

Fr Stephen Ojapah msp has written a book titled 'Tears and Torture; 33 Days in Kidnappers Den'. The book will be launched formally on the 8th October at the University of Surrey in Guilford. **A 53 seater coach has been booked for all wishing to join us this Tuesday. The coach will be leaving St John's at 3.30pm to arrive at the University for a 6pm start and leave by 8pm for the return journey. It will cost £20 payable on the coach. Please do consider coming and supporting Fr Stephen. A clipboard is available at the back of the Church for names.**

Holy Rosary October is the month of the Holy Rosary and will be said 30 minutes before every Mass Monday to Saturday morning and 5.30pm on Sunday. Everyone is welcome, please join us. Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.

RCIA You are welcome to the Catholic Church Are you searching or want to review your faith or may be interested in joining the Catholic community, or wish to be Confirmed. A new course has just started 7.30-8.30pm. Please let Fr Stephen know if you would like to join.

Baptism Application forms for Baptism are available from the back of the Church or the parish office. Families need to attend a talk before the baptism. Please phone/email the office if you wish to attend (Next session is Monday 14th Oct).

Wedding Our prayers, congratulations and best wishes to Cecilia Chaniwa and Wilber Chaniwa on their wedding this weekend at St John's. Please make an appointment to see the Parish Priest if you would like to get married at St John's.

Last weeks collections £1,072.92. **This Sunday:** second collection for CAFOD. Thank you for your continued generosity and to those people who pay by standing order and contactless.

Afternoon for Readers to introduce the new translation for the Lectionary led by Bishop Paul Hendricks at St Thomas of Canterbury, CT1 2HJ on Sat 2nd Nov 2-4pm

Parish Bazaar This years bazaar will be held at St John's Comp School on Saturday 30th Nov. Draw tickets are now available. Tickets are 50p or £2.50 a book. We would be delighted if you could take and sell them to your family and friends and encourage them to come to the Bazaar. Please return counterfoils and money by placing in a marked envelope in the collection plate, one of the priests or parish office. Please do let us know if you are able to donate to the raffle. We will start collecting soon and also looking for help or new stalls/ideas. Contact the office or talk to Father.

200 club Draw will take place on Wednesday 11th October. This will be the final draw as it has been decided not to renew subscriptions this year. Thank you for your support over the years.

School form signing Fr Stephen will be available to sign school forms on Monday 5-6pm and Wednesday 2-4pm.

Sr Magdalene Thank You Sr Magdalene would like to thank everyone that sent birthday wishes, cards and gifts on her recent special birthday. She remembers you all in her prayers.

Book club You are invited to come to the Rotary Club of Gravesham and Ebbsfleet to their monthly book club conversation at St Johns in the Coffee bar this Wednesday 9th Oct at 6.30pm. The anchor of this programme is Fr Stephen Ojapah.

Banns of Marriage Lester Tony Travassa (Hampton Crescent, Gravesend) wishes to marry Bernice Ana Carvalho; if you have any objection to this marriage, please come and talk to the priests in the parish.

Wednesday Tea/Coffee Refreshments are served in the Coffee bar after 12 noon Mass. All welcome.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Christ is really present in the Blessed Sacrament; come and talk heart to heart with Him, either on Wed (10am-12noon) or Sat after 10am Mass until 12.30pm; or 1st Friday 24 hour Adoration.

Archdiocese of Southwark Annual Assembly hosted by the Justice and Peace Commission on Saturday 12 October at St James the Great Catholic Church, Petts Wood BR5 1BJ. Preceded by Mass at 10.00am Principal Celebrant Bishop Emeritus Patrick Lynch. Registration 11am. Programme 11am to 4pm. Entitled: God Walks With His People: in search for a solution to poverty both home and overseas. Everyone welcome. Entrance is free. Lunch provided. Donations appreciated. Email: jpiccontact@rcaos.org.uk to reserve your place and for catering purposes.

The Archbishop's Certificate: The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course incorporating three in person study days for all in Southwark who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy. It is in accord with Archbishop John Wilson's vision for a missionary archdiocese and is open to all who work towards this. The course will commence on 12 October with an introductory zoom session and the first in person session will take place on 19 October at St George's Cathedral. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>. If you have any questions please email archcert@aec.rcaos.org.uk

Padre Pio Prayer Group each Tuesday straight after 9.15am Mass in the Cry Chapel. All welcome to join us in prayer. We especially remember our sick friends and family.

Mustard Seed Bible study every day @ 8.30pm; Lectio Divina on Fridays @ 7.30pm. Please go to the parish website.

Please see the parish website for all our prayer groups.