

## PARISH NEWS

**WORLD DAY FOR THE SICK: Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026** is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and the World day for the sick is celebrated. We shall be having a special Mass at **11.30am** for all who are sick and housebound in our parish community. After Mass there will be a light lunch served in the Parish Hall.  
**Please note there is no 6.30pm adoration and 7.30pm evening Mass.**

**CONFIRMATION 2026:** Next Confirmation lesson is on Friday **13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 6pm in the parish hall.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026:** The next lesson for First Holy Communion will be after the February half-term break. The lesson is on **Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 at 9.30am.**

**CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection next weekend 14/15<sup>th</sup> February 2026 for Clergy Support Fund. The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have one for parishes. You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF) or scan QR code. You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri **020 7960 2504** or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today at the back of Church. Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



**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.

**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](mailto:streathamrcia@rcaos.org.uk)

**ASH WEDNESDAY:** The Season of Lent begins on **18<sup>th</sup> February 2026 with Ash Wednesday.** During Mass on this day we receive the ashes as a sign of our desire to repent from our sinfulness and renew our relationship with the Lord. This is the most appropriate and urgent way we begin our journey through Lent. There will be Mass at **9.30am and 7.30pm.** Please remember that this is also a day of fasting and abstinence. On Ash Wednesday we are to refrain from eating meat and reduce our intake of food and other pleasures in atonement of our sins and those of the whole world.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** During Lent we shall be having Stations of the Cross on **Friday after morning Mass 10am and 7pm.** This is a traditional form of prayer and devotion associated with Lent, as it follows the journey of Jesus from Pilate's palace to his crucifixion. If you are able to help with the reading, or carrying the cross, please put your name in the Volunteer list that is in the Church porch.

**MASS ATTENDANCE:** Parents who wish to apply for a Catholic Primary or Secondary School please note to obtain a Catholic Practise Certificate from the Parish Priest, Mass attendance of minimum of **TWO Years** is needed. (This means attending Saturday Vigil or Sunday Masses) If children are planning to register for Sacraments in the future at English Martyrs Church please do get a Mass Attendance Card and get it stamped. Mass Attendance is not only for children who are registered for First Holy Communion/ Confirmation this year. It is for all the who are planning to do it in 2027 & 2028.

**ENGLISH MARTYR FOR THE WEEK : Thomas Sherwood.** Thomas was only 26 when he died, and was studying to be a priest. He was in the home of a wealthy lady when a Catholic mass was offered. The lady's son, a Protestant from her first marriage, denounced Thomas and had him brought before a judge. When questioned, he said that he believed that Queen Elizabeth I could not be a lawful ruler of England because she had been excommunicated by the Pope. He was imprisoned and held for months in a freezing dungeon and denied for long periods before being hung drawn and quartered. His life and death serve to remind us of the terrible hardships endured by many young men who refused to renounce their catholic faith and so ensured the church survived for all of us. We owe them our prayers and thanks...

**CHRISTMAS SURPLUS GIFTS:** If you have any surplus(extra) **NEW CHRISTMAS GIFTS** such as Bath & Body Lotions, Chocolates or bottles of wine please do bring them as we could use them for fundraising events for the Church

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

**Sunday Collection for 31<sup>st</sup> Jan/1<sup>st</sup> February 2026 Loose Cash £646.15 Gift Aid Env £ 121.00 Total £ 767.15**

**For Contactless Donation:** Please use the Card Machines in the Church or use the QR CODE. Thank you for your generosity

