

## PARISH NEWS

**SECOND COLLECTION:** There will be a second collection next weekend for **Poor Parishes**. (21/22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026) This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the diocese. This can also be paid by selecting the second collection option on the card machine.



Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 is **St Patrick's day**; Parish celebration is on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026 after both 9am and 11.30am Mass.

**9am Mass:** There will be Irish Coffee and cake sale. (Irish Coffee £3.00, Slice of Cake £1.00)

**11.30am Mass:** Traditional Irish Ham, Cabbage & potato with a glass of red/ white wine/ soft drink for £7.00 Please note this is a fundraising event. All proceeds go towards the Church Maintenance.



**LENT & EASTER AT ENGLISH MARTYRS CHURCH:** Please collect a Lent & Easter Service Programme from the back of the Church, which gives all the details of Lenten Services and Easter Masses during the Holy Week. There will be copies available throughout the season of Lent.

**HOLY WEEK MINISTRIES:** If you are able to read, minister Holy Eucharist or serve at the altar during Holy Week, ie, Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday, please put down your name on the list at the back of the Church. Please put down your name for all the services at which you will be available to help – we shall then arrange the rota to try and make sure everybody has a fair turn. Please refer to the front notice board where you will be notified which ministry and at which Mass you will serve. **Please write your name down before 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2026**

**ALTAR SERVER TRAINING:** Altar server training for Easter Triduum is on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 at 10.30am - noon.**

**LENTEN CHARITY APPEAL: FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE JENNIFER ETUH MEDICAL CENTRE, NIGERIA AND SATURDAY SOUP KITCHEN.:** As we head into the Lenten season, the church recommends prayer, fasting, and almsgiving as three practices that can help form the heart of our Lenten journey and prepare us for the great celebration of Easter. It has been said that almsgiving covers a multitude of sins. In this spirit, our parish, English Martyrs Parish Streatham, has been made aware of the urgent needs of **Jennifer Etuh Medical Centre**, a vital healthcare facility serving a rural and underserved community in Nigeria. This hospital provides essential medical care to mothers, children, and families who otherwise have little or no access to healthcare. Many arrive in critical condition, and the centre strives daily to preserve life and restore hope, often with very limited resources.

As we reflect on the words of our Lord, "I was sick and you visited me" (Matthew 25:36), we are reminded that caring for the sick is not only an act of charity but a profound expression of our faith and love for Christ Himself.

Therefore, during this Lenten season, I humbly invite each member of our parish to prayerfully consider supporting this medical centre. Your generosity, no matter how small, can help provide essential medical supplies, improve facilities, and enable the hospital to continue its life-saving mission. Your sacrifice can bring healing, dignity, and hope to those who suffer.

Lenten donations will be shared between the Saturday Soup Kitchen and Jennifer Etuh Medical Centre in Nigeria.

Donations can be made using the Lenten charity envelope or use cash machine title Lenten charity. Above all, please keep the patients, staff, and mission of the medical centre in your prayers.

**All donations to Nigeria will be sent through the Southwark Diocese to the relevant Diocese in Nigeria**

**CONFIRMATION:** The next lesson is on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2026, 6pm in the parish hall.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026, 9.30am in the Parish Hall.

**MISSIO:** Missio envelopes are ready for collection after Mass. Please return them with your donations as soon as possible.

**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](mailto: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 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.



**YOUR LEGACY OF FAITH:** As Catholics, we believe in the sanctity of life; a precious gift from God. We are called to live joyfully and faithfully, trusting that after a natural death, we will return to our Creator and share in eternal life with Him. When the time comes to move on to the next life, you have the opportunity to let your lifetime of faith continue through a gift in your Will.

Each of us hopes to leave a legacy - to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our families, friends, and the communities we cherish. By including a gift in your Will to the Church, no matter the size, you can help sustain and support your Catholic community for future generations.

If you are interested in leaving a Gift in your Will to the Archdiocese of Southwark, your local Catholic Church or one of the Diocesan Funds, you can contact the team on [legacy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:legacy@rcaos.org.uk) or telephone 020 7960 2504. Please collect a leaflet

from the Church porch for more information.

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

Sunday Collection 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Loose Cash £ 567.97 Gift Aid Env £ 136.00 Total £ 703.97  
For Contactless Donation: Please use the Card Machines in the Church or use the QR CODE. *Thank you for your generosity*

