

FAITH IN FOCUS: ABOUT TO START

In some of our cities we have a church on almost every street corner. But in the whole of Israel there was only one Temple and that was in Jerusalem. The priests went there to offer sacrifices for people's sins and needs. But in every place where at least ten men could meet, no matter how small a village it might be, there was a synagogue. Every Sabbath there was a simple liturgical service that took place there and was led by the local community members. It was a plain affair with readings from the Jewish scriptures followed by a commentary on them in the form of a homily or sermon.

It was to one of these places that Jesus went when he returned to his hometown of Nazareth. He read a text from Isaiah about being anointed to bring freedom to those who were oppressed in different ways. Then he made the incredible claim that this text was being fulfilled here and now as his audience listened.

Even though Jesus had gathered a reputation already as something of a preacher, this proved too much for his listeners and next Sunday we'll see what happened. But for today, what was Jesus really claiming?

In a nutshell he was claiming that a new age was beginning. In the Old Testament people had been waiting for "eschatological" times, times that would usher in a new age when God's kingdom would hold sway. There would be signs that this new age was about to begin: prisoners would be set free, the lame would walk, the deaf hear and the blind see again. Every fifty years the Jews held an amnesty year in which the slate was wiped clean, debts were settled and property returned to rightful owners. Jesus tells his audience that here and now one of these amnesties is about to start; it will be the Lord's year of favour.

Over the next few weeks, and throughout the gospel of Luke, we will see that Jesus has inaugurated this new age of favour between God and his people. And we'll discover that it was to last more than a year. Today as the gospel is proclaimed in our churches God still offers this favour. If you want to, you can make it happen for you even as you listen to God's word. Or you can wait and see how the people responded next week in Luke's gospel.

St Anne's Catholic Church, Newsletter

23rd January 2022
3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C

(Prayer of the Church Week 3)



Sunday Masses
8:30am & 11:30am

Parish Clergy - Salesians of Don Bosco

Fr Michael Hynes
10 Highfield Road, KT16 8BU
Tel: 01932 562375

Web: www.stanneschertsey.org.uk
email: Chertsey@abdiocese.org.uk
Deanery website: www.veybridgedeanery.org/

Sunday

8.30am, 11.30am Mass

We welcome **Emma Stott**, through baptism, into our faith community.

Monday

St. Francis de Sales

9.30am Mass

Tuesday

The Conversion of St. Paul

9.30am Mass

7.30pm Baptism Preparation online

Wednesday

Sts Timothy & Titus

9.30am Mass

7.30pm Legion of Mary Meeting in Savio Centre

Thursday

9.30am Mass

Friday

St. Thomas Aquinas

9.30am Mass

Saturday

10.00am Morning Mass

Next Sunday

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year C

Confirmation

Our Parish Confirmation programme will begin in February 2022 and will run for approximately 7 sessions. This is open to all baptised Catholic

teenagers aged 14+.

Please find the link herewith to fill in the required details for the course.

<https://stanneschertsey.wufoo.co.uk/forms/m1rcmzyw1wmeq7k/>

Please remember to have the baptism details with you as you fill in the form.

Parish Rosary Walk in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes

There will be a parish rosary walk in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes on **Saturday 12th February**, after the morning Mass. We will take a walk in Windsor Great Park from 11-12noon, praying the rosary together as we go. If you wish to share a lift please meet at the church at 10.30am, otherwise please e-mail Lucy for directions, at vaughanneil@icloud.com

BeCome: Young Adults 18-35, Saturday 12 March,

A Day of Lenten Reflection at the House of Prayer, East Molesey Our Youth Adviser has arranged a series of Connect Days across the Diocese offering an opportunity for young people to gather in person and strengthen faith-filled friendships. [Book your free place here.](#)

<https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/8ekwlfae>

Ministries in St. Anne's

These last two years have been a challenge for ministry in St. Anne's. Some ministries have come back to a semblance of normal. Other ministries have remained dormant. These ministries include catechists of any age group. For the benefit of the parish office and parish council, could I ask any active (or people who would like to be) ministers to give in their names either by email or post. This is very important for our parish and diocese. Many thanks.

Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages.

So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. You wonder would we be better apart?

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriageand you don't need to

leave home, it comes to you!

For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing **3rd - 6th March 2022** Call or text +44 788 729 6983.

Email: retrouvailleinfo@gmail.org - or visit www.retrouvaille.uk

For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission

Synod 2021-2023 begins in our Diocese next month with the deadline for group and individual responses 4 February 2022. People from across our community are invited to consider and respond - online or in writing - to the questions posed by the Holy Father, exploring their response to the Synod within their parish, alone, or with friends or family. To access the questions, online Synod Response Form, and supporting resources, please [visit our website](#) and download the **Participant and Group Leaders' Guide**. Contributions from across our Diocese will be collated during February 2022, with Bishop Richard presenting a summary of the feedback received during an online meeting 9 March at 7.30pm. To register to attend this meeting visit abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/8yaw6pon