

CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest
Fr. Ebuka Umekachikelu, MSP – Assistant Priest
Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

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, thank you.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES	
SUNDAY 11 TH OCTOBER 2020	
TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, (A)	
Saturday 10th	
9.30am	Wellbeing & Healing of Alana
6.30pm	Patricia & Gerry White
Sunday 11th 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
9am	Special intentions for The Church of Sant'agata al Collegio in the Sicilian town of Caltanissetta.
10.30am	People of the Parish
6.30pm	Delia Jameson
Monday 12th	
9.30am	Protection, Peace, Health & Faith for Eugenio-Luis
Tuesday 13th St Edward the Confessor, Feast	
9.30am	Ivana Lovas RIP
Wednesday 14th	
9.30am	Maria Lindsey RIP
Thursday 15th St Teresa of Jesus, Memorial	
9.30am	Michael de Zoysa
Friday 16th	
9.30am	Chelle Moreno Ayaton, Successful Visa Application
Saturday 17th St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Memorial	
9.30am	Dr Anwar Selo RIP
6.30pm	Matt Radnor 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

Daniel McDonnell, Sister Monica Meaney, Archbishop Cyril Cowderoy, Annabelle Montague-Smith, James Coughlan, Mary McGilvray, Robert John Wiseman, Mary Elliott, George Henry Summersby, Andrew Leo Cremin, Pauline Welham, Timothy O'Brien, Clement Flynn, Umilta Ahwai, Kathleen McNulty, Leo Barrett, Mary Kennedy, Sybil Edna Isaac, Marguerite Mary Lucas, Elizabeth Mawer, Michael Jones, Kathleen Power, Rose Fry, Ethel Scully, Mary Darnell, Nestor Garcia, Marion Mitchell, Leslie Abernethy, Joan Groser, Anne Flagg, Agnes Mary A'Hern, Irene Hanysek, Mary Alice Charlesworth, Emily Jones, Marie Maxwell-Arnot, Mary Moore, Elizabeth (Betty) Pryce, Bridget Culbert, Henry Joseph Winn, Joseph Kennedy, Keith Doolan, Christine Lepech-Bayram.
++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.

Baptism Preparation Class and Baptisms

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the upcoming months, please register for our next class (date to be confirmed) by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office. If you have already attended a class earlier this year please call the parish office to discuss and arrange a date for your child's baptism.



Secondary School Application Forms

The time of year has come when many parents are thinking about places in a Catholic School. 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. A priest will be available to sign secondary school application forms on **Friday 23rd October 2020 between 11am and 1pm. No appointment is necessary**, please call at the Presbytery. *Please note the parish office will be closed during the half-term break.* 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.

Parish Office

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from **Monday 26th October to Monday 4th November, therefore the parish office will be closed.** Fr Anthony will be available in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry only. For non-urgent enquiries please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk

Special Thanks

We would like to say a very special thank you to the parishioners who have very kindly given a generous donation to the parish funds over the past few months. Without our usual weekly collections during the months of lockdown there was a significant impact on the parish finances and we greatly appreciate any donations received.

CAFOD Family Fast: 10th – 11th October

CAFOD's Family Fast Day will help people who are facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected. You can donate: online at www.cafod.org.uk/give

Lately Dead

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Joseph Ronald Finley aka 'Ron the Scrap', who died recently, aged 92 Years. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's.
'Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.'



**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,
CYCLE A,
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020**

Gospel Reading

*Matthew 22:1-14 (shorter form Matthew 22:1-10)
Jesus compares the kingdom of heaven to a wedding feast.*

Gospel Reflection

Immediately after criticizing the religious leaders through the parable of the tenants in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus proceeded to tell another parable, again directed at the religious leaders. We hear this parable in today's Gospel.

In the parable of the wedding feast, Jesus offers an image of the kingdom of heaven using the symbol of a wedding banquet. In today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah and in today's psalm, the Lord's goodness is evident in the symbol of a feast of good food and wine. Jesus' listeners would have been familiar with the image of a wedding feast as a symbol for God's salvation. They would consider themselves to be the invited guests. Keeping this in mind helps us to understand the critique Jesus makes with this parable. The context for this parable is the growing tension between Jesus and the Jewish religious leaders in Jerusalem. This has been the case for the past two Sundays and will continue to be true for the next several weeks.

The parable Jesus tells is straightforward. The king dispatches his servants to invite the guests to the wedding feast that he is planning for his son. The listeners would have been surprised to learn that the first guests refused the invitation. Who would refuse the king's invitation? A second dispatch of servants follows. Again, to the listeners' great surprise, some guests ignore the invitation. Some of the invited guests even go so far as to mistreat and kill the servants. The king invokes his retribution against these murderers by destroying them and burning their city.

We might stop here for a moment. Why would some guests kill the servants sent to invite them to the king's wedding feast? It might be possible that the king was a tyrant, evidenced by the destruction of the city of those who refused his invitation. But if we follow this idea, then the allegory seems to be about something other than the kingdom of heaven. It is more likely that the destruction of the city would have been a powerful image corresponding to the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70, which would have been an important event for Matthew's audience.

With the invited guests now deemed unworthy to attend the king's wedding feast, the servants are sent to invite whomever they can find. The guests arrive, but it appears that accepting the king's invitation brings certain obligations. The guest who failed to dress in the appropriate wedding attire is cast out of the feast. We are reminded that while many are invited to the kingdom of heaven, not all are able to meet its requirements. God invites us to his feast, giving us his salvation. Yet he asks us to repent for our sins.

Jesus' message in the parable cautions against exclusive beliefs about the kingdom of heaven. The parable also teaches about humility. Those who assume that they are the invited guests may find that they have refused the invitation, and so others are invited in their place. To accept the invitation is also to accept its obligations. God wants our full conversion in complete acceptance of his mercy.

Family Reflection

Today's Gospel reminds us that God invites all of us to his kingdom. How do we respond to this invitation? In theological terms, God has granted us free will to accept or reject salvation. The parable of the wedding feast reminds us that God desires our wholehearted acceptance of his invitation to salvation.

As you gather as a family, discuss what you consider appropriate attire for various occasions. For example, if your family were invited to a neighbor's barbecue, what would you wear? If you were planning to attend the symphony, what might you wear? If invited to an evening wedding, what might you wear? Discuss how our preparations for an event and our choice of attire indicates the importance and value we place on the occasion. In today's Gospel Jesus uses this metaphor to talk about the kingdom of heaven. Read Matthew 22:1-14. Discuss why the guest was thrown out of the wedding feast. What does Jesus expect of those who accept his invitation of salvation? What would be the evidence of our conversion to God's salvation? Pray together as a family that you will respond wholeheartedly to God's invitation to salvation. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 23.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press





First Holy Communion 2021

Registration forms and details for our next year's FHC are now available on the website and from the parish office. Copies have also been sent home within the Year3 book bags this week. Please ensure you read all the instructions very carefully.

St Agatha's Confirmation 2020

An important email has been sent to all Confirmation candidates and parents this week, please check your inboxes. If you have not received it, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.



St Agatha's Confirmation 2021

Applications and details for our next year's Confirmation will be available in November. Please check the website and newsletter for updates.

Marriages in 2021

2021 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.



FACE-COVERINGS/MASKS

Face coverings/masks are mandatory in all Places of Worship. All those who are attending churches must wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from differing households who they do not normally meet. If you attend Mass from this date onwards, please ensure that you have a face-covering/mask with you and to put it on before you enter the Church. Priests in the sanctuary, providing they are sufficiently distant (2m or more) from the congregation, do not need to wear a face covering except when distributing Holy Communion (please see below).



There are some exceptions to this rule, and who needs to wear a covering, details can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/facecoverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-yourown/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-makeyour-own#when-you-do-not-need-to-wear-a-face-covering>

When I fed the poor, they called me a Saint.
When I asked why the poor had no food, they called me a Communist.
~ Archbishop Hélder Câmara

GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020/21

Our Gift Aid envelopes for 2020/21 which commenced in April, are now available to collect from the church entrance. However, if you would prefer to have your envelopes posted/hand delivered, please email the parish office quoting you gift aid number and we will endeavour to get them to you as soon as possible.

Could all of those parishioners who are in touch with 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)

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".

We thank you for your continued generosity.