

Tea and Coffee after Sunday 10:30 mass

New volunteers are urgently needed to help serve tea and coffee after the 10:30 mass on Sundays starting from January 2019. The commitment is to serve the tea and coffee one Sunday a month. For more details and how to join the rota please contact Libia at libiaeroldan@yahoo.com, 07904150510. Thank you!

FAITH IN FOCUS: HAPPILY EVER AFTER?

Today is known as *Gaudete* or Rejoicing Sunday, and St Paul is quite insistent that we should know what we are doing: I want you to be happy, always happy in the Lord!

Happy is a strange word. Some people think they are happy but they're really only content. To be content means that we put up with something without complaining too much because we know things could be a lot worse. So we're content with our lot.

Some people think they are happy but they're really only pleased. Something has happened that has given them a bit of a fillip. Perhaps their football team has won an unexpected victory. But it's hardly ecstasy!

Some people think they are happy but they're really only in a good mood. Maybe they've been out to celebrate passing an exam or celebrating someone's birthday and they've had a lovely evening. But tomorrow this will only be a memory.

Content, pleased, glad, cheerful, jovial, merry...all of this is good but it's not actually the same as happiness.

To be happy means to be blessed. And to know that you are blessed makes you happy. Really happy. So at the root of happiness for a Christian is the knowledge that we are made in God's image, loved by him and held in that love every moment of our being. Although we stray from this image of God we are constantly called back to the joy of our relationship with God and are redeemed through Christ's death and resurrection. This is the greatest blessing we could wish for: to belong to God.

Pleasure is a fleeting thing. We can feel it today but it can desert us tomorrow. But Christian happiness is full of more than pleasure; it's coated with joy. And such happiness and joy can never be taken away from us, even though at times our vision of them may seem clouded.

As we continue our Advent journey Paul advises us to be happy, for our God is very near and is coming to set us free. This deep-down happiness at the approach of our God is something that doesn't waver with every gust of the wind because it is at the heart of our loving relationship with God. In fact it's a real blessing.

16th December 2018
3rd Sunday of Advent Year C.

(Missal Page 711)
(Prayer of the Church Week 3)



Sunday Masses

6:30pm(Vigil) 8:30am & 10:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10:30-11:30am & on request

Parish Clergy - Salesians of Don Bosco

Fr Michael Hynes

Fr. Peter Pagac

10 Highfield Road, KT16 8BU

Tel: 01932 562375

Web: www.stanneschertsey.org.uk

email: pp@stanneschertsey.org.uk

Deanery website: www.veybridgedeanery.org/

Last Week

Sunday Collection: £356 + Standing Orders. Thank You.

Sunday

Coffee and Tea available in the Savio Centre after the 10.30am Mass

Monday

9.30am Mass

7.30pm Christmas Carol Service in Savio Centre

Tuesday

9.30am Mass

2.00pm Women's League in the Savio Centre

Wednesday

9.10am Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary

9.30am Mass

Thursday

9.30am Mass

10 -4pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

10-11am Mothers' Prayers

Friday

9.30am Mass

Saturday

10.00am Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Sacrament of Reconciliation

Next Sunday

4th Sunday of Advent Year C. After 10.30am Mass, Decoration of the Church. Volunteers needed.

Parish Quiz Night

Saturday 15th December at 7:45 pm in the Savio Centre. Pub quiz level questions. Entry £5. Proceeds towards the cost of the church audio system upgrade.

Christmas Evangelisation

Anyone who would like to come and offer Christian gifts and prayer cards to our neighbours in Chertsey please meet outside St. Anne's at 11.45am on Saturday 22nd December.

We will then go outside Sainsbury's to share our faith with others. We will be there for about an hour.

Everyone is very welcome to join in, including children and young adults. If you wish to know more please e-mail **Lucy** at **vaughanneil@icloud.com** or simply turn up on the day.

3rd Sunday of Advent 16th December 2018

Sunday Mass; Bring a smile to another child's Christmas day. Children please bring a wrapped gift for a child. Please label with the age and gender most suitable for your gift. Children will be asked to bring the gifts to the altar after communion.

Christmas Carol Service

The Salesian Cooperators are hosting their annual Parish Carol Service in the Savio Centre on Monday 17th December at 7.30 pm.

EVERYBODY is welcome. Light refreshments will be served. As is the tradition a collection will be made and the proceeds sent to the children in an orphanage which is situated in the centre of **BETHLEHEM**.

Confirmation 2019 at St. Anne's, Chertsey.

Our Confirmation programme will run on a Tuesday evening for 8 sessions between

February and May. Anyone who is in Year 10 and above and wishes to be confirmed in May needs to complete the online form. The website address is below.

All sessions will be held in the Savio Centre between 630-800pm.

There will be a mass of enrolment at St Anne's at the beginning of the course and the

Confirmation masses will take place at St. George's Chapel, Weybridge in May 2019.

All dates will be issued on a letter once the candidates have signed up. We encourage

All of our teenagers to begin this journey of deepening their faith and become active adults in the Catholic Church. The form for enrolment is online. You will need to know the place and date of baptism to complete the form. The link to the form is

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

Alpha Course

Will this time be your time? We start our next Alpha course on Monday 14th January in the Savio Centre. Alpha works for people who have little or no faith but it's also great for established Catholics. The Mass is a great blessing but it's good to explore what's really important in a less formal environment where we can say what we think, ask questions and listen to other people's experiences. Why not come along to the first session to enjoy a meal and watch a 30 minute film so that you can see what Alpha is like? Many of us pray for members of our families & friends that they will come to know the Lord. Alpha could well be the answer to your prayer. Bring them along! We start with supper at 7:00 pm and finish by 8:45. Alpha is free. There's no need to book. Just turn up. For information call **James** 07802 531 993

Parish Film Night

At 7:45 pm on Saturday 29th December we will be screening *The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey* in the Savio Centre. It stars Tom Berenger & Luke Ward-Wilkinson. Food will be available. Please bring your own drinks. No entry charge. Make it part of your Christmas celebrations!