

ST. RAPHAEL

CATHOLIC PARISH CHURCH ~ CHAPLAINCY TO KINGSTON UNIVERSITY

Parish Office

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Presbytery

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Fr. Vincent Flynn ~ **Parish Priest**

2nd January 2011, The Epiphany of the Lord (A)

9.30 am Family Mass Paul Howell RIP
11.30am Sung Mass Josephine Brown RIP
5.00pm Quiet Mass The People of the Parish

No Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Mon 3rd January Christmas Feria
10.00am Lucille Howell RIP
Tue 4th January Christmas Feria
10.00am Edna Balinska RIP
Wed 5th January Christmas Feria
10.00am Mrs. McCarthy
Thu 6th January Christmas Feria
10.00am Requiem Mass for John Munroe RIP
Fri 7th January Christmas Feria
10.00am Bill Larkin RIP
Sat 8th January Christmas Feria
10.00am David Ward

9th January 2011, The Baptism of the Lord (A)

9.30 am Family Mass The People of the Parish
11.30am Sung Mass Denis Sumner RIP
5.00pm Quiet Mass Paul & Stephanie Ferro's welfare

No Rosary & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

**The Parish Diary
This Week**

Wednesday

Church Cleaning after Mass
No Open Door Prayer Group
(Resumes 12th January)

Thursday

No Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament
RCIA 7.30pm in the Church

Saturday

First Holy Communion
Class in the Church
10.30am - 12 noon

Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament 10.30am -
11.00am

Sunday

Children's Liturgy during
9.30am Mass

The Rosary is recited daily at
9.40am except Friday when it is
said at 8.40am and Sundays
when it is said at 4pm

*The Sanctuary Lamps this
week are burning for
Kelly Dalgleish RIP*



**Restoration of our Stained
Glass Windows In Memory of
Fr. Dominic O' Sullivan, a
much loved Parish Priest**

Total needed £50,000

Please sponsor a panel for
£20.00 see details at the back
of the Church

Amount raised to date

£32,710.66

Confessions

Sundays
9.00am - 9.20am
11.00am - 11.20am
4.30pm - 4.50pm
Saturdays
10.30am - 11.00am

**Thank you for last Sunday's collection
Loose £493.60 Gift Aid £392.30 = £885.90
and your generous Christmas Offering**

POPE BENEDICT ON BBC RADIO 4'S

'THOUGHT FOR TODAY' PROGRAMME ON CHRISTMAS EVE

"..... As we ponder this great mystery in our hearts this Christmas, let us give thanks to God for his goodness to us and let us joyfully proclaim to those around us the good news that God offers us freedom from whatever weighs us down: he gives us hope, he brings us life.
Dear Friends from Scotland, England, Wales and indeed every part of the English-speaking world. I want you to know that I keep all of you very much in my prayers this Holy Season.
I pray for your families, for your children, for those who are sick and for those who are going through any form of hardship at this time.
I pray especially for the elderly and for those who are approaching the end of their days.
I ask Christ, the light of the nations, to dispel whatever darkness there may be in your lives and to grant to every one of you the grace of a peaceful and joyful Christmas.
May God bless all of you!"



The Epiphany of the Lord

Up till now, all has been quite humble. A donkey-ride to a dusty town south of Jerusalem. Hotel rooms all booked up. Giving birth in a stable and laying the baby in an animal's feeding trough instead of a cosy cradle.

Into this scene of obscure poverty suddenly bursts an exotic entourage from a far off land. Dignitaries in dress uniform lavish the newborn with expensive gifts that seem out of place in the humble surroundings.

What seems to be no more than another crying baby for a brief moment "appears" for who He really is – the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords. The gifts he is given, prophesied in Isaiah 60:6, tell the story: gold fit for a king, incense for the worship of God, and myrrh, bitter yet precious, for the hero who will lay down his life for his people.

These prestigious visitors are Gentiles, not Jews. From the very beginning of his human existence, then, Jesus is clearly not just the Jewish messiah who has come to deliver the people of Israel from foreign oppression. No, he is the universal king, the ruler of all, who has come to tear down the hostile wall dividing Jew from Gentile, nation from nation.

The word "Catholic", derived from Greek means "according to the whole," it means that Christ did not come to establish some local religious sect for a select few, one "cult" among many. No, the Church he founded is "Catholic" or universal, spread over the whole world, welcoming the whole human race into one nation, one family, under one King.

**HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION
AND IMPORTANT FEASTS FOR 2011**

- Ash Wednesday, Wednesday, 9th March
- Palm Sunday, Sunday, 17th April
- Easter Sunday, Sunday 24th April
- Ascension, Thursday, 2nd June (Holy Day of Obligation transferred to Sunday, 5th June)
- Pentecost Sunday, Sunday, 12th June
- Trinity Sunday, Sunday, 19th June
- Corpus Christi, Thursday, 23rd June (Holy Day of Obligation transferred to Sunday, 26th June)
- SS. Peter & Paul, Wednesday, 29th June
- Assumption of Our Lady, Monday, 15th August (Holy Day of Obligation transferred to Sunday, 14th August)
- All Saints Day, Tuesday, 1st November
- First Sunday of Advent, Sunday, 27th November
- Christmas Day Sunday, 25th December

OF YOUR CHARITY

Please pray for the repose of the Souls of John Munroe & Peter Stewart both of whom died recently. John Munroe's requiem Mass will be here at St. Raphael's on Thursday. Peter Stewart's on Tuesday 11th January

May they Rest in Peace



CRIB OFFERINGS

Once again the offerings left at our Parish Crib will be donated to the Comboni Sisters in Bethany to help support the small nursery school they run for the poor children living in this part of the Holy Land.

Please be as generous as you can to help support the sisters in their work in this dangerous area surrounded by soldiers with automatic weapons and security fences. Above all, particularly at this time of year, pray for peace amongst all the peoples who live in the Holy Land.

CLEANER REQUIRED

For a registered disabled person in Uxbridge Road. The person needs to be of good character, and willing to work with medically disabled persons. They should be non – smokers and must be able to do very detailed cleaning. Rate of pay is £8.00 per hour. Number of hours per week: Two days a week...2-3 hours each day. Monday and Thursday (or some other arrangement). Please contact Robert on 07913.262.989 or via e-mail at roblondonuk@hotmail.com Please reference St. Raphael's in the Subject field.

GIFT AID

The Parish has received a cheque for £14,416.60 in respect of Gift Aid Tax Refund. Thank you to those who have completed Gift Aid Forms. If you have not already done so and you are a UK Tax payer, please do complete one. Forms are available in the porch.

There is no simpler or painless way to support your Parish.

- You do not have to give a fixed sum of money each week, you can give as much or as little & as often as you like.
- You do not have to complete any other paperwork or contact your Tax Office to reclaim the Tax, the diocese handles this part of the process. Once you have completed the form you need not do anything further.
- You will be given a set of envelopes; you simply place your weekly offertory in the envelope and place it in the collection in the normal way.
- Your personal details are kept completely confidential. Those counting the collection have no information as to who the donor is. The envelopes are marked only with an anonymous number.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Have you registered at St. Raphael's yet? If not, please fill in one of the Registration Forms and hand it into the Sacristy or parish office.