

The parish office should be your first port of call for any enquiries, including appointments, and arrangements for all sacraments (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals). Please email Karin Rattray, the Parish Secretary, at kingston@rcaos.org.uk or call on **020 8546 4633**. The office is open from **10am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (closed Wednesdays)**. Could you please limit telephone calls outside these hours to emergencies only.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST 2020
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, (A)

Saturday 1st

9.30am Cyril & Frances Jarvis RIP

6.30pm Teresa & Luigi Pozella RIP

Sunday 2nd 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am People of the Parish

10.30am Lambert Family Special Intentions

6.30pm Patrick Collins RIP

Monday 3rd

9.30am

Tuesday 4th

9.30am

Wednesday 5th

9.30am Holy Souls

Thursday 6th

9.30am

Friday 7th

9.30am Thanksgiving for the Makala Family

Saturday 8th

9.30am Special Intentions for Miguel & Maria Graça & their daughters & sons

6.30pm Teresa & Luigi Pozella RIP

Morning Prayer:

Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM

Mass Times:

Saturday: 09:30, 18:30

Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30

Monday to Friday: 09:30

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, Clare Horgan, John Sewter, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle and Melba De Silva. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either you or your relatives want to be mentioned on our sick list.

ANNIVERSARIES

Jane Black, Maurice O'Sullivan, Margaret Markey, James Owens, Frederick George Higgins, Christina Stilwell, Ted Hegarty, Joseph Goldsmith, Muriel Connellan, John Smyth, Delia Galligan, Gertrude Farrell, Freda Ross, John Dracas, Richard North, Madeleine Miller, Brian Barrett, Sheila Eugenia Taylor, Christopher Byrne, Josephine McParlane, Ellen Wiseman, Margaret Broatbent, Alvaro Americo Britto, Mary Kathleen Frain, Shelagh Gray, Chris Sargent, James Jenning, Elizabeth O'Keefe, Mary Sweeney, Lilian Thompson. ++ May they rest in Peace ++

LET US REMEMBER

Let us remember those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all their families, with love and affection during this time of grief. May the Lord grant eternal rest to all who have died.

Message from Parish Secretary:

I would like to say a huge thank you for all your messages, cards and gifts of condolences at this difficult time. I truly appreciate, and feel, your love and support, Thank You, Karin.

St Agatha's Church is open for Public Worship

We have resumed public worship, however, whilst many are excited about the prospects of returning to Mass, we must do everything possible to make the participation at Mass safe through the required hygiene and social distancing measures. Numbers for each Mass will be limited; we are maintaining a distance of 2 metres, which means the wearing of face masks is a personal choice. We have 28 seating areas, which has 2 areas per pew, and each area can have no more than 4 persons each (adults and children). Therefore, a household of 5 (i.e. 2 adults and 3 children) or more will be asked to use a whole pew. Once all the allocated seats in the church are filled, there will be no further access into the church.

We have also been instructed that we should comply with the Governments NHS Track and Trace requirements, which means that everyone coming to the church will be asked to provide their contact details upon entering. If you are able to complete the form before coming to the church to hand to the stewards this would be very helpful. It can be downloaded from the parish website.

Extra Masses are not permitted at the moment on Sundays and numbers will need to be restricted by our Stewards. Please, kindly note that the dispensation from Sunday obligation granted by the Bishops at the onset of the lockdown is still in place until further notice and we encourage you to come to the weekday Masses instead of Sundays as this will be helpful for numbers in church and may be more convenient for our elderly parishioners.

Livestreaming of a Sunday Mass, 10.30am, will continue, from our website and a Facebook page for that those who may not consider it safe for them to attend Mass in person.

<https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92>

Holy Communion, under 'one kind' must be received in the hand. Fr Anthony or Fr Ebuka will give clear instructions during Mass regarding Holy Communion – please follow them. Mass will be kept simple, and there can be no singing. Homilies will be brief and there will be no Prayer of the Faithful (Bidding Prayers).

The main doors will be left open (weather permitting) during Masses.

There will an opportunity to give to the parish through a static collection box at the entrance and exits. Mass Intentions can also be posted at this point.

The times of Masses will be as in normal time. Please note: there may also be last minute changes, depending on availability of stewards.



PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



For your safety, and that of others, please see key instructions below:

- Please sanitise your hands well on entering and exiting – hand-sanitiser is provided.
- At all times follow the directions of the stewards and the signs in church.
- Please note the stewards act in Fr. Anthony's name and with his authority.
- Once all the allocated seats in the church are filled, there will be no further access into the church.
- If you feel unwell, please do not put others in danger and stay at home. Please **do not** visit the Church if you have a high temperature or a new continuous cough or less of or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell.
- Please be prompt to leave when Mass is finished, but be guided by the stewards
- Physical veneration of relics, statues and shrines is not permitted.
- No person under 16 is allowed to enter a church building unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Please note that the toilets will not be available.

Consider Bringing Your Sunday Missal To Mass

As part of the safety measures as we resume Mass with a congregation, Mass Books will not be provided till further notice and, for environmental reasons, we will not supply single-use Mass Sheets. If you would like to consider purchasing your own Sunday Missal, there are a couple of options at: <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk> – the Redemptorists Sunday Missal "Your Sunday Missal" or <https://www.ctsbooks.org/returning-to-mass/> – CTS Sunday Missal. Both priced at around £20.

Mass Intentions

Fr Anthony and Fr Ebuka continue to offer daily Masses. We have plenty of available slots for upcoming Masses. Mass intentions envelopes are available in the church porch and can be left in the corresponding 'Mass Request Box' or posted at the Presbytery. Alternatively, please email the Parish office. When requesting a Mass, please CLEARLY indicate the NAME and INTENTION and whether the Mass is for the deceased, the sick or for another intention. If you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, it is very important that you let the parish office know as soon as possible and we will endeavour to accommodate the date asked for. If no date is specified the Mass Intention will be assigned to the next open date. If you require confirmation of a Mass date and time, please ensure you provide your contact details or call the parish office during office hours.

*Christian love teaches us to give our fellows material as well as spiritual gifts. We should give them our last shirt and our last piece of bread.
~ Saint Maria Skobtsova, Righteous Martyr*

Church Stewards Still Needed PLEASE

IF WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH STEWARDS ON ROTAS
OUR CHURCH WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OPEN.

Our thanks to our current stewards for their continuing assistance, without their help we would not be able to open, and thanks also to all who have come into the church, for adhering to the new way of doing things.

One of the diocese requirements is that we must have at least two stewards in the church at the times the church is open, for all Public Worship services. For our Sunday Masses we require at least 4 Stewards. Stewards will assist with showing people what to do, where they can sit and how to keep themselves and others safe and to complete the track and trace information cards. Our current opening times have been arranged around the availability of our stewards. If we can get more volunteers to offer their time on different days then we will be able to open for more of our Public Worship Masses in the coming weeks.

In order to enable this, we are asking for more volunteers to join the rota; if you are in good health, with no underlying health issues, are under 70 and not shielding anyone vulnerable at home (NB not those classed as "vulnerable" to Covid-19), please consider doing this for one a week.

If you are able to help, please email the parish office kingston@rcaos.org.uk with the following information:

- Your contact details (name, email address and phone number).
- What day Monday – Sunday and time (Saturdays and Sundays only) morning or evening you can help.
- Any particular day of the week you can commit to. It would be easier if people could generally commit to the same slot each week (but not essential).

Please do get in touch as soon as possible. Instructions and PPE equipment will be provided. This is a serious task, and all the measures being put in place will need to be adhered to at all times, but it will also be a joyful time, welcoming people back to the real presence of Our Lord.

***"The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy."
Psalm 145:8***



**EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, CYCLE A
SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 2020**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus feeds the crowd with five loaves and two fish.

Gospel Reflection

Today we jump ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel to Chapter 14. Last week we heard Jesus conclude his discourse with the crowds about the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew's narrative, Jesus then leaves the crowds and returns to Nazareth, where he is rejected. Matthew then recounts the story of John the Baptist's arrest and execution at the hands of Herod. Today's Gospel reading begins at this point.

Upon hearing the news of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus seeks to withdraw, but the crowds follow him. Jesus reaches out to them in compassion and heals the sick. At the end of a long day, the disciples encourage Jesus to send the crowds away so that they might find provisions for themselves. Jesus again responds with compassion for the crowd. Jesus tells his disciples to provide food for the crowd. The disciples reply with a report of the meagreness of their own provisions—five loaves and two fish. The result is the very familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. Matthew's Gospel tells us that 5,000 men were fed, and this number does not even include the women and children.

Jesus' blessing brought abundance from the meagre provisions of the disciples. In this action, Jesus offers us a sign of the Kingdom of Heaven that he has been teaching about in the parables. A feast results from the smallest of portions—remember the mustard seed and the yeast. In this miracle we witness an example for Christian life and ministry. Even the smallest of offerings can produce abundant results when placed in the service of the Kingdom of Heaven.

We find the story of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fish in each of the four Gospels. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus performs this same miracle on two separate occasions. The story of this miracle is an anticipation of the Eucharist in which we are fed by the abundant grace of God. The importance of the Eucharist has been a defining element of Christian life from the very beginning.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020/21

We have had a few enquiries regarding the new Gift Aid envelopes for 2020/21 which commenced in April. The envelopes have been received from the diocese, unfortunately we are unable to issue them until we have instructions from the diocese to do so in a safe way. Could all of those parishioners who are in touch and are keeping those members of our community who do not have access to the internet with news, please convey this message to them. Also, for those of you who have been putting their weekly offering aside at home, we now have a donations box in the church porch where you can post your envelopes when you visit.

If you do still give to the Church by weekly envelopes, we really encourage you to switch to weekly or monthly standing orders from your bank. A bank mandate form can be downloaded from the 'support us' page of the Parish website. For 2nd collections you can make individual online payments to the same account quoting your Gift Aid number and the cause to which you are giving. Parishioners who do not belong to the Gift Aid scheme can give to the Church by online transfer from their bank; please, kindly add the reference NGA (Non-Gift Aid)

We thank you for your continued generosity.

Family Reflection

In our family life we can sometimes hear echoes of the disciples' excuses: "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Sometimes this echo is heard from children squabbling about the last piece of cake. Sometimes it is heard in our concern about the limits of the family's income or possessions. Sometimes this echo is heard in our complaints about the seemingly endless demands for our time and attention. Jesus understood these feelings and taught us to see beyond our limitations. Jesus modelled for us a compassion that reaches out to others, even when we would rather withdraw into ourselves. Jesus taught us that God blesses compassion offered to others with his grace. Today's Gospel reminds us that with God there is not only enough, there is an abundance!

Talk together about some of the stresses and demands for time and attention that your family members might feel. Acknowledge that we sometimes have to make difficult choices about how to use our time, talents, and treasure. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 14:13-21. Notice how much Jesus cared for the crowds, healing the sick even though he wanted to withdraw to a quiet place. Notice how the disciples responded to Jesus' instruction to feed the crowd; they noted their limited supply of food. Jesus blessed this limited supply of food, and it was enough to feed the entire crowd, more than 5,000 people, and there were leftovers! Pray together that Jesus will grant us compassion like his so that we will offer whatever we have to others with compassion and generosity. Pray together today's Psalm, Psalm 145, or the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

A big thanks to all those who are managing to support the parish financially through the different means of financial offerings and contributions during these difficult times.

Like many charities, our church is funded entirely by your donations and while we continue to serve the community using new technology, our church still needs to be insured and maintained. We are doing our best to save money but, although our heating expenses may have been reduced, we still have to pay contributions to the diocese, salaries and other various expenses.

Without our usual weekly collections during the months of lockdown there has been a significant impact on the parish finances and we would greatly appreciate your donations to enable us to continue without financial concern after the current situation is over.

If you would like to support St Agatha's Church please go to the 'support us' page on the parish website for our gift aid and standing order forms. Alternatively, the church's bank details for making regular standing orders or one-off bank transfers directly are:

Our account details are as follows:

Please pay:

National Westminster, Kingston Marketplace

For the credit of:

St Agatha's Roman Catholic Church

Bank details: Account number: 10317821

Sort code: 60-60-02

Please ensure you make the reference (that will appear on our Bank Statement) "your name" followed by "offertory".