

Church of the Holy Name42 Arbrook Lane,
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E: thamesditton@abdiocese.org.ukLive Stream: <https://bit.ly/2Lu1sN4>www.holyfamilyelbridge.church**Parish Priest - Fr Sebastian Paul**Presbytery: 01372 462451 (option 4); E: sebastian.paul@abdiocese.org.uk; Emergencies: 07879 174 017Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100087238362451>**Newsletter 4th April, 2025****Fifth Sunday of Lent**

A long term parishioner said to me after the AGM that he appreciated the information given at the AGM and was so glad to be part of a Parish that was going forward. If others agree with him then we achieved what we wanted. Michael did a professional job presenting the figures but pointed out that Standing Orders had not been increased since COVID whereas inflation since then had been 30%. But the highlight to me was Fr Sebastian explaining why the numbers of Catechumens, First Holy Communions and Confirmations was so high. This did not just happen, but was the result of the hard work of various people including the catechists, volunteers, teachers and Fr Sebastian as they managed to engage the parents and children at St Pauls School. And Karen explained with passion the need for the regeneration of the parish halls at OLOL in order to promote the Mission of the Parish. Thank you to those who attended.

Chris Bourne, Chairman PPC**Mass Times this Week: Sat 5th to Sun 13th April**

Day/Feast Day	Time	Church	Intention
Saturday 5 th	5.30pm 6pm	<i>Reconciliation at Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Our Lady of Lourdes	People of the Parish
Sunday 6 th	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6pm	Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes <i>Reconciliation at Holy Name</i> Holy Name	Francis Cutter RIP Holy Souls
Monday 7 th	9.30am	Our Lady of Lourdes	Gideon Sibanyoni RIP
Tuesday 8 th	9.30am	Holy Name	
Wednesday 9 th	9.30am- 10.00am	Our Lady of Lourdes - <i>Adoration & Rosary</i>	
Thursday 10 th	9.30am	Holy Name	
Friday 11 th	9.30am 12.00pm 8.00pm	Our Lady of Lourdes <i>Holy Name – Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Our Lady of Lourdes – Stations of the Cross</i>	The Barwick Family Ints
Saturday 12 th	5.30pm 6pm	<i>Reconciliation at Our Lady of Lourdes</i> Our Lady of Lourdes	Mary Davis RIP
Sunday 13 th <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9.00am 11.00am 5.30pm 6pm	Holy Name Our Lady of Lourdes <i>Reconciliation at Holy Name</i> Holy Name	Mornington Seager RIP People of the Parish

MONTHLY SOUP LUNCH AT OLOL - Wednesday 9th April 2025, 12pm

A delicious selection of homemade soups with bread and cheese. Come along and bring a friend!

PARISH LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE – Thursday 10th April, 7.30pm at Holy Name

STATIONS OF THE CROSS LED BY VOLUNTEERS CONTINUES ON FRIDAYS UNTIL 11th APRIL

OLOL: Every Friday evening during Lent at 8pm

Holy Name: Fridays 12 noon during Lent followed by frugal soup

SUNDAY 27th APRIL IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY. ALL ARE INVITED! We will have a special Holy Hour from 15.00 at Holy Name, Esher including Divine Mercy Chaplet and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus told St Faustina Kowalska, 'On that day (Divine Mercy Sunday) the very depths of my tender mercy are opened. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of my mercy... (Diary entry 699) If you have never heard of this special day or you would like more details about St Faustina and the Divine Mercy, please visit www.divinemercury.org Please also take a free Divine Mercy Chaplet prayer card which will be available in both Churches.

ESHER & THAMES DITTON PARISH RETREAT – Saturday 3rd May at Holy Name

On Saturday 3rd May, we invite you to our parish retreat from **4pm- 7pm** where we will welcome Fr Matthew Szerszen from the Congregation of Saint Michael the Archangel for the weekend. He is a gifted preacher, an outstanding author and a pre-eminent expert on St Michael the Archangel, the nine choirs of Angels, the spirituality of St Faustina's Diary and the message of Divine Mercy. There will be special talks on these subjects, the opportunity for Reconciliation, prayer and a Eucharistic healing service before we finish with Holy Mass at 18.00. The retreat is free to attend and available to everyone in the Parish, please share this special invitation to your friends and families. For further details please see the posters in the Church or online on our Facebook page. Any help with refreshments on the day would be great. **This really is an opportunity not to be missed!**

SAVE THE DATE: 16-19 May 2025 at OLOL - "The Saviour" exhibition of art by the Iraqi artist ALA BASHIR, in the Gillespie Hall over the weekend. More details to follow.

STUDY HUB AT OLOL DURING SCHOOL EASTER HOLIDAYS

Calling all Mums/Dads of Teens! We have a quiet hub where your teenage child can study for the exams. Can you volunteer for two hours once a month to open up and welcome our teens? Please contact Liz on 07534 869522 if your teen would like to use the hub and we will make sure it's open!

BAPTISM THIS WEEKEND – Congratulations to the Campbell family as we welcome their son Callum into the Church at Holy Name on Sunday

HOLY MOWERS NEEDED – to join rota of lawn mowing at Holy Name.

Please contact the parish office if you can spare a few hours every few weeks.

CHURCH SHOPS -new Missals and Easter Stock

There are a few new missals available in the church shop and also Easter products such as Meaningful Chocolate Easter eggs (telling the Easter story), cards ...

VISITING OF THE HOUSEBOUND

Fr Sebastian is available to visit any housebound parishioners leading up to Easter. If you would like to be visited please contact either parish office

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS DURING LENT

Please, if you can, donate to the boxes in the narthex/porch for both Elmbridge Food Bank but also for Lent only Oasis Childcare (please see more details here

<https://holyfamilyelmbridge.church/app/uploads/2025/03/OASIS-foodbank-blurb-March-25-003.pdf>)

EASTER SERVICES 2025

		Church	Time
HOLY THURSDAY <i>17th April</i>	Mass of the Lord's Supper	OLOL	8pm
GOOD FRIDAY <i>18th April</i>	<i>Family Stations of the Cross</i> <i>Family Stations of the Cross</i> The Passion	OLOL Holy Name Both churches	9.45am 10.30am 3pm
HOLY SATURDAY <i>19th April</i>	<i>Blessing of the Easter Baskets</i> Easter Vigil	Holy Name Holy Name	11am 8pm
EASTER SUNDAY <i>20th April</i>		Holy Name OLOL	9am 11am

YOUTH

NEXT PARISH YOUTH GROUP- Friday 11th April 7-9pm Holy Name

For all those in school years 7-13 (ages 13 +) Our Youth group is fun and relaxed and takes place every other Friday at the Holy Name Church, Esher in the Parish Rooms. It's a great opportunity to learn more about your faith, to enjoy friendship, share pizza, play games and spend some time in prayer.

FUN FRIDAY YOUTH CLUB - 25th April 3.30-4.30pm at OLOL *Please note time change*

Join us for Fun Friday in the Parish hall of OLOL for games, crafts, and snacks. All primary school children and their families welcome!

YOUTH STATIONS OF THE CROSS - 11th April, 7.00-7.30pm at OLOL

Thank you for all the volunteers to help with our youth Stations of the Cross. Please meet in the café at OLOL at 6:45 latest to get your reading. We will be enjoying easter treats and crafts after in the café. If anyone else would like to join, please email youth.etd@abdiocese.org.uk

CHILDREN'S EASTER BASKETS FOR OASIS

Final call for any donations for our Easter baskets. We are delivering this in the morning of April 17th if anyone would like to join. Please email youth.etd@abdiocese.org.uk Huge thank you to all those who have donated!

YOUNG VINCENTIANS YOUTH CLUB - Year 7 - Friday 2nd May 5.30-6.30pm at OLOL

Please join us for our next meeting on Friday, 2nd of May from 5:30 – 6:30 pm in the café at OLOL. We will be organizing for our charity drive for Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness, including our action plan to support the Spring into Action campaign.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT Save the date for the Family Retreat, Saturday April 26th 9am – 12 noon at Holy Name.

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Please see below the link to Universalis which has current weekend readings. This can always be found on the front page of our website too <https://www.universalis.com/Europe.England.Arundel/mass.htm>

REGULAR EVENTS at Holy Name and Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL)

Divine Mercy Chaplet: All welcome to pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy, which Our Lord encouraged St. Faustina to say.	Weekly - Sundays after 9am Mass in the Lady Chapel	Holy Name
TakeTime Meditations: A calm, compassionate space to meet God with the opportunity to explore your faith with others.	Weekly - Mondays at 8pm on Zoom	Email parish office for Zoom link
Playgroup and Café: A cuppa and a chance to catch up with friends every Friday. Playgroup for babies and pre-schoolers too.	Weekly - Fridays 9-10.30am	OLOL
Sew 'N So's: Complete your craft projects with a warm welcome, friendly chat and suggestions about anything you are "stuck" on.	Weekly - Fridays 11am-1pm Call: Jo W on 020 8224 3705	OLOL
Fun Fridays: A youth club for all primary school aged children and their families. It takes place the first Friday of every month (term time) from 3:30 to 5pm in the church hall at OLOL. Games, crafts, snacks, and prizes. It's a great opportunity to hang out with friends after school and enjoy seasonal themed activities.	Monthly – 3.30pm Look out in newsletter for next one	OLOL
Parish Youth Group: For all those in school years 7-13 (ages 13 +) Our Youth group is really fun and relaxed and takes place every other Friday at the Holy Name Church, Esher in the Parish Rooms. It's a great opportunity to learn more about your faith, to enjoy friendship, share pizza, play games and spend some time in prayer. For more information contact the parish office	Every other Friday (see newsletter)	Holy Name
Drinks and games after Saturday and Sunday evening Masses: come along after the 6pm Mass to meet fellow parishioners	Monthly – first weekend of the month	OLOL
Rosary: All welcome, especially anyone who would like to learn the Rosary or anyone who needs a refresher in a peaceful environment.	Weekly - Friday 7pm Monthly - 1st Saturdays at 9.30am First Monday of the month 7.30pm (weekly during May & October) Weekly Wednesday 9.30am	Holy Name Holy Name OLOL OLOL
Bereavement Coffee Morning: Anyone enduring the pain and loss of bereavement is welcome to attend this caring, supportive gathering.	Monthly - 1st Tuesdays at 10am	Holy Name
Grandparents and Elderly Group: Open to all grandparents and elderly in the parish. Come along for a chat and a cuppa.	Monthly - 3rd Tuesdays at 10.15am	OLOL
Bible reading group: Come along for coffee, prayer and discussion: Have you ever thought about what you read in the Bible? Is it true? In what ways is it true? Is it a myth? Who says so? A small group who meet regularly to read and pray the bible together. Informative, useful, and fun	Fortnightly – Wednesdays at 10am Call: John Merrigan (07949 913487).	OLOL
Parish Soups: A delicious selection of homemade soups served with bread and cheese. Come along and bring a friend!	Monthly - 2nd Wednesdays at 12pm	OLOL
Taizé Evening: A short service of meditative and reflective prayer, combining periods of silence, readings from Scripture, and Taizé music based on Psalm.	Monthly - Thursdays at 7pm See newsletter for dates	Holy Name
Esher Catenians: open to all practising Catholic men looking for a local, national and international social network	Monthly – generally 2 nd Tuesdays at 7:00pm for 7:30pm E: Andrew_burton33@aol.com	Various, including Surbiton Golf Club, The Angel T