisdom and the greatest treasure.

### This Sunday's Readings

Wisdom 7:7-11

Compared with wisdom, I held riches as nothing

Psalm 89

Fill us with your love that we may rejoice

Hebrews 4:12-13

The word of God can judge secret emotions and thoughts

Mark 10:17-30

Go and sell everything you own and follow me

## Diary for the Week

<b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October</b> <i>28<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>	Henry George Bailey Abigail Rodrigues – Birthday Goan Community: Feast of Our Lady of Fatima  For the people of the parish
<b>Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>7.00 – 9.00pm Parish Surgery</b>	All Souls in Purgatory RIP Peter Ebom RIP
<b>Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	The Andradi Family – Wellbeing Paul Etuka RIP
<b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>6.00pm Junior Praesidium (hall)</b> <b>7.30pm Legion of Mary (hall)</b>	Deacon Dan Turner The Souls in Purgatory
<b>Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass	Dexter Brown – Wellbeing Anna Maria D’Souza RIP
<b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	7.30am Mass 10.00am Mass <b>10.30 – 12noon Adoration</b> <b>6.30pm Brownies/Guides (hall)</b>	Power & Fennelly Families (F) Jacinta & Darryl D’Cruz – Thanksgiving
<b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October</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 <b>7-9pm St Andrew’s Youth Group</b>	Special Intention FP  Paul De Souza – Wellbeing
<b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b> <i>29<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Year</i>  <i>Mission Sunday</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>	Mr & Mrs Charles Nkamuo & Family- Thanksgiving & Wellbeing Edwin & Vincent Athayde RIP  For the people of the parish

Church cleaners: this week: Fifi’s Group, next week: Charismatic Group

### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2024

Receipts for the month of September (5 weekends), basket £3,759, standing orders £3,388, card reader £631,  
**Total £7,778 - thank you for your generosity**

Second collections for Catholic Education Service £331, for Home Mission £251 - *thank you*

Payment to Diocese for Diocesan assessments for the month of **September Total £5,534**

## St. Andrew's Parish Notices

### FOOD DONATIONS THIS WEEKEND FOR CHARITY NIGHTWATCH

This weekend on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October at the 9:30am Mass there will be a harvest collection for Nightwatch a charity which supports the homeless in Croydon. We are asking if you can help Nightwatch by bringing in donations of any food with a long shelf-life such as tinned soup, tins of fruit or vegetables and tinned meat as well as packets of rice and pasta. New toiletries are also welcome. The items will be collected during Mass by our Scout Group. We thank you for your support and thank you to Ian Carlyle for organising.

### CHILDREN’S LITURGY

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

### THE ST ANDREW’S GOAN COMMUNITY

The St. Andrew's Goan Community in conjunction with The Goan Association (UK) invites you to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima today at 11.30am on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October. Holy Mass will be followed by Adoration, Benediction

and Rosary. You are warmly invited into the hall for a hot lunch. Should you wish to make any donations towards the hot lunch in cash or kind, these would be gratefully received. For further details, please contact Domenica Pires on 07854 347414 or Juliette DeMenezes-D'Costa on 07958 537314

### **CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION**

The CAFOD Family Fast Day was on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October, the feast day of Saint Francis of Assisi. Last weekend we asked you to donate using the CAFOD envelope but if you would still like to support them you can still use the envelopes in the porch with your gift inside or give online [cafod.org.uk/envelope](https://cafod.org.uk/envelope)

### **RCIC CATECHISM GROUP**

This group is for children in Year 4 or older who have not been baptised or received their First Holy communion yet and would like to enrol on the preparation programme this year. Sessions take place on alternative Tuesdays at 6.30pm. For more information email John at [sdcmmeetings@gmail.com](mailto:sdcmmeetings@gmail.com)

### **RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)**

Are you interested in becoming a Catholic and joining the Church? Have you been baptised as a Catholic and would like to prepare to receive the Sacraments of the Holy Eucharist and/or Confirmation? Or would you like to learn more about the Catholic Faith? If the answer is "Yes", why not come along to the RCIA evenings on Tuesdays at 7.45pm in the church hall.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATIONS**

For the First Holy Communion programme 2025, we are asking parents of children who are in year 3 or 4 from September 2024 to register their children for the programme commencing in January 2025 using the link <https://forms.gle/K7ffkuyiRVYdxaLj9> (please note this is not for children in school year 5 and above).

### **ST ANDREW'S YOUTH GROUP**

The group are meeting in the hall on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 7-9pm. If you would like to join them, just come along and speak to the leaders for more info. Please see the poster in the porch for more details too.

### **WARM HUB**

The Warm Hub has started again on Tuesday mornings from 11.00am to 3.00pm. Please come along to the parish hall where you will receive a warm welcome. Hot drinks will be served and there will be a simple soup lunch available. All good reasons to pop in and see friends – any donations welcome.

### **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. Frs Brendan and Sylvester will be here to meet with you.

### **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.

### **EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

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

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

## **GHANAIAN COMMITTEE GROUP**

The group will be meeting on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October following the 11.30am Mass.

## **OCTOBER MONTH OF THE ROSARY**

October is a month dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. The Rosary is prayed each weekday after the 10am Mass and Saturday 9.30am Mass (Fridays 10.30 – 12noon Adoration). All welcome to join our Rosary Group.

## **SAVE THE DATE: CELEBRATION OF SR SHEILA'S 60<sup>TH</sup> RELIGIOUS LIFE, DIAMOND JUBILEE**

On Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm, you are all invited to the special Mass in celebration of Sr Sheila's 60<sup>th</sup> Religious Life, Diamond Jubilee, here at St Andrew's. Archbishop John Wilson will be celebrating the Mass followed by a small reception in the hall afterwards.

## **ST ANDREW'S FEAST DAY**

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November you are all invited to attend the 6pm Mass and this will be followed by a Fish & Chips supper in the hall – tickets available for sale from the beginning of October in celebration of the Feast of St Andrew's.

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY**

On the 7<sup>th</sup> December from 11am to 3pm, we will be having the parish Christmas party. Everyone is welcome, old and young! Tickets are £5 for children over 2 years. Children will get to meet Santa, receive a lovely gift, have lunch and have lots of fun and games. Tickets have already started to be sold and will go very quickly. Please text Bernadette on 07729322571 for tickets by the end of October.

## **PARISH NATIVITY PLAY**

Calling all budding actresses and actors, narrators, costume designers and dreamers. Our nativity play is on the 24<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm and will precede the 6.00pm Family Mass. Practices will start mid October. If you would like to take part, please let the Children's Liturgy leaders know.

## **MASS FOR THE SICK**

The next Mass for the Sick will be on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm. Please let all your family and friends know - come and receive God's healing and anointing.

## **SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, his charity for world mission, through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, use the Missio envelopes in the porch, call 020 7821 9755 or visit [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk). Please take home the Mission Today booklet.

## **DAY FOR PARISH READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

We encourage as many of our parish readers and Eucharistic Ministers to attend the day for Parish Readers and Eucharistic Ministers on the New Translation of the Lectionary which is soon to be brought into use. On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 11am – 4pm at the Sacred Heart Parish, Wimbledon. Please bring a packed lunch; tea and coffee provided. Register directly via [wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk). Please see the poster for more details.

## **THE CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES**

The CCRS is a knowledge-based, internationally recognised qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop's vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make an informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit [aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs](http://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs) for further information. Closing date for applicants this year is 4<sup>th</sup> November.

## **THE ARCHBISHOP'S CERTIFICATE**

The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course incorporating three in person study days for all in Southwark who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy. *"The course has given me a deeper knowledge and understanding about the Catholic faith, inspiring and enabling me to explain to others with quiet confidence what I firmly believe to be the truth."* The Archbishop's Certificate is in accord with Archbishop John Wilson's vision for a missionary archdiocese and is open to all who work towards this. The course started on 12 October and the first in person session will take place on 19 October at St George's Cathedral. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>. If you have any questions please email [archcert@aec.rcaos.org.uk](mailto:archcert@aec.rcaos.org.uk)