

Online donations

The diocese now has its own online giving page that is easier to use, has lower transaction fees and is free for parishes to use. It can be found here under parish giving on the donate page. [Donate · ChurchSuite Donate](#)

There is now the drop-down list which is easier than the message box as no donations will be missed. We are planning on phasing out Just Giving in favour of this new site. It would be great if you could use the new site for online donations

FAITH IN FOCUS: THE MOTHER OF ALL GODS?

In an attempt to shock, someone once said that all we know about God is that she is black. The one sure thing we can say about God is that he/she does not fit into a box. God is greater than anything we can ever imagine or understand.

In today's liturgy Isaiah uses feminine imagery to describe how God deals with the chosen people. And so God says that "she" will be like a mother to us, consoling us when we are sad, fondling us in her lap and suckling us at her breasts when we are in need of sustenance.

Of course, God is just God. God's not a man; not a woman; not something in between. God transcends, goes beyond, gender. But thinking of God in terms of a mother as well as a father allows us to glimpse God in an entirely new light. It means that we can suddenly appreciate the tender, life-giving, nursing side to God. These feminine attributes remind us that there is no part of our lives that God is absent from, and nothing that God is unconcerned about.

Living as we do in a scientific age, we tend to think that we can dissect everything and find out exactly how it works before putting it back together again. Then we can use it when we want it. This approach sometimes affects the way people think about God. They have a Jack-in-the-Box God that can be kept with the lid shut and brought out by undoing the catch when we can't solve the problem ourselves and need a bit of divine help.

However, God is much too big to fit in the box and much too clever to be tamed by our attempts to tie him/her down to neat categories. Anyone who has ever read the scriptures will know that time and time again God acts in precisely the opposite way to how we humans think he/she should. God picks the very people whom everyone else discounts on the first ballot; God grants victory to the underdog; God confounds the proud with the humility of the meek, and turns up in circumstances where we wouldn't expect God to be.

Today Isaiah reminds us that God is bigger than us and we cannot pretend to have God taped. If we let our minds be stretched by thinking of God as both a mother and a father then we get twice as much God for our money!

St Anne's Catholic Church, Newsletter

3rd July 2022
14th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Year C

(Prayer of the Church Week 2)



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
email: office.chertsey@abdiocese.org.uk
Deanery website: www.veybridgedeanery.org/

Sunday

8.30am, 11.30am Mass

We welcome **Nancy Gesto and Oscar Glazier**, through Baptism, into our faith community.

Monday

9.30am Mass

Tuesday

9.30am Mass

Wednesday

9.30am Mass

7.30pm Legion of Mary Meeting in Savio Centre

Thursday

9.30am Mass

Friday

9.30am Mass

Saturday

10.00am Mass for children making their First Holy Communion

7pm 40th Anniversary of Ordination Celebration Mass of Fr. Michael Hynes.

Next Sunday

15th Sunday of Ordinary Time. Year C. Collection for Apostleship of the Sea.

3pm Mass for children making their First Holy Communion

Date for Diary

Saturday 9th July at 7pm. Celebration Mass for 40 years of Priesthood of Fr. Michael Hynes. All welcome.

Healthcare professionals against assisted suicide:

Last year the British Medical Association voted to become neutral on assisted suicide, in June there is an opportunity to revert this stance back to opposition. Please show your support for better palliative care and life until its natural end by signing the Our Duty of Care Declaration. More information can be found at: www.ourdutyofcare.org.uk

Message from St. John Fisher parish, Shepperton

THE RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE OF LOURDES ARE COMING TO SHEPPERTON! We are to host the Relics of St Bernadette as part of a National Tour. This will be an historic event in the life of our parish and is sure to bring many blessings. The Relics will arrive here for an all night vigil on Tuesday 6th September, leaving the parish around midday on Wednesday 7th September. The web site for the Tour is now live. You can view it here: www.stbernadette.org.uk

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS)

This course, which is for anyone interested in finding out more about their faith, begins again in the Diocese in the Autumn. For more information, please contact the Formation Adviser, Jon Harman E:jon.harman@abdiocese.org.uk

School Volunteers required

Do you enjoy working with children and young people? Could you help to inspire and empower children and young people in our Catholic schools and churches to bring alive their sense of global justice?

Could you give an assembly or a workshop in a local school? Supported by CAFOD with training and resources, you will discuss issues of global justice, add to parish and school life whilst complementing the work of teachers, priests and catechists. Contact the CAFOD A&B office at:- St Pius X Church, Laustan Close, Mellow, Guildford, Surrey GU2 2TS Tel: 01483 573273 07710 094448

Email: arundelandbrighton@cafod.org.uk

Website: www.cafod.org.uk

theASCENT bookings are open!

This amazing project for teenagers in year 10, 11 or 12 will help them grow in faith and confidence, as they explore what it means to be Catholic with other likeminded individuals. Contact our Diocesan Youth Adviser E:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk or visit W:www.theascentuk.co.uk for more information.

BeCome: Diocesan Young Adults Group (18-35).

We are coming to the end of our online study of the Sycamore series but will be starting a new process of studying and praying with scriptures very soon. If you are interested in joining our community and diving deeper into the bible whilst forming new friendships, contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

Radio Maria

Radio Maria is a catholic radio station that broadcasts in many countries. Radio Maria England was formed just before the start of the pandemic and is available as a DAB station and on line. For more details click link.

<https://radiomariaengland.uk/>

Ukraine

The Salesians are working for the people of Ukraine in Ukraine and in Poland with the refugees. See the help being given in the report from Poland in the newsletter section of the website. Also <https://misjesalezjanie.pl/aid-for-ukraine/> . There is a just giving page which can be used. The page can be accessed at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/salesiangbrprovince>