

# 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 Deacon - Peter Sebastian

Tel 07921667679 email deaconpetersebastian@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](http://www.straphael.org.uk)

## 6<sup>th</sup> December 2015 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent (C) psalter week II

9.30am Family Mass	Raymond, Diana, Tony & Monica Hamel Smith & Fernand
11.30am Sung Mass	Kelly Dalgleish RIP
5.00pm Quiet Mass	Pro Populo

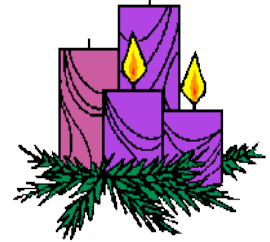
### Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm

Mon. 7 <sup>th</sup> December	St. Ambrose
10.00am	John Campbell
Tue. 8 <sup>th</sup> December	The Immaculate Conception
10.00am	Joseph Greene RIP (followed by refreshments in the hall)
7.30pm	Priest's Intention (Latin Mass in Extraordinary Form)
Wed. 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Requiem Mass
12.00noon	Brian John Marchant RIP
Thu. 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Feria
11.30am	Alfons Balinski RIP
(No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament today)	
Fri. 11 <sup>th</sup> December	St. Damasus
10.00am	Edward Black RIP
(A day of abstinence when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat)	
Sat. 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Our Lady of Guadalupe
10.00am	Fr. John Moth RIP

## 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday (C) psalter week III

9.30am Family Mass	Margaret O'Malley
11.30am Sung Mass	Pro Populo
5.00pm Quiet Mass	Colin Foster RIP

### Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm



Tea & Coffee after the 9.30am morning Mass today.



Please join us and say hello.

There will be **Children's Liturgy** today during the 9.30am Mass. Next Sunday will be the last session until the 10<sup>th</sup> January

**1<sup>st</sup> HOLY COMMUNION** Saturday in Alexander House at 10.30am

**Thank you for last Sunday's Collection**  
£576.08 loose  
£258.75 Gift Aid  
= £834.83



If you would like a Sanctuary Lamp to burn night and day before either the Blessed Sacrament or on Our Lady's Altar 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 Sanctuary Lamps this week are burning for **Bar and Rowland Eustace** the Lamp on Our Lady's Altar is burning for **In thanksgiving (Cecilia & Don)** the Lamp by St. Anthony's statue is burning for **Donor & Family**

### Confessions

#### Sundays -

9.00am - 9.15am & 4.30pm - 4.50pm

#### Saturdays -

10.30am - 11.00am

### CHURCH CLEANING

Wednesday mornings at 9.00am. Please spare half an hour to come and help.



### The Rosary is recited daily

Monday - Saturday before Mass and at 4.00pm on Sunday



**HOSPITAL:** If you, or a member of your family, are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform ward staff that you are a Roman Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Julian. (His number is 0208 942 2178) If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Kevin.

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

## 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](mailto:office@stjosephs.rbksch.org) W. [stjosephsprimary.net/](http://stjosephsprimary.net/)

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

### OUR PARENT & CHILDREN'S GROUP

Meets on Wednesday morning in Alexander House from 9.30am - 11.00am

This will be the last session until the 13<sup>th</sup> January

### R.C.I.A.

The R.C.I.A. group meets on Wednesdays at 7.30pm in the Alexander House Library.

**CONVERSATIONAL ITALIAN** takes place in the Library on Friday mornings at 10.30am - suggested donation of £1.50

### KINGSTON UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC STUDENT SOCIETY

Every Wednesday

5.00pm - 6.00pm Pastoral hour with Deacon Peter in The Quiet Room, Faith Centre, Kingston University, Penrhyn Road Campus. Followed by Catholic Society meeting at 6.00pm.

For more details contact Deacon Peter on number above

## THE YEAR OF MERCY



### 'Merciful like the Father'

Pope Francis has declared an Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy which will begin on Tuesday, the feast of the Immaculate Conception and the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. It will conclude on the 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016, the Feast of Christ the King. The theme chosen by the Pope is "Merciful Like the Father."

Sometimes, when we think of the word *mercy*, we picture someone throwing themselves on their knees before a cruel villain, pleading to be spared some punishment. This is not our understanding of God's mercy. We do not ask for God's mercy because we are afraid of incurring his wrath as punishment for our sins. Rather, when we call on God to have mercy, we are calling on God in the only way we know him—as one who responds with compassion to those in need. When we show mercy to others, we are responding as God responds - with compassion.

Pope Francis, in his Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, 'Misericordiae Vultus' - encourages us all to reflect on the Spiritual and Corporal Words of Mercy and to place renewed emphasis on the Sacrament of Confession. So that our Catholic witness may grow stronger and more effective.

*"Maybe some amongst us are thinking, My sin is so great, I am as far from God as the younger son in the parable of the Prodigal Son, my unbelief is like that of Thomas. I do not have the courage to go back, to believe that God can welcome me and that he is waiting for me, of all people. But God is indeed waiting for you - he asks of you only the courage to go to him. How many times in my pastoral ministry have I heard it said, "Father, I have many sins" I have always pleaded, "Do not be afraid, go to him, he is waiting for you, he will take care of everything." We hear many offers from the world around us - but let us take up God's offer instead - his is a caress of love. For God, we are not numbers, we are important. Indeed we are the most important thing to him. Even if we are sinners, we are what is closest to his heart."*

**Pope Francis**

## CHRISTMAS COLLECTION ENVELOPES

The collection taken at all Masses on Christmas Day is your personal offering to Fr. Kevin our 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.

## 8<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

### THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

On Tuesday to celebrate the great feast of the Immaculate Conception and the start of the "Year of Mercy" proclaimed by Pope Francis, we will have Mass at 10.00am followed by refreshments in the Hall. In the evening at 7.30pm we will have a Latin Mass celebrated in the Extraordinary Form. The celebrant will be Fr. Tom Lynch.

### 2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS & FLOWERS

There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection today to pay for the flowers and other decorations for the Church over Christmas.

### PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH MASS TIMES OVER CHRISTMAS

There are some bundles of cards at the back of the Church giving details of services over Christmas. Please take a bundle and post through your neighbours letter boxes or give one to anyone you know who may be thinking of coming to Mass over Christmas.

### CONCERT IN AID OF TYBURN CONVENT

"Light to the Nations" – a charity concert in aid of Tyburn Convent and its Mission Foundations - will be held at St. James' Church, Spanish Place, W1U 3QY on Saturday 2nd January at 7.30pm. The concert will include sacred songs and organ music. Tickets are on sale at Tyburn Convent or via the website: [www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/concert](http://www.tyburnconvent.org.uk/concert)

### Of your Charity

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Brian John Marchant. His Requiem Mass will be on Wednesday at 12.00noon

And Austin Merrifield whose funeral service will also be on the 9<sup>th</sup> December at 9.40am at Kingston Crematorium

**May They Rest in Peace**

*St. Raphael's Parish  
Carol Service*

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 6.15pm  
Followed by mulled wine  
& mince pies

*All are welcome*



### ST. ANTHONY'S LAMP

Thank you to the generous person who donated the new votive candle and holder by St. Antony's Statue. The candle burns for seven days and if you would like it to be lit for an intention, please contact Michael in the Parish Office. The suggested donation is £5.00

### BIG CHURCH CHRISTMAS CLEAN

We shall be having our big Christmas church clean on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 9.00am. **Please come along and help!**