



St. Raphael's Church

Catholic Parish Church & Chaplaincy to Kingston University

Parish Priest - Fr. Kevin Stokes

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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

31st July 2016 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) psalter week II
6.00pm (Saturday Night) - Pro Populo
9.30am Family Mass - Mr T Mills
11.30am Sung Mass - The Gardiner Family
NO 5.00PM MASS TODAY

Mon. 1st Aug. St. Alphonsus Liguori
10.00am Agnes Healy RIP
Tue. 2nd Aug. Feria in Ordinary Time
10.00am Anne Cross RIP
Wed. 3rd Aug. Feria in Ordinary Time
12.00noon Scholastica Ezechial RIP
Thu. 4th Aug. St. John Vianney - The Cure of Ars
10.00am Anna Mansi RIP
(Followed by veneration of the relic of St. John Vianney)
Fri. 5th Aug. The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
10.00am In reparation for abortion
A day of abstinence when we are asked to abstain from eating meat
Sat. 6th Aug. The Transfiguration of The Lord
10.00am Frances Moloney RIP

7th August 2016 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time (C) psalter week III
9.30am Family Mass - The Mills Family
11.30am Sung Mass - Miriam Richards RIP
5.00pm Quite Mass - Pro Populo

Please note there is no Sunday or Thursday Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament during July & August.
We will resume in September

*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 Alicya
The Lamp on Our Lady's Altar is burning
- For Nora & Eileen O'Sullivan
The Lamp at St. Anthony's Shrine is burning
- For Doreen Russell



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

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.

Thank you for last Sunday's Collection
£668.69 loose + £229.00 Gift Aid = £897.69

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.

BECOME A CATHOLIC

RCIA COURSE STARTS EARLY OCTOBER

The course for adult non-Catholics who would like to be received into the Catholic Church or who want to know more about the Catholic faith - as well as adult baptised Catholics who are seeking the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Confirmation, starts in early October. The group is very friendly - you go at your own pace. There is no expectation that in joining the group you will become a Catholic. You can leave the course at any time. Please contact Deacon Peter (details a top of this page) who will be running the course.

Confessions Sundays

9.00am - 9.20am

4.30pm - 4.50pm

(Not next Sunday evening)

Saturdays

10.30am - 11.00am

The Rosary is recited

Monday - Saturday
before Mass.



CHILDREN'S LITURGY/ SUNDAY TEA & COFFEE

Tea & Coffee & Children's Liturgy have finished for the summer.
We will resume in September.

CHURCH CLEANING

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

NEWSLETTER DURING AUGUST

This will be the last full Newsletter until Sunday the 6th September. During August a reduced sheet with Mass times and intentions will be issued. Any important news will be announced at the end of Mass and will be posted on the Parish Website.

A statement from Archbishop Peter on the death of Fr. Jacques Hemel

"It was with great sadness that I heard the terrible news of the death of Fr. Jacques Hemel in Saint-Etienne-du-Rouvray, France. I am with hundreds of thousands young Catholics in Krakow, Poland, and together we offer a positive witness of faith. It was the great witness of Fr Jacques to stand by the Gospel that Jesus Christ gave to us against the terror of a grossly distorted understanding of God's will.

We pray for the Diocese of Rouen and its people, but let us also pray for peace among all peoples and security for all in their daily life."

ST. JOHN VIANNEY - THE CURE OF ARS

A man with vision overcomes obstacles and performs deeds that seem impossible. St. John Vianney was a man with vision - he wanted to become a priest, but he had to overcome his meagre formal schooling, which inadequately prepared him for seminary studies.

His failure to comprehend Latin lectures forced him to leave the seminary. However his vision of being a priest urged him to seek private tutoring and after a lengthy battle with his studies, he was finally ordained.

Situations calling for "impossible" deeds followed him everywhere. As pastor of the parish at Ars, John encountered people who were indifferent and quite comfortable with their style of living. His vision, prayer, penance and simple example of sanctity and love for his flock, transformed the parish of Ars into a community of piety, prayer and heavenly peace.

His work as a confessor is John Vianney's most remarkable accomplishment. In the winter months he was to spend 11 to 12 hours daily reconciling people with God. In the summer months, this time was increased to 16 hours. Unless a man was dedicated to his vision of a priestly vocation, he could not have endured this giving of self day after day. "His first glance seemed to reach into the very depths of your soul," Christine de Cibiens commented during the Acts of Canonization in reference to waiting in line for confession. There are other countless testimonies of penitents being astounded by his poignant insights into their personal struggles with sin. He knew remarkable details about their lives without ever having met them before.

His humour was also noteworthy. When a Paris socialite visiting Ars complained of waiting in line for confession, he told her she would have to wait even if she were the queen of England. When Francois Dorel, a local plasterer, visited the church with his dog he spotted him and told him: "If only your soul was as beautiful as your dog."

His simple attire attracted comment, no slave to fashion, he dressed simply. His cassock was torn and worn out. The bishop of Belly, when informed that he had appeared in public without his sash, responded: "The Curé of Ars without a sash is worth any priest in my diocese with one."

Vianney also had a soft spot for the forgotten. He founded an orphanage for young girls called La Providence.

At the end of the Napoleonic era, France's grave economic woes gripped the country and countless women and girls roamed the streets selling themselves as prostitutes. In the true spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, La Providence was his response to the social injustice of national poverty. One of his great pleasures was his noontime catechism classes for the orphaned girls. When asked by people if they should give to the poor, he replied with a smile: "We will have to answer for why we did or didn't give and the poor will have to answer for what they did with what is given them."

It is remarkable that a poor village boy, who couldn't pass his exams in the seminary, later became a universal symbol of the Church's clergy. St. John Vianney reminds us that the true love of Christ can powerfully manifest itself through prayer and service.

In the town square stands a statue of him with two shepherds. When he was first assigned him to Ars, he got lost trying to find the town. Two young men tending flocks in the fields pointed him in the right direction. Vianney told them: "You have shown me the way to Ars, I will show you the way to heaven."

Here at St. Raphael's we are blessed to have a relic of St. John Vianney which we will venerate at Mass on Thursday.

1ST HOLY COMMUNION 2017

Application forms for next year's 1st Holy Communion Course are available from the sacristy after Mass today. The closing date for application forms to be returned is **18th September**. There will be a meeting for parents in September giving full details of the course - details to follow shortly.

2017 PARISH DIARIES

The 2017 Parish Diaries are available from the back of the Church. A suggested donation of £2 in the box marked "Upkeep of the Church" would be appreciated.

There are a number of bowls and dishes that people used to kindly bring food for the garden party, if you have not yet retrieved yours please collect them from the Kitchen in Alexander House.

LATIN MASS

Fr. Tom Lynch will offer a Latin Mass in the Extraordinary Rite here at St. Raphael's on Monday the 15th August at 7.30pm This will be a votive Mass of Our Lady.

LONDON SW CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS

A social group for young Catholics in the diocese that meets every month. Our next drinks evening is on Saturday, 6th August from 7.30pm at The Alexandra, Wimbledon, SW19 7NE. For further details visit our Facebook page or contact Miles on 07790 441242

THE PORTIUNCULA INDULGENCE

On the 2nd of August or next Sunday the 7th August we can obtain 'The Portiuncula Indulgence.' This dates back to St. Francis of Assisi in 1209 when he founded the Order of the Friars Minor. He asked to be given care of the little chapel in Assisi, called the Portiuncula church, dedicated to Our Lady of the Angels, that had been abandoned. Once he was given it, Francis set about restoring it. Here Francis received a vision of Our Lord and Our Lady surrounded by angels. Our Lord invited him to ask for any favour. Plucking up courage, the Saint begged that all sinners visiting the church and contritely confessing their sins might receive full pardon. The Pope, convinced by the truth of Francis's story, granted his petition and declared the Indulgence for the second day of August. To render this Indulgence more accessible subsequent Popes extended it to all parish churches and extended to the Sunday following the 2nd August (7th August this year) To gain the Indulgence you must fulfil the following

- Be detached from all sin, even venial sin.
- While in the church pray one Our Father, one Apostles' Creed, and one other prayer of the individual's choice.
- Pray for the intentions of the Pope
- Go to Confession and Communion within a week either before or after the appointed day.