

PARISH NEWS



WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENT AND ELDELY 2025: Sunday 27th July 2025 is the Fifth World Day. It is with great joy that we prepare to celebrate the Fifth World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, an appointment that, year after year, is entering more and more deeply into the pastoral life of our communities. This fifth edition marks a significant milestone, a sign of the growing awareness of the value of the elderly in the Church and society. This year's theme chosen by Pope Francis, 'Blessed are those who have not lost hope' (cf. Sir 14:2), fits into the context of the Jubilee of Hope, and invites us to recognize in the elderly not only recipients of pastoral attention, but witnesses of hope and active protagonists of ecclesial life. Their life and faith experience is a valuable heritage, capable of enriching new generations and strengthening the community fabric. The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, established in 2021, is becoming a tradition that teaches our communities to increasingly put the elderly at the centre, not in an extraordinary or occasional way, but in a regular and structural way. It is a pedagogy that teaches us to recognize their irreplaceable role as keepers of memory, witnesses of faith and teachers of life. This year, on the occasion of the Jubilee of Hope, we wish to emphasize one special aspect: The Father's limitless mercy is to be experienced by all, including those who, for reasons of health or age, cannot physically make a pilgrimage. Therefore, in the pastoral directions pages you will find a simple proposal for a Jubilee celebration to be held within the facilities where the elderly live. This rite will enable them to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence, spiritually joining the universal Church and offering their sufferings and prayers.

Please see the notice board for the Pope Leo XIV message and the prayer for the Elderly and the grandparents.

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.



BAPTISM: We congratulate and welcome into the family of the Church **KAITLYN SIMON, AIDEN PILARSKI and REMI HAROLD VAN DER VAEREN** who will be Baptised on Sunday 27th July 2025

We wish them and their families the joy of the Holy Spirit.

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)

ENGLISH MARTYRS – This week's Martyr is St John Felton

John Felton carried out the extraordinarily brave act of attaching to the gates of the Palace of the Bishop of London an Order from Pope Pius V excommunicating Queen Elizabeth I. Excommunication is one of the most severe penalties that can be placed on a Christian, deeming the person to be guilty and excluding them from all blessings. Elizabeth I upheld her father Henry VIII's decision to refuse to recognise the authority of the Pope, but this act could not be ignored so John was arrested. He was tortured on the rack at the Tower of London 3 times, but he never denied what he had done - rather it is reported that he gloried in his act, saying that Elizabeth ought not to be Queen of England. He was sentenced to death and his daughter recounted that he uttered the holy name of Jesus at the point of death.

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Children's Liturgy will resume back after the summer school holidays. It will start on **Sunday 7th September 2025**. We are looking for more parent volunteers who can help us with the children's liturgy. Please email the parish office with your contact details.

REQUIEM MASS: There will be a requiem Mass for Late **INGEBORG WOLNY** on Monday 11th August 2025 at 12 noon. We pray for her family and keep her in our prayers. *Eternal Rest grant unto her O Lord!*

FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION: Feast of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on Friday 15th August 2025.

It is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. There are days other than Sundays on which we celebrate the great things God has done for us through Jesus and the saints. Therefore, this means that Catholics must attend Mass on those days.

There will be Mass on Friday 15th August at 9.30am and 7.30pm

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 19/20th July 2025: Loose Collection: £412.70 Gift Aid Envelopes: £51.00 **Total Collection: £463.70**

Second Collection for Apostleship of the Sea: £ 193.62 + £31.00 (card) = £ 224.62

Thank you for your generosity.

