



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

5th February 2017 - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) psalter I

9.30am Family Mass Peter Freeman
11.30am Mass with Hymns Patrick Munroe RIP
5.00pm Quiet Mass Pro Populo

Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament 4.00pm

Mon. 6th February St. Paul Miki & Companion Martyrs

NO MASS TODAY

Tue. 7th February Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am William Holder's welfare

Wed. 8th February St. Jerome Emiliani
12 noon Dorothy Hunter RIP

Thu. 9th February Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am Paul Ferro RIP

Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, praying for vocations to the priesthood. Concludes with Benediction at 12.00noon

Fri. 10th February St. Scholastica
10.00am Fr. Dominic O'Sullivan RIP

(A day of abstinence when Catholics are asked to abstain from eating meat)

Sat. 11th February Our Lady of Lourdes
10.00am Olga Villena Quelopana RIP

12th February 2017 - 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (A) psalter II

9.30am Family Mass Kate Freeman
11.30am Mass with Hymns Pro Populo
5.00pm Quiet Mass Peggy O'Neil & Brian Crowley RIP

No Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament today

Please note
No Mass on
Monday

APPOINTMENTS WITH FR. KEVIN

If you need to speak with Fr. Kevin regarding a pastoral or sacramental matter please email parishpriest.straphael@gmail.com to make a convenient appointment.

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. Julius, his number is **8 942 2178**.

If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Kevin.

CHURCH CLEANING

Every Wednesday at 9.00am - please come and help keep our church looking beautiful for Our Lord.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES

Saturday at 10.30am in Alexander House. (The programme is now full)

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sundays during the 9.30am Mass

RCIA

Meets on Fridays at 7.30pm in the Parish Library. For more information contact Deacon Peter whose details are on the Newsletter header.

SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE

After the 9.30am morning Mass today.

The Rosary is recited

Monday - Saturday before Mass

If you would like a Sanctuary Lamp to burn night and day before the Blessed Sacrament, the lamp on Our Lady's Altar or at St. Anthony's Shrine 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

- Russell Raymond's recovery
The Lamp on Our Lady's Altar is burning for
- Moira Kennedy

The Lamp at St. Anthony's Shrine is burning for
- The Gardiner Family



Confessions Sundays

9.00am - 9.20am &
4.30pm - 4.50pm

Saturdays

10.30am - 11.00am

We remember in prayer, the sick and housebound of the Parish.

We also pray for the medical profession and all carers.



KINGSTON UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC SOCIETY

St. Raphael's is the Catholic Parish Church for the University and students and staff are most welcome at all our Masses and other events in the parish. Deacon Peter is the Catholic Chaplain to the Kingston University Catholic Society and he is available to help and support all students and staff. (His contact details are at the top of this Newsletter).

STUDENT DISCUSSIONS

At the weekly meeting of the Society in the Parish Library after the 5 pm Mass, Deacon Peter is leading a series of discussions on key aspects of our faith. Today's subject is Scripture, Tradition and the Teaching Authority of the Church. Next week's subject is the Mass. All college and 6th Form students are most welcome to join in. For more information, please contact Deacon Peter.



St. Joseph's Our Catholic Primary School

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.

THANK YOU FOR LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

£489.42 Loose & £364.57 Gift Aid
= £853.99

JOHN DOBAI – SURVIVOR OF THE HOLOCAUST.

John Dobai will give a talk at Kingston University this coming Monday 6th February at 6.15pm. on how he survived the mass deportation of the Hungarian Jews to the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camp. See the poster in the church porch for more details.

2 VACANCIES AT RICHARD CHALLONER SCHOOL

LETTINGS OFFICER - to start as soon as possible.

Salary £10.00 per hour.

PREMISES MANAGER - to start July 2017 - 35 hours per week Salary £25,500 – £30,000 depending on experience/qualifications.

Full details of the school and these vacancies can be found at www.richardchalloner.com Or contact the Bursar, at bursar@challoner.kingston.sch.uk

GUIDED TOUR OF TYBURN CONVENT AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT MONDAY 27 FEBRUARY 3.30 – 5.30 PM

The Kingston University Catholic Society of students has organised a tour of Tyburn Convent near Marble Arch, central London. The convent has the relics of many Catholic martyrs executed at Tyburn in the 16th and 17th centuries. From the 12th century over 100,000 people were executed at Tyburn, including children for petty crimes. Today, the Convent is a great centre of prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. The Tyburn Nuns - the Benedictine Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus of Montmartre – welcome pilgrims and tourists from all over the world to visit the Shrine of the Martyrs at Tyburn. Their life is centred on Eucharistic Adoration for the glory of God and on prayer for the needs of the whole human family. Parishioners of the Deanery are most welcome to join the students on this visit. For further details, please contact Deacon Peter by the 20th February. (details on the front of the Newsletter).

KINGSTON STREET PASTORS

The street Pastors are looking to recruit more volunteers to go out on the streets of Kingston on Friday & Saturday nights. If you are interested, please contact Sue on tel. 07506 760562 or email admin@kingstonstreetpastors.org.uk

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

Next Sunday is 'Racial Justice Sunday' and there will be a 2nd collection to support the work of the Church in promoting racial Justice in our parishes, schools and wider society.

A GIFT FOR HUSBAND AND WIFE

March 4th, 9.45am - 4.30pm.

at St. Teresa's church hall, Ashford.

An invitation for husbands and wives to explore their relationship more deeply in the light of Pope Francis's apostolic exhortation – 'The Joy of Love'. This is a marriage-enrichment day entitled 'A Lifetime of Loving', during which couples can gain valuable insights into their communication skills and the call of the Church to the married. Please note that there is no group sharing, it is not a marriage counselling or guidance but a chance to make your marriage better.

Suggested Donation - £25 per couple. For more information telephone 07983 524 727 or email

mflkent@gmail.com



OUR LADY OF LOURDES

On Saturday, we celebrate the great feast of Our Lady of Lourdes. 158 years ago, three young girls set off from the Soubirous family home in Lourdes to look for firewood.

"Family home" is misleading - Francois Soubirous was a miller but the family were forced out of their mill and home when the business failed. Unemployed, homeless and destitute they were given refuge in a squalid former prison cell. The family of six

lived in one small room, which had been declared unfit for human habitation. It was from such conditions that Bernadette, accompanied by her sister Toinette and a friend, Jeanne Abadie, set off on a cold February morning to find wood for the fire. They followed a stream to a point where it passed a small cave or grotto at the base of a cliff, where they expected to find some driftwood. Toinette and Jeanne Abadie rushed across the stream but Bernadette, conscious of her asthma, hesitated and then returned opposite the cave to remove her sabots (wooden clog-type shoes) and woollen stockings before crossing the stream, when she heard a sound like a gust of wind, yet all was still.

She heard the sound again but this time she noticed the branches of a rose bush, in front of a niche in the rock face, moving. Behind it was what she described as a "a gentle light and a beautiful girl dressed in white who smiled at her and beckoned to her to come closer." Bernadette, fearful, felt the desire to pray and reached for her rosary but could not make the Sign of the Cross. She was to say later that her arm simply fell back, however when the lady made the Sign of the Cross, Bernadette was able to do the same and all fear left her. Bernadette knelt down and said her rosary in the presence of the beautiful lady. The vision fingered the beads of her own rosary, but she did not move her lips. When she finished her rosary, the lady disappeared.

The first apparition was silent - no words were exchanged as no words were necessary. Bernadette was moved to pray in the presence of "the beautiful lady" who followed Bernadette's prayer with her own rosary. It was enough for Bernadette to be still, to meditate and to turn to familiar prayers.

Let us not be afraid of silence. It is enough for us to be still and acknowledge the sacred presence of God in our lives, to make the Sign of the Cross, as Bernadette did and to greet Our Lady of Lourdes, who always welcomes us.

This day is also celebrated as 'World Day of the Sick'. Pope Francis in his message to the church today says the following:

'Like Saint Bernadette, we stand beneath the watchful gaze of Mary. This humble child tells us that the Virgin looked at her as one person looks at another. Those simple words describe the fullness of a relationship. Bernadette, poor, illiterate and ill, felt that Mary was looking at her as a person. When Our Lady spoke to her, she did so with respect and without condescension. This reminds us that every person is, and always remains, a human being and is to be treated as such. The sick and disabled have their own inalienable dignity and mission in life. They never become simply objects. If at times they appear merely passive, in reality that is never the case.

Mary gave Bernadette the vocation of serving the sick and called her to become a Sister of Charity, a mission that she carried out in such an exemplary way as to become a model for every healthcare worker. Let us ask Mary Immaculate for the grace always to relate to the sick as people who certainly need assistance, at times even for the simplest of things but, who have a gift of their own to share with others.'



Congratulations to Lyra Isabel Blundell who was Baptised recently here at St. Raphael's. May God continue the good work he has started.