

ST. ANDREW'S CATHOLIC CHURCH – THORNTON HEATH

St. Andrew's Presbytery

45 Brook Road

Thornton Heath **Tel:** 020 8684 3013

Surrey CR7 7RD **E-mail:** thorntonheath@rcaos.org.uk

Website: www.standrewsthorntonheath.org.uk

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.

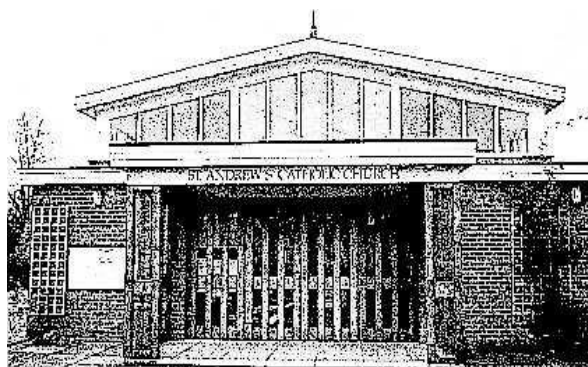
Fr Sylvester Oyeka C.S.Sp.

Deacons: 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.



3rd November 2024
31st Sunday of the Year (B)

Message from Deacon Errol

For our Eternal Life, Christ laid down His Life

The month of November is traditionally when we commemorate those who have given their lives in World Wars for the peace and freedom of others. For our today, they gave up their 'tomorrow'. We remember and are grateful for their sacrifice. We also remember and pray for our loved ones who have died. I reflect on the sacrifices made by others, and feel immensely humbled by such acts of selflessness. May we be filled with love for a person who continues to remind us of his sacrifice for righteousness, justice and peace and the gift of eternal life, even though we are unworthy; His name is Jesus. Whenever we see the Cross/Crucifix, we should remember that the price of our sin is fully paid: ***“For he was wounded for our wrongdoings ...for the Lord laid upon him the iniquity of us all.”*** Isaiah 53:5.

As we stand in silence to remember those who have given their lives in war and what their sacrifice achieved, we also remember the reason we are called Christians. ***“This is my body, which is broken for you.....”*** The Christian faith is about sacrifice and selflessness. Jesus said: ***“Greater love has no-one than this, for a person to lay down his life for his friends.”*** John.15:13. And that's what Jesus did for us. Being a follower of Jesus therefore requires making sacrifices and changing the way we live. Ask yourself, can I see my life in a different way, as a follower of Jesus?

The Cross and the Poppy are two great symbols of sacrifice. It's in remembering the battles Jesus fought; it's in remembering what His sacrifice achieved for us – that in His death and resurrection, we have our hope for the future and our confidence for today in the promise of eternal life. Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice, and is never the result of selfishness. May we continue to pray for those who have died, which is our spiritual act of mercy.

Eternal life, grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them. My their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

This Sunday's Readings

Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Psalm 17

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 12:28-34

Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart

I love you, Lord, my strength

Because he remains for ever, Christ can never lose his priesthood

This is the first commandment. The second is like it

Diary for the Week

Sunday 3rd November <i>31st Sunday of the Year</i>	6.00pm (Saturday)	First Mass of Sunday	November List Paul Etuka RIP Frank Duff & Deceased Legionaries RIP
	9.30am	Mass	
	11.30am	Mass	For the people of the parish
	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	
Monday 4th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Pam Freeman – Birthday & Wellbeing
	10.00am	Mass	
	7.00 – 9.00pm	Parish Surgery	
Tuesday 5th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Pasquelina (Rina) Fernandes RIP Sr Sheila Moloney dmj
	10.00am	Mass	
	7.00pm	Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson followed by celebration in the hall	
Wednesday 6th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Christine Hayward RIP 2 nd Anniv
	10.00am	Mass	
	6.00pm	Junior Praesidium (hall)	
	7.30pm	Legion of Mary (hall)	
Thursday 7th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Jessica Mary Badu RIP Birthday
	10.00am	Mass	
Friday 8th November	7.30am	Mass	November List Paul Etuka RIP
	10.00am	Mass	
	10.30 – 12noon	Adoration	
	6.00pm	Sacred Heart of Jesus Youth Prayer Group	
	6.30pm	Brownies/Guides (hall)	
Saturday 9th November <i>The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>	9.00 - 9.20am	Divine Mercy Prayers	November List
	9.30am	Mass	
	10.00 – 10.30am	Confessions	Edwiges Gonsalves – Birthday
	5.00 – 5.30pm	Confessions	
	6.00pm	First Mass of Sunday	
Sunday 10th November <i>32nd Sunday of the Year</i>	9.30am	Mass with Church parade	November List Joyce Bleasdille-Lumsden RIP 2 nd Anniv
	11.30am	Mass	
Remembrance Sunday	5.00pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	For the people of the parish
	6.00pm	Mass	
	7.00 - 9.00pm	Charismatic Prayer Group	

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

St. Andrew's Parish Notices

CELEBRATION OF SR SHEILA'S 60TH RELIGIOUS LIFE, DIAMOND JUBILEE

On Tuesday 5th November at 7.00pm, you are all invited to the special Mass in celebration of Sr Sheila's 60th Religious Life, Diamond Jubilee, here at St Andrew's. Archbishop John Wilson will be here to celebrate the Mass followed by a small reception in the hall afterwards. We will be presenting Sr Sheila with a gift from St Andrew's so if you would like to contribute, please take an envelope in the porch with your donation inside and hand to a priest – thank you.

ST ANDREW'S FEAST DAY

On Saturday 30th November in celebration of the Feast of St Andrew's, 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 this weekend adults £10, children to age 11 - £5.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

The group will be having a meeting in the hall this Sunday 3rd November following the 11.30am Mass.

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.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

During the month of November, the month of Holy Souls, we particularly remember and pray in a special way for those whom God has called from this life, especially members of our families and friends. A list of the deceased whose funerals took place here at St Andrew's will be displayed in the front of the Altar. Anyone who has a relative or friend who has died elsewhere in the last year should give in their names and date of death to the office or to one of the Priests and we will add your names to our November prayers.

If you would like to have any of your departed family and friends remembered, please take one of the special Holy Souls envelopes (in the porch) and enclose the names together with your offering and place in the basket before the Altar from the beginning and during the month of November. These envelopes will be brought up during each Mass in the month of November and we will say at least one Mass for those souls everyday. On Saturday 30th November at 9.30am we will hold our annual Bereavement Mass for those who have died in the last year, we hope you can join us.

ALL NATIONS CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC GROUP UK FOODBANK

The next one will be held in St Andrew's Church hall on Saturday 9th November approximately from 12.00–1.00pm. We would welcome any food donations, tinned, dry packets, etc. ***There is a box in our porch to collect any food donations. Please feel free to drop your food items in the box – thank you for your donations.***

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 sdcm meetings@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).

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. ***On Tuesday 5th November - please note the Warm Hub will not be on. We will return as normal the following week.***

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.

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.

The group would also like to invite all our parishioners to celebrate with them the Feast of Christ the King on Sunday 24th November at the 11.30am Mass followed by a reception in the hall afterwards.

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.

SACRED HEART OF JESUS YOUTH PRAYER GROUP

Deacon Dan together with members of the Junior Legion of Mary invite youngsters of all ages with your parents/guardians to attend the Sacred Heart of Jesus Youth Prayer Group every second Friday of the month. The next service is on Friday 8th November at 6.00-7.00 pm in St Andrew's Church. We are looking for young people who would like to sing, read, play an instrument and share your talents for Jesus. "Let the children come to me..." (Luke 18:16)

JOSEPH OKOROAFOR RIP

Many of you will know Joseph very well. Sadly Joseph passed away recently. Please pray for the happy repose of the soul of Joseph. His funeral details will be announced in due course. Our condolences and prayers as a parish go out to his family.

THE 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.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK FOR THE ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL

The Archbishop's Appeal funds three key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelization, Our Faith in Action (Caristas), and Clergy Care and Formation. Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve. Every gift is welcome – thank you.

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. No date or time can be guaranteed. Also, where a funeral occurs at 10am, this will take precedence.

WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUE

Please take home with you a copy of the World Gifts catalogue where you can buy lots of unique gifts for Christmas and help CAFOD to support those from all over the world.

CAFOD-DEC MIDDLE EAST HUMANITARIAN APPEAL

The conflict in the Middle East is getting worse and the families affected desperately need our help. CAFOD kindly asks if you can please donate today to the CAFOD-DEC Middle East Humanitarian Appeal and support our local Caritas partners in Gaza and Lebanon as they continue to provide essential food, water and shelter. Thank you for your donations cafod.org.uk/give. Please see the poster for more details.