



# 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](http://www.straphael.org.uk)

## 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Twenty Fifth Sunday of the Year (B) psalter week 1

9.30am Family Mass

Roy Christie RIP

11.30am Sung Mass

Pro Populo

5.00pm Quiet Mass

Karen, Cori, & Ralph Jenkins

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

Mon. 21<sup>st</sup> September

St. Matthew

10.00am

Lilly Morris

Tue. 22<sup>nd</sup> September

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

Maria Moth

Wed. 23<sup>rd</sup> September

**NO MASS TODAY**

12.00noon

Holy Communion Service - Led by Deacon Peter

Thu. 24<sup>th</sup> September

Our Lady of Walsingham

10.00am

Pearce & Ronan Campion

Fri. 25<sup>th</sup> September

Feria in Ordinary Time

10.00am

Helen Roche RIP

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

Sat. 26<sup>th</sup> September

SS. Cosmas & Damian

10.00am

Fr. Kevin

## 27<sup>th</sup> September 2015 Twenty Sixth Sunday of the Year (B) psalter week II

9.30am Family Mass

Hilda Barlow RIP

11.30am Sung Mass

Mary Sebastian RIP

5.00pm Quiet Mass

Pro Populo

### 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.

**Rosary & Benediction** of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday afternoons at 4.00pm.  
Thursday Exposition will resume on the 8<sup>th</sup> October

### PARISH PRIEST'S SURGERY

The next Parish Priest's surgery will be on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October

### NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL

If you would like to receive this Newsletter by e-mail please send an e-mail to the Parish Office straphaelparishoffice@googlemail.com and we will add you to our mailing list.

*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 in*

*In thanksgiving for*

*Fr. Kevin*

*And the lamp on Our Lady's Altar is burning for*

*Kitty Fox*



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 Collection**  
**£507.99 loose & £279.70 Gift Aid**  
**= £787.69**

**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. Eze. (His number is 0208 942 2178) If you need the Sacrament of the Sick at home, please speak to Fr. Kevin.

### Confessions

**Sundays -**

9.00am - 9.15am & 4.30pm - 4.50pm

**Saturdays -**

10.30am - 11.00am

**And at other times by**

**reasonable request.**

### 1<sup>ST</sup> HOLY COMMUNION 2016

Application forms for next year's 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Course are available from the sacristy after Mass today. The closing date for application forms to be returned is today, the

**20<sup>th</sup> September.**

There will be a meeting for **parents of those who have returned application forms**, this coming Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 7.00pm in Alexander House followed by tea & Coffee

### 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.

## ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA - PADRE PIO

In one of the largest such ceremonies in history, Pope St. John Paul II canonized Padre Pio of Pietrelcina on June 16, 2002 in front of a crowd of more than 300,000 people.

Many people have turned to the Italian Capuchin Franciscan to intercede with God on their behalf; among them was the future Pope John Paul II. In 1962, when he was still an archbishop in Poland, he wrote to Padre Pio and asked him to pray for a Polish woman with throat cancer. Within two weeks, she had been cured of her life-threatening disease.

Born Francesco Forgione, Padre Pio grew up in a family of farmers in southern Italy. At the age of 15, Francesco joined the Capuchins and took the name of Pio and was assigned to the friary in San Giovanni Rotondo, 75 miles from the city of Bari on the Adriatic.

On September 20, 1918, as he was making his thanksgiving after Mass, Padre Pio had a vision of Jesus. When the vision ended, he had the stigmata in his hands, feet and side.

Life became more complicated after that. Medical doctors, Church authorities and curiosity seekers came to see Padre Pio. In 1924 and again in 1931, the authenticity of the stigmata was questioned. Padre Pio was not permitted to celebrate Mass publicly or to hear confessions. He did not complain of these decisions, which were soon reversed.

Padre Pio rarely left the friary after he received the stigmata, however busloads of people soon began coming to see him. Each morning after a 5 a.m. Mass in a crowded church, he heard confessions until noon. He took a mid-morning break to bless the sick and all who came to see him. Every afternoon he also heard confessions. In time his confessional ministry would take 10 hours a day and penitents had to take a number so that the situation could be handled. Many of them have said that Padre Pio knew details of their lives that they had never mentioned.

Padre Pio saw Jesus in all the sick and suffering and at his urging, a fine hospital was built on nearby Mount Gargano. A number of people have reported cures they believe were received through the intercession of Padre Pio. Those who assisted at his Masses came away edified and many curiosity seekers were deeply moved. Like St. Francis, Padre Pio sometimes had his habit torn or cut by souvenir hunters.

One of Padre Pio's sufferings was that unscrupulous people several times circulated prophecies that they claimed originated from him. He never made prophecies about world events and never gave an opinion on matters that he felt belonged to Church authorities to decide. He died on September 23, 1968, and was beatified in 1999.

At Padre Pio's canonization Mass in 2002, Pope St. John Paul II referred to that day's Gospel (Matthew 11:25-30) and said: "The Gospel image of 'yoke' evokes the many trials that the humble Capuchin of San Giovanni Rotondo endured. Today we contemplate in him how sweet is the 'yoke' of Christ and indeed how light the burdens are whenever someone carries these with faithful love. The life and mission of Padre Pio testify that difficulties and sorrows, if accepted with love, transform themselves into a privileged journey of holiness, which opens the person toward a greater good, known only to the Lord."



TODAY

## CHRISTMAS CARDS AND GIFTS

Buy them early and support the Parish! We shall have our annual sale of Christmas Cards, Crib, Advent Calendars and other Christmas Gifts after all masses today in Alexander House. All profits go to Church Funds

### NEW ALTAR BOYS & HANDMAIDS OF MARY

We will shortly be holding training sessions for new Altar Boys (Boys who have made their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion) and Handmaids of Mary. (Girls who have made their 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion) Application forms are available from the Sacristy. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for more information about training sessions.

### 2016 PARISH DIARIES

The 2016 Parish Diaries are available at the back of the Church. These are free but however a suggested donation of £1.00 in the box marked 'For the upkeep of the Church' would be appreciated.

### VOTIVE LAMP ON OUR LADY'S ALTAR



We now have a beautiful blue votive lamp that burns on Our Lady Altar. If you would like to sponsor the seven day candle that burns in it every week, please speak to the Parish Office or one of the sacristans.

### THE RCIA PROGRAMME

This year's RCIA programme will begin shortly. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for more information.

### THE 31<sup>ST</sup> ROSARY CRUSADE OF REPARATION

This year's annual Rosary Crusade will take place on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> October. The procession, of several thousand people, leaves Westminster Cathedral at 1.45pm and walks to the Brompton Oratory. The day concludes with Solemn Benediction at the Oratory at approximately 5.15pm. Please see the poster in the porch for more details.

### ALL SAINTS PARTY - SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER

Halloween - or All Hallows' Eve - correctly celebrates the coming celebration of All Saints (Hallows), those men and women that the Church proclaims with joy to have joined Our Lord in heaven for eternity. In contrast to the saints' bright reflection of the light of Jesus Christ, the secular understanding of Halloween focuses on darkness.

On Saturday 31st October, there will be a Vigil Mass of All Saints at 4.30pm (which fulfils the Sunday obligation) followed by a party, particularly for families with children, although all are welcome. Come dressed as your favourite saint! There will be festive food, activities and weather permitting, fireworks! Please email Michael Nicholson at [michael.nicholson@dunelm.org.uk](mailto:michael.nicholson@dunelm.org.uk) if you would like to help in any way and to let us know that you are coming, so we can cater appropriately.

**The annual procession of the Blessed Sacrament from Westminster Cathedral through the streets of London to St. Georges Cathedral will take place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October beginning at Westminster Cathedral at 1.30pm.**

***Come along and give witness to Christ!***