



On the Election of Pope Leo XIV, 266th Successor of Peter

It is with enormous joy that we welcome our new Holy Father Pope Leo XIV! We pray for our new Holy Father, that the Lord will bless him with all the gifts he needs to lead the Church as the Vicar of Christ and Successor of St Peter.

REGINA CAELI: During the Season of Easter, at the end of the bidding Prayers, instead of the Hail Mary we shall sing the Regina Caeli, another traditional Catholic Prayer to our Blessed Mother:

*Regina caeli, laetare, alleluia:
Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia.
Resurrexit sicut dixit, alleluia.
Ora pro nobis Deum, alleluia*

CONFIRMATION MASS Friday 16th May 2025, 6pm is Confirmation rehearsals. All candidates, parents and Confirmation Sponsors to attend.

Saturday 17th May 2025 Forty-nine Candidates will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in our parish. **Saturday evening mass will be at 6pm on that day and it will be the Mass of Confirmation.**

LENTEN CHARITY BOX: If you have collected a Lenten Charity box, please return them with your donations as soon as possible.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2025: The next lesson is on Saturday 17th May 2025 in the hall. There will be a parent meeting on the day as well.

ENGLISH MARTYRS - a series on those we commemorate in our church. This week's Martyr is **ST THOMAS MORE**.

Following the celebration of the Feast of the English Martyrs recently, we want to remember those in honour of whom our church is named with a series of short notes in the Newsletter reminding us of who they were- human like every one of us but determined to stand up for their faith when that was a dangerous and life-threatening thing to do. The names of 168 martyrs are inscribed on the ceiling of the church, with more represented in the stained glass windows and statues, so it will take a little time to mention them all. Let's start with one of the most famous: **St Thomas More** was beheaded at Tower Hill on 6 July 1535. He was formally recognised as a Saint in 1935. Thomas More refused to bow to will of King Henry VIII who wished him to take an Oath rejecting the authority of the Pope over the church in England, Henry VIII having declared himself the head of the Church in England. Thomas More was imprisoned in the tower of London for more than a year but refused to back down and was charged and convicted of treason for which the death penalty was imposed. We remember his courage and as we pray for him we might ask us to support us in our own trials.

The window over the organ depicts the life of St Thomas More, dining with his father and Henry VIII; being given a ring by the king; disagreeing with the divorce and saying goodbye to his daughter, Margaret. Below are scenes of him praying, his execution and Margaret carrying his head home. This is buried at the family vault of her husband, William Roper, in Canterbury.

GIFT AID ENVELOPS: Gift Aid envelope boxes are ready for collection. Please collect it from the Sacred Heart Chapel.

SECOND COLLECTION: The priesthood has always been essential to the life of the Church, from the time of Jesus until today. Good Shepherd Sunday is the day we pray for vocations, for our priests, and take up the Priest Training Fund second collection. This fund pays for the formation of men to become priests in our Archdiocese. After their ordination, our priests dedicate their lives to serving Christ and His people in our parishes, hospitals, schools, chaplaincies, prisons and in service to the needy, throughout South London, Kent and Surrey. We are blessed to have 5 men in formation to the Priesthood for our Archdiocese. However, it costs £30,000 a year to sponsor each seminarian. They study for 6 years before being ordained a Catholic priest.

We therefore rely on your generous support and prayers. Please support our priests of the future with a gift today.

There will be a second this weekend (10/11th May) Please do take a special envelope from the church porch for all Cash / Cheque You can donate Online: www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/PTF Or Scan QR Code using telephone camera from the poster in the church porch.

BAPTISM AT ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH: Baptism is a Sacrament of faith, and the Church asks for a serious and loving commitment by the parents and godparents of a child to live the life of the Sacraments. Parents wishing to baptise their child at English Martyrs Church Streatham should be living in the parish for more than 6 months. If you belong to another parish you will need to obtain a letter of permission from your parish priest. If you are new to the Parish, you can get a letter from your previous parish to say that you are a practising Catholic. Baptisms to take place on the last Sunday of every month at 2pm. The date will be confirmed once the preparation course is completed. Please collect a Baptism pack from the parish office for registration at least four weeks before the preparation date.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: We warmly invite those adults seeking Baptism/Confirmation/Holy Communion to be part our Journey in Faith group. The weekly sessions involve learning about the Catholic faith and the truth and beauty of the Gospel. If you are thinking about becoming a Catholic, please call or email the Parish office. We would love to hear from you. Please email streathamrcia@rcaos.org.uk

SUNDAY COLLECTION

A/C Name: RCAS STREATHAM A/C: 23416386 S/C: 60-20-39

For Contactless Donation

Please use the Card Machines in the Church or use the QR CODE



Loose Collection: £376.83 Gift Aid Envelopes: £ 66.00 **Total Collection: £442.83** **Thank you for your generosity**