



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University

Parish Priest - Fr. Kevin Stokes

Tel 020 8616 9583 email parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com

Parish Office - (Mon. - Fri. 9.00am - 4.00pm)

St. Raphael's Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 - 2NA
Church Manager Tel 020 8541 - 4999 email straphaelparishoffice@googlemail.com

Web. www.straphael.org.uk

14th December 2014 The Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday (B) Psalter week III

9.30am Family Mass Margaret O'Malley RIP
11.30am Sung Mass The deceased parents of Miss Hamerton Fraser
5.00pm Quiet Mass Pro Populo
Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm

Mon. 15 th December	Advent Feria
10.00am	Rev. Fr. John Moth RIP
Tue. 16 th December	Advent Feria
10.00am	The White & McCarthy Families
Wed. 17 th December	Advent Feria
12.00 noon	Fernand & Lucia de Yerteuil RIP
Thu. 18 th December	Advent Feria
10.00am	Tony & Monica Hamel-Smith RIP
(No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today)	
4.00pm	St. Joseph's School Carol Service
Fri. 19 th December	Advent Feria
10.00am	The Berni & Martin Families and Francesca Poulton
(A day of abstinence when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat)	
Sat. 20 th December	Advent Feria
10.00am	The victims of Ebola who have not had a proper Christian Funeral

21st December 2014 The Fourth Sunday of Advent, (B) Psalter week IV

9.30am Family Mass Patrick & Agnes Ward RIP
11.30am Sung Mass Denis Jennings
5.00pm Quiet Mass Pro Populo
(No Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament today)
Parish Carol Service & 6.30pm



If you would like a Sanctuary Lamp to burn night and day before the Blessed Sacrament either for yourself, a loved one or for a special intention please contact either the Parish Office or a sacristan. The recommended donation is £5. The lamps this week are burning for **Jack & Josephine Morgan**



We remember in prayer the sick and housebound of the Parish. We also pray for the medical profession and all carers.

Thank you for Last Sunday's Collections

£613.69 loose & £221.85 = £835.54
Plus £158.90 for the maintenance of St. George's Cathedral.

Tea and Coffee is served in Alexander House after the morning Masses on Sunday. Please join us and say hello!



Copies of **2015 Southwark Directory** are available at the back of the Church, they cost £3.00. Please put the money in the box marked 'Newspapers'

Confessions

Sundays -
9.00am - 9.20am
11.00am - 11.20am
4.30pm - 4.50pm
Saturdays -
10.30am - 11.00am
And at other times by reasonable request.

The Rosary is recited daily
Monday - Saturday before Mass
Sunday 4.00pm



HOSPITAL: If you, or a member of your family, are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform ward staff that you are Roman Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Eze. If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Kevin.

Parish Diary This Week

TUESDAY

No Parish Priest's Surgery
(Resumes 6th January)

Church Cleaning

9.00am
Church

Confirmation

7.00pm
The Upper Room

THURSDAY

No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today
(Resumes 5th February)

SATURDAY

Confessions.

10.30am - 11.00am
No 1st Holy Communion Classes
(Resumes 10th January)

SUNDAY

No Children's Liturgy
(Resumes 11th January)
Tea & Coffee in Alexander House after the morning Masses
No Rosary & Benediction
(Resumes 1st February)

Parish Carol Service
Followed by mulled wine and mince pies
6.30pm



Please turn off your mobile phone whilst in Church

Thank you

St. Joseph's Our Catholic Primary School

Head Teacher - Mrs Frances Robertson

The Fairfield, Kingston Upon Thames, KT1 - 2UP. T. 020 8546 7178

E. office@stjosephs.rbksch.org W. stjosephsprimary.net/

Boys & Girls Aged 3-11. Breakfast Club & After School Club.



GAUDETE SUNDAY

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first words of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice, the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts because of all that the birth of our Saviour means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John - "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Like Lent, Advent is a penitential season, so the priest normally wears purple vestments. But on Gaudete Sunday, having passed the midpoint of Advent, the Church lightens the mood a little and the priest wears rose vestments. We also light the rose coloured candle on our Advent wreath. The change in colour provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation—especially prayer and fasting—for Christmas.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

The collection taken at all Masses on Christmas Day is your personal offering to Fr. Kevin the parish priest. This collection forms part of his income to support his personal needs and expenses during the year ahead. Christmas Offering envelopes are available for your use at the back of the Church. (If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme, please use the special envelope in your packet.)

Thank you for your kind and generous support.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

Our parish primary school St. Joseph's needs to recruit three Foundation Governors, one of whom needs to have accountancy expertise. Diocesan policy requires that they to be practising Catholics and be recommended by the parish priest. In addition they are required to state their commitment to Catholic education and to agree to be DBS checked.

If you would like more information about the role of foundation governor, please speak to or email: Christine Byrne at clerk@stjosephs.rbksch.org or the Chair of Governors, Emma Piper at emma.piper40@hotmail.com

MONEY COUNTERS

We are preparing the next rota for the volunteers who count the Sunday Collection on Monday mornings. We need a couple more people to join the rota. If you could spare an hour and half on Monday mornings at 9.00am, once every four – six weeks, please contact Michael in the Parish Office.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL CAROL SERVICE

The Children from our Parish School, St. Joseph's will hold their annual Carol Service here at the Church on Thursday afternoon at 4.00pm. All are welcome.

SUNDAY MORNING TEA & COFFEE

Today is our last Sunday morning tea & coffee until the 4th January. Thank you to our volunteers who provide this each week.

Next Sunday

*St. Raphael's Parish
Carol Service*

Sunday 21st December at 6.30pm
Followed by mulled wine
& mince pies

All are welcome



'No Crib for a bed' - Our Crib offerings



Christ was born in a stable - a temporary place of refuge. This Christmas, hundreds of thousands of Christians in Syria and Iraq – the cradle of Christianity – who have been made destitute by war and targeted violence, desperately need our goodwill. Thousands of children, along with their families, have been uprooted from their homes and now live a precarious existence in temporary accommodation. Their whole community have been traumatised by their experiences.

During the week our Christmas Crib will be erected in the Church. This year our Parish Crib Offerings are being sent to "Aid to the Church in Need" to provide personalised Christmas parcels containing warm clothing, a Child's Bible, a devotional item, colouring books, pencils and sweets.

Please be as generous as you can.

MINCE PIES & VOLUNTEERS FOR OUR CAROL SERVICE

We need donations of mince pies for the Carol Service, please buy a box next time you are shopping and hand them into the Sacristy or Parish Office.

We also need some volunteers on the day to heat and serve the mince pies and clear the hall afterwards. If you can help, please contact the Parish Office.

CATHOLIC PAPERS

Each week, we have a number of unsold Catholic Papers and magazines, we are therefore going to review the number delivered each week. If you regularly buy a paper or magazine, please let Michael in the Parish Office know so we can assess the numbers needed.

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Today will be the last Sunday Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament for this year, (next Sunday we will have the Carol Service at 6.30pm) Sunday Benediction will resume on Sunday 1st February at 4.00pm. Thursday Exposition will resume on the 5th February.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Today will be the last children's liturgy until Sunday 11th January. Our thanks to all of our volunteers who work so very hard every week enabling the children to come to a deeper love and reverence of the Holy Mass.

4.00PM MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE

I invite all children who are attending the 4.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve to come dressed as angels, shepherds, or your favourite Saint. The children can come in procession with Fr. Kevin as we place baby Jesus in the crib.