

PARISH NEWS



GOODBYE & FAREWELL: Thank you to all the parishioners for your generosity shown to Fr Johnson on his farewell gift. As a parish community would like to thank Father for all his services to the Parish and wish him the very best in his new chapter of his pastoral ministry. There will be a Farewell reception on **Sunday 13th September 2026** after both Sunday Masses. This would give you an opportunity to say your good-byes to Father.

This would be great opportunity to welcome all back from your summer holidays, especially new parishioners to English Martyrs Church. Please do join us in the hall for our celebration reception.

GLASS OF PIMM'S FOR A BINGO MACHINE: On Sunday 13th September 2026, after the 11.30am Mass there will be a Pimm's Bar. We are hoping to raise funds for a Parish Bingo Machine.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: This weekend (12/13th Sep) second collection is for **CATHOLIC EDUCATION SERVICES**. The collection help supports Catholic Education and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education and it also provides financial assistance for school transport in rural areas. Please collect the letter from Archbishop John Wilson from the Church porch.

19/20th September Weekend Collection is for **CATHOLIC AGENCY FOR THE SUPPORT OF EVANGELIZATION**. This collection helps bishops of England & Wales with resources to support Home Mission, the spread of the gospel in our country.

PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027: Parents who are intending to register children for First Holy Communion 2027, please collect a leaflet "PRAYERS IN PREPARATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION" from the Church porch. These prayers will be helping the children in preparation to receive the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist and a Spiritual Foundation to receive the Most Holy Body of Christ reverently. We would like to invite all parents for a meeting with Fr Paul and the Catechists on **Saturday 17th October 2026** after the 10am Mass.

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

SACRAMENTS: BAPTISM – 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 practising in the parish for more than 6 months. Please email the Parish office for an information pack.

MARRIAGE: You need to give 6 months' notice. Please email the Parish office to book an appointment to see the Parish Priest.

SCHOOL REFERENCES: Parents who are intending to apply for a Catholic Primary/ Secondary school for 2027 September entry, please send the following documents to the parish office. **Please do not email the documents to the office.**

Closing date for Secondary School: 30th September 2026, Primary School: 15th November 2026

1. Initial Reference form (that can be requested from the parish office or collect from the church porch)
2. Copy of the Child's Baptism certificate
3. Family photo
4. All school forms for priest's reference.
5. Copy of the Mass Attendance Card. You are required to stamp a mass attendance card whenever you come to Mass, as this helps the priest in giving you a reference.

All signed Secondary School documents to be collected from Fr Paul in person on Friday 2nd October 2026 from 3.30pm 5.30pm Please note there are no appointments, first come first serve basis.

SCHOOLS: Please note if you are applying for a Catholic Primary or Secondary school where you need to get a priest's reference, the mass attendance card will help the Parish Priest in filling the reference form Please note signing the Mass attendance from mid-year does not give a true account of your Catholic Practise.

MASS ATTENDANCE: Weekly Sunday (Saturday Vigil Mass) mass attendance is needed if you would like your child to receive Sacrament of Baptism, First Holy Communion or Confirmation. Please collect a Stamp card and get it stamped after Mass. All sacraments should be received with great faith and eagerness because Christ instituted the sacraments to nourish Christian life. Coming regularly to Sunday Mass helps each and every one to grow in faith, not merely coming near to the Sacrament of preparation time.

YOUTH MEETING: We would like to say Thank you to Leandro Carvalho, who helped us on last Saturday's Youth Meeting. We are grateful to all the parent volunteers and to Luzmila Jarrin who taught us Salsa. What a way to end the meeting with pizza supper and dancing to the beat of Salsa! Our next meeting for Youth between 12yrs to 16yrs is on Saturday 10th October 2026 at 4.30pm.

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE: On **Saturday 3rd October 2026** couples are invited to a day where they can **privately** explore their relationship more deeply and gain valuable insights into the communication and the call of the Church to be married at St Matthew church hall, 37 Norwood High St, West Norwood, London SE27 9JU 9.00am till 4.30pm. The one-day course is for married couples (whether married for one year, 60 plus years or anywhere in between). It seeks to help husbands and wives make their marriages better and to improve their communication skills and learn how to raise issues without hurting each other. **There is no group sharing and private information remains private to each couple.**

The unique selling point of this day is it is NOT marriage counselling - Marriage Care and Retrouvaille do a brilliant job at this! Refreshments will be provided but please bring a **packed lunch**. **Booking is essential.** To apply please contact: **Carole** on mflkent@rcaos.org.uk or by phone on **07983 524 727**

A DAY OF RETREAT: A day of retreat for **EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION AND READERS** for the South East area, will take place at Bishop Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, SW16 2HY, on Saturday 24th October 2026 for Parishes in the Deaneries of Camberwell, Lewisham and Lambeth. If you would like to attend please give your name and contact details to the parish office **before 30th September 2026** More details of the programme for the retreat day will be available in September 2026. Please see the poster in the notice board.

CHURCH MAINTENANCE: There will be a household goods, Ladies Shoes(new), Clothes(new), stationary, luggage and other miscellaneous items sale by a parishioner who is downsizing on 26/27th September weekend after Masses All proceeds from the sale will go directly to the Church Maintenance.

MARY MOSS ART. Mary, is one of our parishioners, most of you know her as she does the Kid's Face Painting at the Parish Christmas Fayre. She is exhibiting her paintings as part of Lambeth Open Studios, Arts and Crafts sales on Sat/ Sun 3/4 October. 10am-6pm at The Clock house, 46 Angles Road, London. SW16 2UR. Admission is free! do Come along ☺ For other local artists exhibiting please follow this link. Enjoy some creativity!! <https://www.lambethopen.com/mary-moss-2026/> Please see the notice board for some of the paintings.



PARISH DONATIONS: If you wish to make a payment direct to our Bank Account these are the details:

A/C Name: **RCAS STREATHAM** A/C: **23416386** S/C: **60-20-39**
Sunday 6th Sep 2026 -Offertory, Loose Collection £569.34 Gift Aid Env £171.00 Total £740.34

REF. Offertory/ Your surname.... For Contactless Donation: Please use the Card Machines in the Church or the QR Code The best way to support the parish is by standing order, you can use a Standing Order form from the Church porch or email the Parish office to get one



GIFT AID – Are you registered on the Parish Scheme as yet? If you are a UK taxpayer, Gift Aid is a great way to make your donations more valuable to the Church by an extra 25% at no extra cost to you! If you like to sign please email or fill a Gift Aid form from the Porch and hand it to the priest or the parish office.

CHURCH MAINTENANCE: For the up keep of the Church Maintenance

A/C Name: **RCAS STREATHAM** A/C: **23416416** S/C: **60-20-39**

Thank you for your generosity