

PARISH NEWS

ANNUAL MASS COUNT- This Sunday is the **first week** for the National Mass Count so the attendance at each mass is to be counted over the next three weeks.

SECOND COLLECTIONS: 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.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO GO FOR MASS? As Catholics it is important to go for Mass, as God himself in the ten commandments said to keep Sabbath free, so Sunday Mass is important. Most of us can't go for Mass everyday but we should try our best to go either for the Saturday Vigil or on Sunday. Attending Mass is the only way to receive Jesus through the Holy Eucharist.

The Eucharist is a meal. It's the Lord's Supper as well as a Holy sacrifice. Christ becomes present so we can not only see him under the appearances of bread and wine, but also receive him into ourselves. Tangibly, he becomes our food.

We as a community gather together around Lord's table, listen to the Scripture readings, the homily and pray for our Spiritual Nourishment. Gathering together builds the body of Christ, allowing all of us to support one another and worship as one family. Mass gives us an opportunity to ask God's forgiveness, to thank and Praise the Lord and to offer our own personal intentions to him.

There are four important parts of the Mass.

First-Introductory Rites- Entrance antiphon. Entrance hymn, Greeting, Penitential Act: Gloria: A joyful hymn praising God.

Second is the **Liturgy of the Word-** God speaks to the congregation through readings from the Bible. First Reading, Responsorial Psalm, Second Reading, Gospel, Homily and Prayers of the Faithful.

Third is **Liturgy of the Eucharist-** The central part of the Mass where bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. (Transubstantiation). Preparation of the Gifts, Eucharistic Prayer, The Lord's Prayer, Sign of Peace, Holy Communion, where we receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Lastly **Concluding Rites-** The priest blesses the congregation and Dismissal.

Attending Holy Mass is part of our Catholic Faith. Do not let it be a tick for School reference or any Sacraments. Having a Mass attendance card helps the priest in giving a reference for school, Mass is part of the Sacramental preparation, especially First Holy Communion and Confirmation.

God invites all his children for this Holy Banquet. If we are invited for a party do we go late? The answer would be **NO**. Then why do we attend Holy Mass late? Let's pray today that we attend God's Holy Banquet with reverence and on time

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.

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

FUNDRAISING FOR CHURCH MAINTENANCE- A parishioner who is downsizing is organizing a sale with household goods, Ladies Shoes(new), Clothes(new), stationary, luggage, hand bags and other miscellaneous items on 26/27th September Weekend after both Sunday Masses and the Saturday Vigil Mass. There will be Irish Coffee and cakes for sale. All proceeds go towards the Church Maintenance. Please see the poster at the back of the Church

THANK YOU: On behalf of Fr Johnson we would like to thank all who joined his farewell celebrations last weekend. Especially to Agnes Y, Joyce, Magda, Christabel, Sonia, Bruce, Christine, Annette, Ana-Maria, Patrina, Amanda D, Agnes D, Joan H, Agnes F, Karen F, Mona, Elizabeth W, Rocio, Luzmile and the Colombian community for providing the all the lovely food on the day.

From the sale of Pimm's bar sum of £234.15 for Parish Bingo Machine was raised. Thank you for supporting

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.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: Sunday 18th October 2026 is the World Mission Sunday. To celebrate all nationalities that makes our parish community we shall have an International Day Mass at 11.30am There will be bidding prayers in different languages and after Mass a reception with cuisines from different parts of the world. Please reserve the date, more detail nearer to come.

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 13th Sep 2026 -Offertory Loose Collection £610.92 Gift Aid Env £131.00 Total £741.92

Catholic Education Fund Collection in cash £326.83

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

