

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP – Parish Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 Rev. Fr. Peter Akor, MSP – Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 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 11TH DECEMBER 2022
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 10th	
9.30am	Tony Pearce RIP
6.30pm	Mina Kearns RIP
Sunday 11th 3rd Sunday of Advent	
9am	Alan Fraser RIP
10.30am	Keith & Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Anna Serm
Monday 12th	
9.30am	George & Hanorah Johnson RIP
Tuesday 13th St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial	
9.30am	Mary Walsh RIP
Wednesday 14th St John of the Cross, Priest, Memorial	
9.30am	Rosa Beresford RIP
Thursday 15th	
9.30am	James & Kathleen Boyle RIP Arthur Lawrence RIP
Friday 16th Whole School Mass – End of Term	
9.30am	Frances Jarvis RIP
Saturday 17th	
9.30am	Mr John Devaiah RIP
6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano RIP
Exposition:	Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer:	Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions:	Saturday 10-10.30am or at call.
Morning Prayer:	Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM
Mass Times:	Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass) Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30
Baptisms:	Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.
Marriages:	Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule

**ADORATION & RECONCILIATION
DURING ADVENT**

On Wednesday Evenings (14th & 21st) during Advent the church will be open from 7.30 – 8.30pm for Adoration and Reconciliation. Everyone is welcome. Reconciliation is also available after every Mass during the advent period.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Christmas Offering envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to make a Christmas Offering to our Clergy at this special time of the year. Thank you.



CHRISTINGLE 2022!!

We are very pleased to announce that this year we will be returning to our full advent and Christmas schedule, including our amazing Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.



Christingle sign is available now!! Please sign up by this Sunday, 11th December 2022.

Dates and times for your diary:

- Sunday 18th December – Christingle Dress and Lines Allocation, after 10.30am Mass.
- Friday 23rd December 2022 – Dress Rehearsal in the church, 10am – 1pm.
- Friday 23rd December 2022 – Christingle Making, 10am in the church hall.
- Saturday 24th December 2022 – Christingle Service at 4pm.



SUPPORTING DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP THIS CHRISTMAS.

Thank you again for all your generous support. As advised last week, the first batch of our donations have been delivered to the DLAG Hub, and we are hoping to squeeze in another delivery before Christmas. It is intended that we focus on the period immediate to Monday 19th December. This should allow the Dons Team time to allocate the donated items to their intended recipients. So, please be as generous as you can. Thank you.



ADVENT READING – ‘MY DAY BY DAY’

There are still a few copies available of the Advent edition of ‘My Day by Day’ at the back of the Church, they cost £1 each (Please put money in the box marked Newspapers or the small donations box available.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during advent and is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas. A junior version is also available.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME

Our Advent and Christmas programme is available in the church porch and online at: www.stagathaschurch.org.uk

CHRISTMAS CARDS, GIFTS AND CALENDARS

A selection of Christmas Cards, gifts and 2023 calendars are available to purchase in the Cloister after all Masses or alternatively contact the parish office during opening hours.

MIDNIGHT MASS

Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve is at 11pm. It will be preceded by carols from 10.30pm.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please attend our next class being held on Sunday 22nd January 2023. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm.

Please complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.

Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is recommended that Godparents also attend.



MARRIAGES IN 2023

2023 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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022/23

The next session is being held on: Sunday 8th January 2023. 11.45am-1pm (Session 2).

PARISH OFFICE

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from Monday 26th December 2022 until Monday 9th January 2023, 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@caos.org.uk and Karin will respond upon her return.

Please ensure all Mass Requests for the Christmas and New Year period, Baptism Applications and any other enquiries are submitted before Thursday 22nd December 2022 otherwise they will not be attended to until the office reopens. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS

It is again a very busy time for Mass requests and Masses can be booked weeks in advance, so, if you have a particular date or time on which you want a Mass said, ***it is very important that you let the parish office know ahead of time and as soon as possible.*** You are very welcome to book your Mass intentions in advance. We are sorry but we cannot guarantee a requested date when submitting late Mass Intentions; if no date is specified or a date requested is not available, the Mass Intention will be assigned to the next open Mass.

Mass intentions envelopes are available at the back of the church. When requesting a Mass, please clearly indicate the intention and whether the Mass is for the deceased, the sick or for another intention. If you require confirmation of a Mass date and time, please ensure you provide your contact details. Thank you.

ST AGATHA'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION TO RECEPTION CLASS SEPTEMBER 2023

Children born between 01 September 2018 and 31 August 2019 are eligible to start school at St Agatha's in September 2023. The final open morning for prospective reception class parents is at 9.30am on Monday 9th January 2023. **BOOKINGS NOT REQUIRED, PLEASE ARRIVE AT 9.30.** Closing date for all applications is - 15th January 2023.



"Learning together in God's love"

Find further information: visit the website: www.stagathas.school / telephone: 020 8546 3879 [ask for Sharon Parsons] / e-mail: office@stagathas.school

It is no use saying that we are born two thousand years too late to give room to Christ. Nor will those who live at the end of the world have been born too late. Christ is always with us, always asking for room in our hearts. ~

Servant of God Dorothy Day

Third Sunday of Advent, Cycle A
Sunday, December 11, 2022

Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus tells John the Baptist of the signs of the kingdom that are being worked through him and praises John as more than a prophet.

Gospel Reflection

The third Sunday of Advent is traditionally called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word meaning "rejoice." This Sunday is so named because "Rejoice" is the first word in the entrance antiphon for today's Mass taken from Philippians 4:4,5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice! The Lord is near." Some people mark this Sunday on their Advent wreath with a pink candle instead of a purple candle. This Sunday is a joyful reminder that our salvation is near.

This week's Gospel Reading continues our Advent reflection on the person and message of John the Baptist. Last week we heard John speak about his relationship to the coming Messiah, Jesus. This week, we hear Jesus' message to John the Baptist, now in prison, about the signs of the kingdom found in Jesus' ministry and Jesus' assessment of John's role in the Kingdom of God.

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of John's arrest in chapter 14:3-12. In today's Gospel, John sends word to Jesus from prison, asking if Jesus is the Messiah for whom he has been waiting. Jesus responds by pointing to the miracles that he has worked and invites John and the other hearers to make their own determination. In his next breath, however, Jesus praises John for his role in preparing the way for Jesus. Then Jesus says that all of those who work for the Kingdom of God will be as great as John and even greater.

Jesus' message to John about the signs of the kingdom being performed recalls the salvation described by the prophet Isaiah. This passage is a reminder that the beginning of salvation is already mysteriously present to us, but also yet to be fulfilled. Salvation is already in our midst as manifest in the miraculous deeds of Jesus and in the Church. But salvation is also to be fulfilled in the coming reign of God. Even as we observe our world today, we can find glimpses of God's work among us. Even more, we help to prepare the way for God's kingdom by our words and our deeds. This message is indeed a cause for rejoicing.



Family Reflection

It is easy to look at our world and become discouraged by the apparent absence of God and signs of God's salvation. Advent, however, is a season of hope, in which we acknowledge that salvation is both mysteriously present, even in our world, and yet to be fulfilled.

Read together today's Gospel. Think about John's question to Jesus: Are you the One? Jesus does not answer directly, but points to the signs of the kingdom present in his midst.

Together as a family, look through the newspaper for signs of hope that God is at work in our world. Pray that the world will know God's salvation by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



++ LATELY DEAD++

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Walsh, who died on 22nd November 2022. Her requiem will take place on here on Monday 12th December 2022 at 11am.

Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.
+++ 'Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.' +++

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

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

John Boyden, Arthur McLeod, James Wilson, Arthur O'Connor, Elisabeth Hall, Natalie Marie Williams, Margaret Dignum, Norah Owens, Hannah Walsh, Katherine Trigg, Teresa Short, Bernadette Morrissey, Elisabeth Mahoney, Mary Anne Clarke, Edith Kate Letchworth, Dominic Fuouco, John Henry Isaac, Adelaide Clement, Julia Walsh, Elizabeth Milnes, Elizabeth Trelfer, Bishop Brown, George William Smith, Thomas Easter, Charles Arday, James Flynn, Frances Jarvis, Ada Laing, Margaret Reagan, Manuelina Fernandes.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++



CAFOD World Gifts - Ethical Charity Gifts

Christmas is fast approaching, and CAFOD have just the best unusual presents for your friends and family that can make a real difference to people living in poverty!

World Gifts are CAFOD's range of virtual gifts that make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. For each gift you buy this Christmas, you'll receive a beautiful gift card to pass on to your loved one.

Exciting new World Gifts for 2022!:

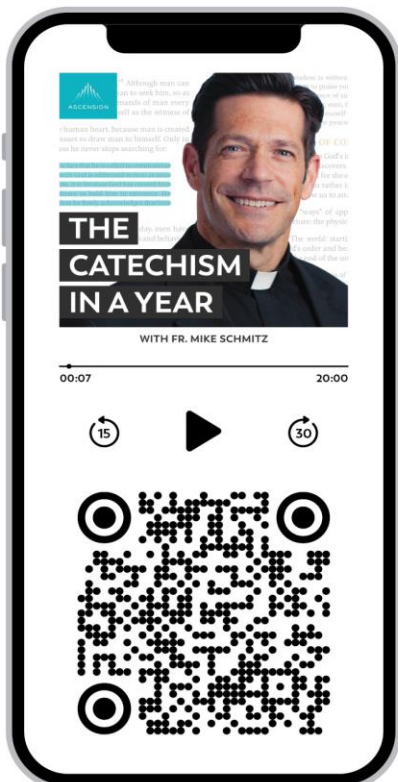
- Super soup kitchen £10
- Promoting peace £18
- Therapy through play £20
- Clever self-watering garden £20
- Women refugees empowered £52
- Life changing loan £200



Hopefully one of these new gifts will spark your interest, if not, your old favourites are still available! Check out their full range here: . <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

Make sure to order by 15th December for a free delivery before Christmas or 20th December 12 noon and choose Express delivery to ensure your loved ones can enjoy their gifts at Christmas!

CAFOD a thank you for your continued support.



CHAPLAINCY APPRENTICE

CTK Emmanuel, Blackheath, SE13 5GE

Part Time, Part Year. 8.30am – 4.30pm, 4 days a week.

Start Date: January 2023, Salary range: £12,000

CTK Emmanuel is part of the Christ the King Sixth Forms group of three highly successful Catholic sixth forms located in southeast London and Kent.

An opportunity has arisen for an exceptional Chaplaincy Apprentice to join the outstanding Chaplaincy Team at CTK. The successful candidate will be a practising Catholic ideally with some experience of working with young people and leading liturgy and prayer.

This is an excellent opportunity to join a talented staff team in a professional centre for excellence. You will be supported to develop your career in an environment of positive encouragement and mutual respect. You'll be a key part in helping students to reach their potential. You will ensure they feel confident about going out into the world and being extraordinary in life and in their future career.

Join us to be inspired, be extraordinary, and be the best you can be.

For details of how to apply and a job description please visit the vacancies page of our website:

<https://www.ctk.ac.uk/vacancies/>

Christ the King Sixth Forms is committed to equality, diversity and inclusivity. We encourage applicants from all sectors of the community and are especially keen to encourage candidates from under-represented groups to apply.

If you have any queries, please contact us at recruitment@ctksfc.ac.uk or 02082979433.

Closing Date: 10am on Monday 12th December 2022

Interviews: Wednesday 14th December 2022

Understand Your Catholic Faith with
The Catechism in a Year Podcast
with Fr. Mike Schmitz!

Starting January 1, 2023

By listening to this podcast, Catholics will:

- Read the entire *Catechism of the Catholic Church* in 365 days
- Understand the essentials of the Catholic Faith and why they matter
- Transform their relationship with the Church that Christ founded

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