

**CLERGY**

Rev. Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP – Parish Priest & Hospital Chaplain  
 Rev. Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, MSP – Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain  
 Rev. Robert Beresford – Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church  
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 Surrey, KT2 5JR  
 Tel: 020 8546 4633  
[www.stagathaschurch.org.uk](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)  
[kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL 2022**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9.30am Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadeloupe

6.30pm Keith Fraser RIP

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

9am Philip Day RIP

10.30am Keith & Alan Fraser RIP

6.30pm John Allen RIP

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Holy Souls

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Thanksgiving Intentions

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Zoran Popovic RIP

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> St John Baptist de la Salle, Priest, Memorial**

9.30am Mary Jo Davidson – Birthday Intentions

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Zoran Popovic RIP

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am John Pereira RIP

6.30pm James O'Keeffe RIP

**Morning Prayer:** Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM

**Mass Times:** Saturday: 09:30, 18:30

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

Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12pm.

Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

**EASTER, CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS**

A small selection of Easter, Confirmation and First holy Communion cards are available to purchase in the Cloister after all Masses or alternatively contact the parish office during opening hours. Cards are just £1 each! Please leave money in box available. Thank you.



**MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S CELEBRATIONS**

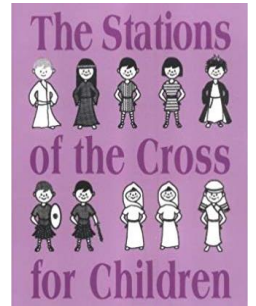
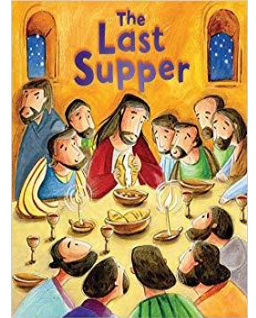
All children are welcome to join us at 12pm on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as we observe both days with child-friendly services.

During these hands-on services, children of all ages will walk together through the Last Supper and the Stations of the Cross, learning as they go.

On Maundy Thursday we have a re-enactment of the last supper in the Cloister with readings, acting and singing, and lunch to share afterwards.

On Good Friday we have the Stations of the Cross read and acted by our young people.

Please sign up at the back of the church, or email: [kingston@kingston.org.uk](mailto:kingston@kingston.org.uk), if you are able to attend and your child(ren) would like to take part. Year 6 and above to read on Good Friday, but all children will be able to take part in both services as we need actors for a variety of roles.



**PARISH OFFICE**

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 returning on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022, therefore the parish office will be closed.

Please only call the presbytery in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry during this time. For non-urgent enquiries please email [kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk) and Karin will respond upon her return.



**GIFT AID ENVELOPES**

If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, your new packet of envelopes, which start on 10th April, are ready for collection from the church porch.

**Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C**  
**Sunday, April 3, 2022**

**Gospel Reading**

*John 8:1-11 Jesus does not condemn the woman caught in adultery.*

**Gospel Reflection**

The Gospel for the fifth Sunday of Lent continues to offer lessons about God's mercy and forgiveness. Last Sunday we heard the Parable of the Prodigal Son from the Gospel of Luke. Today we hear not a parable, but the report from John's Gospel of an encounter among Jesus, the scribes and Pharisees, and a woman caught in adultery.

In John's Gospel, the conflict between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees occurs much earlier than in the Synoptic Gospels. Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in Jerusalem is reported at the beginning of John's Gospel. Even after this event, Jesus continues to teach in the Temple. After returning to Galilee for a time, Jesus again enters Jerusalem and cures a man on the Sabbath. From this point forward in John's Gospel, the Pharisees are described as making plans for Jesus' arrest and seeking his death.

In the chapter preceding today's Gospel, Jesus was teaching in the Temple area. Feeling threatened by his teaching and his actions, the chief priests and the Pharisees are already sending guards to arrest Jesus. The guards return, however, without arresting Jesus because they have been impressed by his words. Even more than this, some among the crowds are considering the possibility that Jesus is the Messiah. The chief priests and the Pharisees change their plan. Before making an arrest, they seek to gather more evidence against Jesus by posing a question intended to trap Jesus.

Today's Gospel begins by reporting that Jesus is again teaching the crowds in the vicinity of the Temple. The scribes and the Pharisees approach Jesus, bringing a woman who has been caught in the act of adultery. They put to Jesus the question of what ought to be done in this case.

The Pharisees state clearly that according to the Law of Moses, those caught in the act of adultery were to be stoned to death. Under Roman occupation, however, the Jewish people did not have the authority to execute people; this is cited in John's passion narrative. To answer the Pharisees' question, Jesus must propose an action that will be either contrary to the Law of Moses or contrary to Roman law. The purpose of the question appears to be similar to the question about paying taxes found in Mark 12:13-17. Either answer, yes or no, will support the Pharisees' case against Jesus.

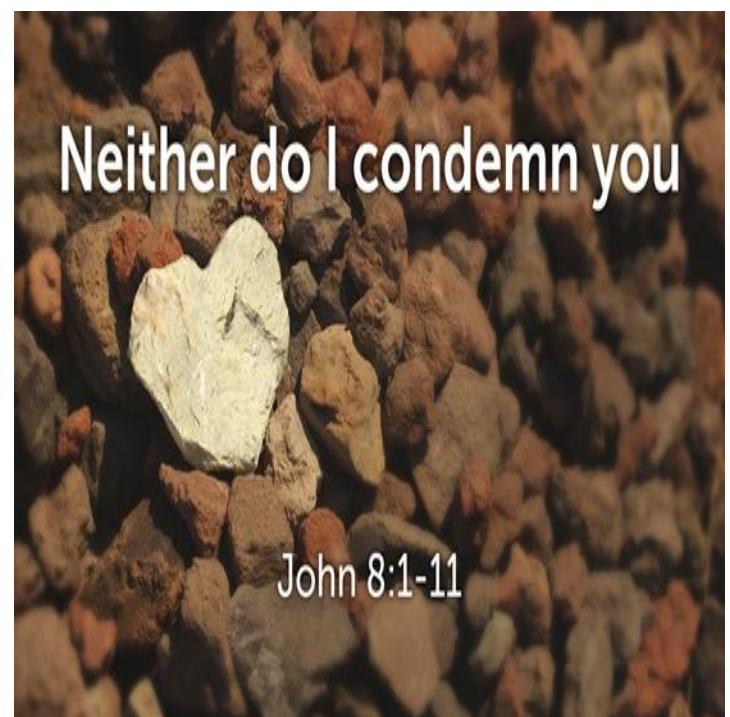
Jesus avoids the trap, however, by offering an answer that was not anticipated by those who posed the question. Jesus, after writing on the ground with his finger, addresses those who stand before him and suggests that the one without sin cast the first stone. Jesus then returns to his writing. This Scripture reading, by the way, is the only evidence we have of Jesus writing. Yet there are no specific details about what he wrote.

We can easily imagine the scene as the Pharisees and the elders disperse, one by one. Jesus has eluded the trap they had prepared. We might also give credit to the elders and the Pharisees who do not, in the end, claim to be sinless and worthy of passing judgment. These Pharisees are not as self-righteous as the portrait found in the parable of the pharisee and the tax collector (See Luke 18:9-14).

Left alone with the woman, Jesus asks where the accusers have gone. With no one remaining to condemn the woman, Jesus (the one who truly is without sin) sends the woman on her way, refusing to pass judgment on her and exhorting her to avoid future sin.

Jesus' response to those who accuse the woman is more than a caution to us about making judgment of others. It is a profound lesson in divine mercy and forgiveness. As sinners, we are all unworthy to judge the sins of others and we would stand convicted by God for our transgressions. Yet Jesus, the one without sin and thus our judge, offers us who are sinners his mercy and forgiveness. Redeemed by Jesus' compassion, we are sent to sin no more and to live in God's love and peace.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



## Family Reflection

There are few people that we know better than the members of our own family. We know one another's strengths and abilities, and we also know one another's limitations and weaknesses. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, we may be tempted to focus on the faults and sins that familiarity with one another can sometimes reveal. As family members, however, we also have the ability to see one another's faults and sins within the context of the whole person. When we can keep this perspective, we are more likely to look upon one another with compassion. Family life, then, presents us the opportunity to see one another as God sees us, not with judgment and condemnation for our weaknesses and failings, but with mercy and compassion. When we learn to withhold judgment for the faults we know are there and seek the best in one another, we help one another to experience the depths of God's compassion, mercy, and love.

As you gather as a family, observe that when we know people well, we know their faults as well as their strengths. At times, we can be tempted to focus on the faults we see in others. Discuss what your family life would be like if you always focused on one another's faults. Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus refuses to focus on the sin of the woman brought to him for judgment. Read aloud today's Gospel, John 8:2-11. Ask: What did the people who focused on the woman's sin want to do? (Stone the woman) What does Jesus say to the people who accused the woman caught in adultery? (That the person with no sin should throw the first stone) Are any of us without sin? (No.) Observe that we can help each other to grow in God's love by refusing to focus on one another's faults and sins. In this way, we can help one another to see ourselves as God sees us: with understanding and compassion. Conclude in prayer together asking God to forgive our sins by praying the Act of Contrition.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please note the following important dates.

*Please remember that there are two groups this year completing their FHC, so please make sure you take note of the relevant dates for your child's group.*



Remaining timetable for Group 1A and Group 1B

Preparation for First Reconciliation & First Communion

Group 1A & 1B – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April, 4pm

First Reconciliation Group 1A & 1B – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April, 4pm

First Communion Mass Group 1A – Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> April, 12pm

First Communion Mass Group 1B – Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 12pm

Remaining timetable for Group 2A and Group 2B

Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion

Group 2A & 2B – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May, 4pm

First Reconciliation Group 2A & 2B – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 4pm

First Communion Mass Group 2A – Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> May, 12pm

First Communion Mass Group 2B – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May, 12pm

## CONFIRMATION 2021/22

The next candidate sessions will be on:

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 7.15pm

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022 at 7.15pm



Confirmation Masses are on

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 12pm

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at 2.30pm

## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS



For those who wish to have their child baptised, please register for our next available class, on **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2022**, which will be held in the church hall at 2pm, by completing and returning the

baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.

*Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism.*

Please note there is currently a waiting list for baptisms, so the earlier you contact the parish office the better!

## MARRIAGES IN 2022

2022 may be the year that you plan to get married; many *Congratulations* if that is so.

*Please remember that there is a lot of preparation that needs to take place and you are required to inform the church at least six months before.*



If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparation for our parishioners must take place here at St. Agatha's. Please contact the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle, Melba De Silva and Michael Hodgkinson.

*Please let the Parish Office know, in writing, if either you or your relatives would like to be mentioned on our sick list.*

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### ILL AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you are ill and housebound, our Priests would be happy to visit you, to pray with you, and to bring you Holy Communion in your home, please let us know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests.

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### 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.

### ANNIVERSARIES

*Bridget Doyle, Michael McDonnell, Margaret Hardless, Mary O'Connell, Martin O'Brien, George Deeb, Alfred Paish, Charles Philpot, Walter Hewitt, Mercie Young, John Malone, Michael Lynn, Ottie Hewitt, Richard Lumey, Nellie O'Brien, Mary Hobbs, Harriet Roberts, Gertrude Thompson. +++May They Rest In Peace +++*

*The sordid love of wealth, which is the shame and great sin of our age, will be opposed in actual fact by the gentle yet effective law of Christian moderation which commands man to seek first the Kingdom of God and His justice, with the assurance that, by virtue of God's kindness and unfailing promise, temporal goods also, in so far as he has need of them, shall be given him besides. ~*

*Quadragesimo Anno, para. 136*



### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAMME

Please pick up a copy of our Lent and Holy Week Programme available in the church porch. It is also available on the website.

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### EXPOSITION AND ADORATION DURING LENT

The church will be open on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7.30pm – 8.30pm for Exposition and Adoration. (6<sup>th</sup> April). Everyone is welcome.

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### EASTER OFFERINGS

Easter offering envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to use them for an Easter Offering for our Clergy. If you normally Gift Aid your weekly offerings, would you please print your name/number clearly on the Easter Offering Envelope.

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### GODCALLS: ADVENTURE

GodCalls Adventure from the National Office for Vocation, is a free, 40-day self-guided course which aims to help you grow in holiness, and root each day in prayer.

The downloadable resources focus on cultivating different virtues, ranging from meekness to purity, gratitude to courage. There is also guidance on using the Bible, how to pray and reflect with the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross.

Further details at: [www.godcalls.co.uk/godcalls-adventure](http://www.godcalls.co.uk/godcalls-adventure)

**GodCalls Adventure is not just for Lent, try the 40 days at any point of the year**



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### WE ARE COLLECTING FOR UKRAINE



On 11<sup>th</sup> April a local resident is driving out to Ukraine with supplies and provisions. We would gratefully appreciate any of the items to help with his trip. A list of all the items needed is available in the church porch.

The church hall will be open between 10am and 11am on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday to drop-off or please drop-off at any of the weekend Mass times.

~ NO CLOTHES ~ NO GLASS PLEASE! ~

Please ensure you have dropped off any donations by 11am on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

Thank you for your support.



## Divine Mercy Sunday – 24<sup>th</sup> April 2022

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Easter the entire Church is called to gather throughout the world to celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. From St Maria Faustina's Diary it is clear that this Octave Day on Easter is the day chosen by Christ as a day of extraordinary graces – a complete outpouring of His mercy upon all who approach Him with great trust and expectant faith.

Sr Faustina wrote (Diary 699) 'on one occasion, I heard these words "*I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day, all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy*".' (Diary 699)

Pope St John Paul II canonized Sr Faustina on Divine Mercy Sunday in 2000 and established Divine Mercy Sunday as a feast day for the universal Church.

### How to observe the Feast of Mercy

1. Go to confession, preferably before that Sunday
2. Place your complete trust in Jesus
3. Celebrate the Feast
4. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast
5. Venerate the Image of Divine Mercy
6. Be merciful to others, through your actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

**To properly celebrate this great day, we need to prepare well.**

As a Parish we are recommending that everyone make a Novena to The Divine Mercy and pray the Chaplet.

'Jesus instructed St Faustina to write down and make (*the Novena & Chaplet*) before the Feast of Mercy. It begins on Good Friday' (Diary 1209 – 1229)

Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet pamphlets will be available (Cost 50p each).

(Suggestions to pray the Novena on Days 1 – 4, yourselves at home – however, we will be praying the Novena on Days 5 – 9 in the Church after the 09:30 Mass each morning. Please join us if you can or continue your Novena at home).