



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

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

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

CLERGY

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

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2020.
5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

Saturday 8th	
9.30am	Keith Fernandes RIP
6.30pm	Private Intentions
Sunday 9th	
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Racial Justice Sunday	
9.00am	Pam Owens RIP
	Arthur & Robin O'Connor RIP
10.30am	Rev. Fr. Albert Jenner RIP
6.30pm	Wellbeing of Loretta Jonassen
Monday 10th	
St Scholastica, Virgin, Memorial	
9.30am	Pat Appleby RIP
Tuesday 11th	
9.30am	Roger lisaia RIP
Wednesday 12th	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
Thursday 13th	
9.30am	Ian Edward Lilley RIP
Friday 14th	
Ss Cyril, Monk, & Methodius, Bishop, Feast	
9.30am	Private Intention of Thanksgiving
Saturday 15th	
9.30am	Mary Frances MacDonald RIP
6.30pm	Thanksgiving for Boneca & Gavin

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am, 6-6.15pm & at call.
Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12.30pm.
Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH (7th March 2020) WE WILL HAVE ONE HOUR OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT BETWEEN 10AM & 11AM.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

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

ANNIVERSARIES

Father Albert H. Jenner, Kathleen Lombard, Amadeis Mouta, Noreen Mullane, Frances Marie, Edith Campbell, William Hardy, Cornelius O'Reilly, Ethel Maud Ward, Lucinda Potesta, Joseph McGuckin, Louise Maud Dawson, Antonio Ferritto, Bronislaw Jaroszynski, Mary Ellen Miles, Julia Woodhams, William Lovely, Margaret North, Elsie Brady, Harold Ladlier, Harold Mays, Bridget Woolgar, Florence Brockwell, Ellen McKay, Magdlen Saxby, Alice Burgess, Kevin Flynn, Ryan Wrathall, John Wall, Alfred Robert Frederick Brockwell, Michael Higgins, Patrick Howard, Susanna McMahon, Kathleen Brocking, Victoria Tanousis, Ernest James Priest, Fanny Margaret Cook, Morwen Short, Margaret Radley. +++ 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.

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE A
SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2020,**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Reflection

Following upon the teaching of the Beatitudes, Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavouring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn, and so on, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden!

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Daily Adoration

Please note that there will be no Daily Adoration before Mass on Monday 17th and Monday 24th February 2020.

St Agatha's Feast Day – Wednesday 5th February 2020

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us last Wednesday to celebrate our special day, the Feast of St Agatha's. It was a lovely evening and we had a great turn out, your support, as always, is so appreciated. Our thanks also to those who worked behind the scene to help prepare for the evening. We look forward to having more people join us for next years celebration.

WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEKEND!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

**FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME CYCLE A
SUNDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2020,**

Gospel Reading

Matthew 5:13-16 Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Family Reflection

The widespread use of electricity in our society may make us less aware of the value and importance of light. To re-engage with the power of the metaphor that Jesus offers, gather your family in a darkened room. Bring only one flashlight.

Sit together for a minute and consider what you are able to do and see in so little light. You might try opening the Bible to see whether you can read today's Gospel. Turn on the flashlight and experiment to see how one might use it to achieve the greatest amount of light. Then read today's Gospel by the light of the flashlight. Ask everyone to consider what it means to say that Christians are to be the light of the world. How might your family act in a way that is a light for others, a light that is worthy to put on a lamp stand? Choose one thing that your family will do this week to show that you are the light of the world. You might choose to participate in an activity that your parish sponsors, such as help with a food pantry. Pray together by singing "This Little Light of Mine."

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

"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 27th June. Please see leaflets and noticeboard for more details. If you would like to attend, please contact the Parish Secretary.

First Holy Communion

FHC Classes continue with children's session 4 on **Sunday 9th February 2020**. Session 5 will be on Sunday 23rd 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 13th February 2020 at 7.15pm**. The following session will be on Thursday 27th February 2020. A full programme of the sessions can be found on the parish website



Parish Men's Group

Details of the February meeting of the Men's Group will be announced next week. Please watch this space for the details.



Important Upcoming Dates:

Sun 9 th Feb	FHC Session 4
Thurs 13 th Feb	Confirmation Session 3
Fri 14 th Feb	St Agatha's Nursery Open Morning
Fri 14 th Feb	St Agatha's Church Youth Club
Mon 17 th	School Half Term

Offerings

First collection	Gift Aid	£475.84	Loose	£521.51
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£6.20	Loose	£78.60

TOTAL £1082.15

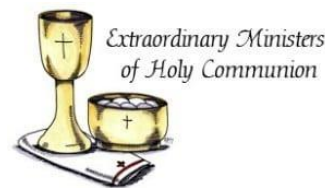
Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

Diocesan Directory

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

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

We congratulate 9 of our parishioners who were commissioned Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion on Saturday 1st February 2020 at St Georges Cathedral by Bishop Paul Hendricks. We thank you for your service and dedication.



Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Course

The Programme for Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) course is intended for adults who wish to receive any of the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation and for Christians baptised in another denomination who would like to become Catholic. If you fall into either of these categories please speak with Fr. Anthony. The course is expected to start in October 2020.



Nursery 2020 Application Forms

A priest will be available to sign Nursery school application forms on **Thursday 27th February 2020 from 5-6pm**. No appointment is necessary, please call at the Presbytery. Regular Mass attendance is a requirement for a reference to be completed. If you have recently moved to the area you should seek a priest reference from your previous parish which we will then countersign. Please ensure that you complete as much of the forms as possible and if you have any reference letters, please also bring these along with you. Please bring all relating documents with you at this time, especially Baptism Certificates.

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

Part 3 – SACRED SCRIPTURE

I. Christ - The Unique Word of Sacred Scripture

In order to reveal himself to men, in the condescension of his goodness God speaks to them in human words: "Indeed the words of God, expressed in the words of men, are in every way like human language, just as the Word of the eternal Father, when he took on himself the flesh of human weakness, became like men."

Through all the words of Sacred Scripture, God speaks only one single Word, his one Utterance in whom he expresses himself completely:

You recall that one and the same Word of God extends throughout Scripture, that it is one and the same Utterance that resounds in the mouths of all the sacred writers, since he who was in the beginning God with God has no need of separate syllables; for he is not subject to time.

For this reason, the Church has always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord's Body. She never ceases to present to the faithful the bread of life, taken from the one table of God's Word and Christ's Body.

In Sacred Scripture, the Church constantly finds her nourishment and her strength, for she welcomes it not as a human word, "but as what it really is, the word of God". "In the sacred books, the Father who is in heaven comes lovingly to meet his children, and talks with them."

II. Inspiration and Truth of Sacred Scripture

God is the author of Sacred Scripture. "The divinely revealed realities, which are contained and presented in the text of Sacred Scripture, have been written down under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit."

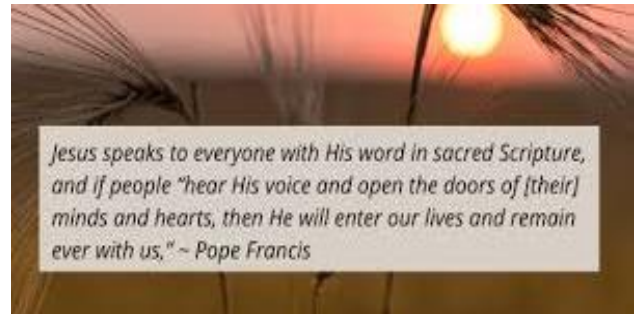
"For Holy Mother Church, relying on the faith of the apostolic age, accepts as sacred and canonical the books of the Old and the New Testaments, whole and entire, with all their parts, on the grounds that, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, they have God as their author, and have been handed on as such to the Church herself."

God inspired the human authors of the sacred books. "To compose the sacred books, God chose certain men who, all the while he employed them in this task, made full use of their own faculties and powers so that, though he acted in them and by them, it was as true authors that they consigned to writing whatever he wanted written, and no more."

The inspired books teach the truth. "Since therefore all that the inspired authors or sacred writers affirm should be regarded as affirmed by the Holy Spirit, we must acknowledge that the books of Scripture firmly, faithfully, and without error teach that truth which God, for the sake of our salvation, wished to see confided to the Sacred Scriptures."

Still, the Christian faith is not a "religion of the book". Christianity is the religion of the "Word" of God, "not a written and mute word, but incarnate and living". If the Scriptures are not to remain a dead letter, Christ, the eternal Word of the living God, must, through the Holy Spirit, "open (our) minds to understand the Scriptures."

Libreria Editrice Vaticana



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 kingston@rcaos.org.uk 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.

I see the church as a field hospital after battle. It is useless to ask a seriously injured person if he has high cholesterol or about the level of his blood sugars. You have to heal his wounds. Then we can talk about everything else. ~ Pope Francis

St Agatha's Church Youth Club

Next week, 14th February 2020, the children will be making crepes and biscuits! We would like to request a donation of £1 per child towards ingredients please.

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 (Term-time) 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.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next Baptism preparation class is on **Sunday 5th April 2020**. Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. 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 arranging 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.



Matthew 7:7-8

"Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."



Church Banners

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day – Friday 6 March 2020.

It is worth remembering that CAFOD are part of the Catholic Church's helping hand Caritas. One of 160 'members' working at the grassroots in almost every country in the world. To paraphrase their remit, it is to reach-out to the poor, vulnerable and excluded, regardless of race or religion, to build a world based on justice and fraternal love. It follows that our support for CAFOD is in effect supporting those working within the Caritas network. 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 cite the examples of Ebola doctors in DR Congo, peace activists in Columbia or disability rights campaigners in Bangladesh. For more information on CAFOD's activities, please go to cafod.org.uk, or if you are so minded, please make the time to view the evolving information in the church porch. CAFOD thank you for your continued support.

You are invited to join us on Friday 6th March 2020, between 12.30 and 1.30pm for a simple soup lunch to



help our family, wherever they live. A bowl of soup and bread roll will cost just £1.50. All proceeds will be going towards the work of CAFOD.

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School Nursery Admissions September 2020

If your child is born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017, they are entitled to start Nursery in September 2020. You are invited to attend their open sessions on Friday 24th February 2020 (9.15am – 9.45am in the Nursery). Closing date for all applications is 6th March 2020. Find further information, visit their website: www.stagathas.school or telephone: 020 8546 3879 [ask for Sharon Parsons] or e-mail: office@stagathas.school



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

- A Day with Mary
- Fundraising Volunteer Role at Southwark Archdiocese
- London SW Catholic Social Group
- Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine
- The Mustard Seed
- Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend