

#### CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church 1 Wyndham Road Kingston upon Thames Surrey, KT2 5JR Tel: 020 8546 4633 www.stagathaschurch.org.uk

Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon kingston@rcaos.org.uk
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 (A)
SUNDAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2020.
THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD	
Saturday 1st	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Jenny & Frankie Pyburn
6.30pm	John Davis RIP
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Presentation of the Lord
9.00am	Lugrece & Jean Ciantar RIP
10.30am	People of the Parish
6.30pm	Mary & Patrick Collins
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Christine Bond
Tuesday 4th	
9.30am	Sylvia Morais RIP
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial
9.30am	NO MORNING MASS
1.30pm	Whole School Mass
7.30pm	Carpo De Silva RIP
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyr, Memorial
9.30am	Cyril & France Jarvis RIP
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	
9.30am	Thanksgiving for Makala Family
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	
9.30am	Keith Fernandes RIP
6.30pm	Private Intentions
Exposition:	Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer:	Monday to Saturday 9am.
	Saturday 10-10.30am, 6-6.15pm & at call.
•	By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12.30pm.
	Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.
	TURDAY OF EACH MONTH (7th March 2020) WE WILL
HAVE ONE HOU	IR OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

# BETWEEN 10AM & 11AM.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

# **ANNIVERSARIES**

Frank Mifsud, Johannes Kortenray, Ann Cunningham. Marilyn Celia Tinenti, Winifred Duckett, Elizabeth Sharkey, Margaret Scott, Martin Hughes, Emily Wright, Catherine Mary Fisher, Mary Cassidy, Frederick Thomas, Frances Carr, Catherine Sellwood, Alan Hanley, Catherine McDonnell, Francis Brain, William Gentry, Karmimurz Skicki, Noreen Halloran, Mary Joyce, Salvatore Grassi, Alice Bennett, Father Albert H. Jenner, Kathleen Lombard, Amadeis Mouta, Noreen Mullane, Frances Marie. +++ May they rest in Peace +++

#### LET US REMEMBER ALL WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Let us remember those who have died, those whose anniversaries occur about this time and their families, with love and affection during this time of grief.

May the Lord grant eternal rest to all who have died.

# THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020, CYCLE A

### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 2:22-40 (Shorter Form: Luke 2:22-32) Simeon recognizes the infant Jesus as the promised Messiah.

#### Reflection

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. The Presentation, which is celebrated 40 days after Christmas, is not mentioned in the other Gospels. Only Luke tells the story, most likely because he writes for Gentile Christians who are not familiar with the Jewish rite of presentation and purification. In addition, the intent of Luke's Gospel is to show that God's promise to Israel, fulfilled in Jesus, extends to Gentiles.

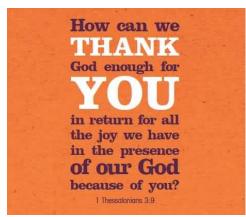
Luke recognizes Joseph and Mary as faithful Jews who bring Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem. Here they present their firstborn son to the Lord. Jesus is thus consecrated as required by the Law of Moses. Present in the temple at this time are Simeon and Anna. Both are awaiting the restoration of God's rule in Israel.

Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see Christ the Lord, the Messiah, before he died. The holy man immediately recognized the infant Jesus as the promised Saviour, a "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Anna also recognized Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise of redemption and spoke about him to all.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

# St Agatha's Feast Day – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020

There will be no morning Mass on this day. We would like to invite everyone along to celebrate with us on this our Feast Day to a special thanksgiving Mass in the evening at 7.30pm. Mass will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the cloister. Please do come along and join us.



# THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020, CYCLE A

#### **Gospel Reading**

Luke 2:22–40 (Shorter Form: Luke 2:22–32) Simeon recognizes the infant Jesus as the promised Messiah.

# **Family Reflection**

As we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, discuss with the family the persons of Simeon and Anna as they meet Jesus. (Luke 2: 25–40)

Because Simeon and Anna lived lives of prayer and fasting in the Temple, they were filled with the Spirit of God. That is why they were able to identify Jesus as the Saviour even though Jesus was only a baby. To these two holy people, he was recognizable as the Redeemer who had been promised. Simeon described Jesus as "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel."

We too are called to recognize Jesus as Lord. Together as a family discuss ways to recognize Jesus as Lord by praying and attending Mass, fasting, and serving others. As a family, decide on one specific sacrifice you can make in order to alleviate the suffering or need of someone you know.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

# **Baptism Preparation Class**

Our next Baptism preparation class is on this **Sunday**, **2**<sup>nd</sup> **February 2020 at 2pm.** If you are considering your child's



baptism in the next few months, please complete an application form and join us for this class. *Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for a baptism.* Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for

the adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

"The God Who Speaks" – Year of the Word 2020 To mark the special Year of the Word Archbishop John Wilson is inviting all Parishes in the diocese to join him for a special diocesan gathering in Aylesford on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June. Please see leaflets and noticeboard for more details. If you would like to attend, please contact the Parish Secretary.

A mother defends herself with a heart filled with love before doing so with words. I wonder whether there is any love for the church in the hearts of those who pay so much attention to the scandals. ~ Pope Francis

#### **Important Upcoming Dates:**

Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb Baptism Preparation Class

Wed 5<sup>th</sup> Feb St Agatha's Day

Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> Feb Confirmation Session 3

Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb St Agatha's Church Youth Club

# **Change to Parish Office Opening Hours**

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 <a href="mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk">kingston@rcaos.org.uk</a> or call on 020 8546 4633.

The parish office is open as follows:

Monday: 10am – 3pm Tuesday: 10am – 3pm Wednesday: Closed Thursday: 10am – 3pm Friday: 10am – 3pm

Could you please limit telephone calls outside these

hours to emergencies only.

#### Offerings

**First collection** Gift Aid £464.50 Loose £599.50 **Retiring Collection** Gift Aid £7.00 Loose £27.01

TOTAL £1098.01

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

#### **Diocesan Directory**

Printing and delivery of the 2020 Diocesan Directory has been delayed. These should be available soon. They will cost £3.00 each.

#### Richard Challoner and Friends Alumni event

Richard Challoner would like to warmly invite past pupils to The Richard Challoner & Friends Alumni event on **Saturday 14th March from 3-6pm** at Richard Challoner School. A great opportunity to meet up with old friends and have a tour of your much-loved school. Drinks and nibbles will be served. Please register your interest at www.challonerandfriends.com/events/save-the-date

# St Agatha's Feast Day – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2020 Whole School Mass

The School are delighted that Bishop Paul Hendricks will be celebrating Mass for the whole school on St Agatha's Feast Day. The Mass will also mark the start of their 125th Anniversary celebrations. Everyone is welcome to attend this Mass that will take place at the later time of 1.30pm.

# CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH CHAPTER TWO GOD COMES TO MEET MAN

#### Part 2 - THE TRANSMISSION OF DIVINE REVELATION

III. The Interpretation of the Heritage of Faith

The heritage of faith entrusted to the whole of the Church

The apostles entrusted the "Sacred deposit" of the faith (the depositum fidei), contained in Sacred Scripture and Tradition, to the whole of the Church. "By adhering to [this heritage] the entire holy people, united to its pastors, remains always faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. So, in maintaining, practising and professing the faith that has been handed on, there should be a remarkable harmony between the bishops and the faithful."

The Magisterium of the Church

"The task of giving an authentic interpretation of the Word of God, whether in its written form or in the form of Tradition, has been entrusted to the living teaching office of the Church alone. Its authority in this matter is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ." This means that the task of interpretation has been entrusted to the bishops in communion with the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome.

"Yet this Magisterium is not superior to the Word of God, but is its servant. It teaches only what has been handed on to it. At the divine command and with the help of the Holy Spirit, it listens to this devotedly, guards it with dedication and expounds it faithfully. All that it proposes for belief as being divinely revealed is drawn from this single deposit of faith."

Mindful of Christ's words to his apostles: "He who hears you, hears me", The faithful receive with docility the teachings and directives that their pastors give them in different forms

The dogmas of the faith

The Church's Magisterium exercises the authority it holds from Christ to the fullest extent when it defines dogmas, that is, when it proposes truths contained in divine Revelation or also when it proposes in a definitive way truths having a necessary connection with them.

There is an organic connection between our spiritual life and the dogmas. Dogmas are lights along the path of faith; they illuminate it and make it secure. Conversely, if our life is upright, our intellect and heart will be open to welcome the light shed by the dogmas of faith.

The mutual connections between dogmas, and their coherence, can be found in the whole of the Revelation of

the mystery of Christ. "In Catholic doctrine there exists an order or hierarchy 234 of truths, since they vary in their relation to the foundation of the Christian faith."

The supernatural sense of faith

All the faithful share in understanding and handing on revealed truth. They have received the anointing of the Holy Spirit, who instructs them53 and guides them into all truth.

"The whole body of the faithful. . . cannot err in matters of belief. This characteristic is shown in the supernatural appreciation of faith (sensus fidei) on the part of the whole people, when, from the bishops to the last of the faithful, they manifest a universal consent in matters of faith and morals."

"By this appreciation of the faith, aroused and sustained by the Spirit of truth, the People of God, guided by the sacred teaching authority (Magisterium),. . . receives. . . the faith, once for all delivered to the saints. . . the People unfailingly adheres to this faith, penetrates it more deeply with right judgment, and applies it more fully in daily life."

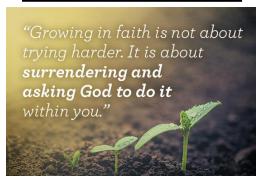
Growth in understanding the faith

Thanks to the assistance of the Holy Spirit, the understanding of both the realities and the words of the heritage of faith is able to grow in the life of the Church:

- "through the contemplation and study of believers who ponder these things in their hearts"; it is in particular "theological research [which] deepens knowledge of revealed truth".
- "from the intimate sense of spiritual realities which [believers] experience", The sacred Scriptures "grow with the one who reads them."
- "from the preaching of those who have received, along with their right of succession in the episcopate, the sure charism of truth"

"It is clear therefore that, in the supremely wise arrangement of God, sacred Tradition, Sacred Scripture and the Magisterium of the Church are so connected and associated that one of them cannot stand without the others. Working together, each in its own way, under the action of the one Holy Spirit, they all contribute effectively to the salvation of souls."

Libreria Editrice Vaticana





#### . First Holy Communion

FHC Classes continue with children's session 4 on **Sunday 9th February 2020** A full programme of the sessions can be found on the parish website.

# St Agatha's Confirmation 2020

The next candidate session will be on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.15pm. A full programme of the sessions can be found on the parish website.



#### St Agatha's Church Youth Club

St Agatha's Church Youth Club is going well, with over 30 children now steadily attending! Youth Club registration forms are available at the back of the church, via our website or ask one of the youth volunteers.



The Youth Club runs every Friday (Termtime) from 6 to 8pm and is open to all children in year 6 and above. Meeting in the Cloister at St Agatha's Church, the club will aim to offer a range of sports, music,

arts, crafts and cooking activities, trips and excursions and much more! The young people will play a major part in shaping the youth club and the activities that are run. We are looking forward to continuing to offer a youth provision, offering a safe and fun place for young people to make new friends and take part in the activities we will offer.

We would like to thank the parishioners who have come forward to help. Volunteering is a great opportunity to meet new people, make new friends and get to know the local community. It can also enhance your CV or improve your employment prospects. If you are interested in exploring the possibilities of being a volunteer, please get in touch; please speak with Fr. Anthony, the youth leader or contact the parish office for further details.

# CAFOD Family Fast Day - Friday 6 March 2020.

Sister Consilis in Zimbabwe is one of CAFOD's local experts. She is a trained pharmacist, part of a team that treats people with malaria, typhoid and other preventable diseases. This is one of many examples of the amazing highly trained, local experts that you help around the world through CAFOD. Your donations to CAFOD are like an outstretched arm offering support. CAFOD site the examples of Ebola doctors in DR Congo, peace activists in Columbia or disability rights campaigners in Bangladesh. This global family of 'local experts' is on the ground day and night treating people in the most difficult to reach places on earth. But there are still many who are not as fortunate due to the lack of any trained health workers. For more information on CAFOD's activities please go to www.cafod.org.uk, or if you do not have immediate access to the internet you can read of Sister Consilia's work in the church porch. CAFOD thank you for your continued support.

#### **Church Banners**

If anyone would be interested in sponsoring the purchase of Seasonal Banners for instance for Lent, Easter or, please contact the Parish Office to discuss further.

# Please see the Parish noticeboard for more details of the following:

- > A Day with Mary
- Street Pastors Kingston Celebration
- Headteacher Recruitment at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School in Mortlake
- > Fundraising Volunteer Role at Southwark Archdiocese
- ➤ London SW Catholic Social Group
- Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
- The Mustard Seed

# ST AGATHA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2020



Children born between 01 September 2016 and 31 August 2017 are eligible to start nursery at St Agatha's in September 2020

Our open morning for prospective reception class parents is on <u>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020</u> (9.15am – 9.45am in the Nursery)

> Closing date for all applications is 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020 (tbc)

Find further information, visit our website: www.stagathas.school

telephone: 020 8546 3879 [ask for Sharon Parsons]
 e-mail: office@stagathas.school

Among the fruits of justice, mercy to the poor should certainly be considered the most important. That justice which comes from faith belongs to Jesus Christ. It is true that "if one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty' without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that?" ~ A Quo Die, Pope Clement XIII