

PARISH NEWS

PARISH SUMMER BBQ: Thank you to all who helped in organising last Sunday's BBQ, especially Annette, Christine, Karen, Magda, Amanda, Andrea and Supem for helping out on the day. Thank you to all the parishioners who came to support the parish. Total of £510.00 was raised.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend 19/20th July 2025 the second collection is for The Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) The AoS is a Catholic charity supporting seafarers worldwide. They provide practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality or belief. The AoS in Great Britain is part of an international network known to the maritime world as Stella Maris, working in 250 ports around the world. The port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome seafarers, offer welfare service and advice, practical help, care and friendship. The AoS wholly relies on voluntary contributions and can only continue their work through the generous donations of its supporters, particularly the collection. There are special envelopes in the church porch.

MASS OFFERING: When the priest celebrates Mass, it can be offered for a special intention, eg: for someone who died, a birthday, an anniversary, for sick, thanksgiving or a private intention. To book a Mass, please use one of the **MASS INTENTION** envelopes from the church porch. Write your intention, the date the Mass is required, your contact details and enclose the donation. Once completed please give the Mass Intention envelope to the priest or to the parish office.

GRATITUDE: The Missionary of St Paul would like to express their gratitude to all the parishioners at English Martyrs for their generosity for the Mission Appeal last weekend. Total of £904.61 was collected including £350.00 from the card machine.

JOURNEY IN FAITH: We warmly invite those adults seeking Baptism/Confirmation/Holy Communion to be part of 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

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 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.

ENGLISH MARTYRS – This week's Martyr is St John (Joachim) Wall

John Wall was a member of the Order of Franciscan Friars where he took the religious name Joachim (this is the name of the husband of Anne, mother of the Virgin Mary). Initially he was based in France, but took the courageous step to come to England during a time of persecution of Catholics. He was arrested under the mistaken belief that he was part of what has become known as the "Popish Plot", a plan to kill the King, Charles II and was held in prison for 5 months, enduring dreadful suffering. Although he was ultimately cleared of any involvement in the plot, he was nevertheless sentenced to death because he was a Catholic priest. After his death, his body was buried in Worcester but his head was preserved as a sacred relic and taken to Douai in France where he had been ordained. He was canonised by Pope Paul VI on October 1970.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents who are intending to register children for First Holy Communion 2026, please note that the children will be tested on the following prior to starting the lessons. You are encouraged to make these parts of your family prayers.

· Sign of the Cross · Our Father (Prayer) · Hail Mary (Prayer) · Glory Be to the Father (Prayer)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: Thank you to all who generously give their time in various parish ministries. Alongside volunteering, our Parish relies on offertory collections to maintain and grow our mission. We do not receive funding from the government, the Vatican or the Diocese. The parish is grateful to all who generously donate to the offertory collection through standing order, gift aid envelopes and the Sunday collections.

As a parish we regularly evaluate and take care of our income. Our main source of income is the Sunday ordinary offertory collection. For the past year the Sunday offertory income is getting lesser and lesser, as a result we have to reach out to the diocese to help with our running cost of the parish and make a repayment as soon as our account becomes viable.

We understand the cost of living is high, the church is our Spiritual home, like our own family homes we need to care and upkeep our spiritual home too. The church needs to pay for all utility bills, buy all consumable materials such as altar wine, communion bread, candles, incense, oils, pay for the remuneration and feeding of the clergy among other things. The church, parish hall and the presbytery all need regular maintenance. To help us increase the Offertory collection we humbly request if you could please consider increasing your loose cash donation weekly. There are two card machines at the back of the church, if you prefer to use card as your means of payment.

Also, if you are a UK TAX payer and would like to gift aid your donation, please use a standing order form from the back of the Church. For every £1 you donate the Government refunds the church 25p in addition, that means the church gets £1.25 from your £1, if it is gift aided.

PLEASE, NOTE THAT THIS DOES NOT INCREASE THE MONEY YOU PAY THE GOVERNMENT IN TAX. To sign to the Gift Aid scheme all you need is to give your name, address and declare you are TAX payer, the church does not need any other personal information.

NEW MASS ATTENDANCE CARD: Please get the new Mass Attendance Cards stamped from the Priest/ Catechists after the Saturday evening Mass or after Sunday Masses. Mass attendance card will be required if you need to get a Catholic Practise Letter from the Parish priest for schools and for all Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation registration. Do not let your faith be a tick to the Mass attendance slip, let it be a gift of God which enables you to serve God in Spirit and in truth.

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

Collection on 12/13th July 2025: Loose Collection: £352.48 Gift Aid Envelopes: £106.00 **Total Collection: £458.48**

Thank you for your generosity.

