

# 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 straphaeloffice@googlemail.com  
Web. [www.straphael.org.uk](http://www.straphael.org.uk)

ALL  
ARE  
WELCOME

## 26th January 2014 3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (A) Psalter Week III

9.30am Family Mass Francis Rodricks RIP  
11.30am Sung Mass Eddie & Diana Hillier  
5.00pm Quiet Mass The People of the Parish  
4pm Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon. 27th January St. Angela Merici  
10.00am Fr. Vincent  
Tue. 28th January St. Thomas Aquinas  
10.00am The Altar Society  
Wed. 29th January Feria in ordinary Time  
12.00 noon Mr. Martin  
(Tea and coffee is available after this Mass)  
Thu. 30th January Feria in Ordinary Time  
10.00am Lorel Collymore  
(Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 10.20am to 12 noon)  
Fri. 31st January St. John Bosco  
10.00am Luigi & Michael Petrone RIP  
(A day of abstinence when Catholics must abstain from eating meat)  
Sat. 1st February Our Lady  
10.00am Alice & Charles Gray

## 2nd February 2014 The Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) (A) Psalter Week IV

9.30am Family Mass Philip Morgan (Welfare)  
11.30am Sung Mass Denis & Rita Sumner RIP  
5.00pm Quiet Mass The People of the Parish  
4pm Rosary and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament



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

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 the sacristan. The Recommended donation is £5. The Lamps this Week are burning for



The Byrne Family

**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



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

**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.

**THANK YOU**  
for Last Sunday's Collection  
£627.53 loose  
+ £ 220.40 Gift Aid  
= £ 847.93

## Parish Diary TUESDAY

Parish Priest's Surgery  
5.30pm - 7.00pm  
The Parish Office

## WEDNESDAY

Church Cleaning  
Before Mass  
Parent & Children's Group  
9.45am - 11.30am  
Alexander House  
Tea & Coffee after Mass  
Alexander House  
Open Door Prayer Group  
7.30pm Church

**RCIA**  
7.30pm  
The Library

## THURSDAY

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament  
from after Mass until  
Benediction 12 noon  
Praying for Vocations

## SATURDAY

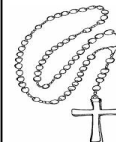
Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.  
10.30am - 11.00am  
1st Holy Communion Classes  
10.30am - 12 noon  
Alexander House

## SUNDAY

Children's Liturgy during  
9.30am Mass  
Tea & Coffee Alexander House after the morning Masses  
Rosary & Benediction  
4.00pm  
Parish Council  
6.00pm  
Library

## 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 from 8.00am. After School Club until 6.00pm



**The Rosary is recited**  
Monday - Saturday  
before Mass  
Sunday 4pm

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time

By Fr. David Gibbons, Centre for Catholic Formation

**First Reading:** this is the passage of scripture referred to in today's *Gospel*, in which Matthew emphasises that Jesus will fulfil this prophecy in His mission to the Gentiles.

The *Psalm* is a simple and confident hymn of trust in the Lord.

**Second Reading:** St. Paul urges the Corinthians to avoid different parties within the Church and tells them to unite around Christ. This is an important text when we have just observed the Octave for Christian Unity.

This year we listen to the Gospel of St. Matthew, and from today onwards the Sunday *Gospels* work through this first Gospel, allowing the main themes and emphasis of Matthew to emerge. In today's *Gospel* Jesus begins His public ministry. First He fulfils scripture by bringing light into darkness and begins His preaching with the message of repentance, then He calls the four fishermen to be His disciples, and finally He begins preaching and teaching, and healing.

### PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office is closed until Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February.

### PARISH COUNCIL

There will be a meeting of the Parish Council next Sunday at 6.00pm in the Library.

### PARISH PRIEST'S SURGERY

Tuesday night from 5.30pm – 7.00pm. No appointment necessary. Please ring the bell marked St. Raphael's Cottage.

### FLOWER ARRANGERS

Flower arrangers wanted to join our friendly team.

If you like flowers and would like to come and help decorate the church, then please contact Janet Johnstone 020 8541 0342 or 07910 802773 or jjohnstoneecho@hotmail.com. You do not need to be an expert florist just keen to come once a month and enjoy arranging flowers.

Of your charity, please pray for the repose of the Soul of

**Rita Sumner**

Who died recently.

Details of her funeral are still to be confirmed.

May She rest in Peace

### PART OF THE HOLY FATHER'S MESSAGE FOR THE WORLD DAY OF PEACE

'According to the biblical account of creation, all people are descended from common parents, Adam and Eve, created by God in his image and likeness, to whom Cain and Abel were born. In the story of this first family, we see the origins of society and the evolution of relations between individuals and peoples.

Abel is a shepherd, Cain is a farmer. They are brothers though different in their activity, culture and their way of relating to God and creation.

Cain's murder of Abel bears tragic witness to his radical rejection of their vocation to be brothers. Their story brings out the difficult task to which all men and women are called, to live as one, each taking care of the other. Cain, incapable of accepting God's preference for Abel who had offered him the best of his flock – "The Lord had regard for Abel and his offering; but for Cain and his offering he had no regard", killed Abel out of jealousy. In this way, he refused to regard Abel as a brother, to relate to him and, to live in the presence of God by assuming his responsibility to care for and to protect others.

By asking him "Where is your brother?", God holds Cain accountable for what he has done. He answers: "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" Then, the Book of Genesis tells us, "Cain went away from the presence of the Lord".

We need to ask ourselves what were the real reasons which led Cain to disregard the bond of fraternity and, at the same time, the bond of reciprocity and fellowship which joined him to his brother Abel. God himself condemns and reproves Cain's collusion with evil: "sin is crouching at your door". But Cain refuses to turn against evil and decides instead to raise his "hand against his brother Abel", thus scorning God's plan. In this way, he thwarts his calling to be a child of God and to live in fraternity.

The story of Cain and Abel teaches that we have an inherent calling to fraternity, but also the tragic capacity to betray that calling. This is witnessed by our daily acts of selfishness, which are at the root of so many wars and so much injustice: many men and women die at the hands of their brothers and sisters who are incapable of seeing themselves as such, that is, as beings made for reciprocity, for communion and self-giving.

We believe that in the Church we are all members of a single body, all mutually necessary, because each has been given a grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ, for the common good. Christ has come to the world so as to bring us divine grace, that is, the possibility of sharing in his life.

This entails weaving a fabric of fraternal relationships marked by reciprocity, forgiveness and complete self-giving, according to the breadth and the depth of the love of God offered to humanity in the One who, crucified and risen, draws all to himself: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, by this all will know that you are my disciples. This is the good news that demands from each one a step forward, a exercise of empathy, of listening to the suffering and the hopes of others, even those furthest away from us, and walking the demanding path of that love which knows how to give itself freely for the good of all our brothers and sisters.

Christ embraces all of humanity and wishes no one to be lost. "For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him." He does it without oppressing or constraining anyone to open to him the doors of their hearts and minds. "Let the greatest among you become as the youngest, and the leader as one who serves" Jesus tells us "I am among you as one who serves". Every activity therefore must be distinguished by an attitude of service to others, especially those furthest away and less known to us. Service is the soul of that fraternity that builds up peace.

May Mary, the Mother of Jesus, help us to understand and live every day in the fraternity that springs up from the heart of her Son, so as to bring peace to each person on this our beloved earth.'

**Pope Francis**