



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](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

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](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)  
[kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk)

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES (A)

SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2020 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Wellbeing of Irene & Pat Domigan  
6.30pm People of the Parish

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> The Baptism of the Lord

9.00am Wellbeing of Philip Cockle  
10.30am Narrie Curtin RIP  
6.30pm Wellbeing of Pat & Maie Jonas

Monday 13<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Nancy Beresford RIP

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Wellbeing of Roy Cussey

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>

9.30am John & Rose Pereira RIP

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Holy souls

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> St Anthony, Abbot, Memorial

9.30am Dan Burgess RIP

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup>

9.30am Edward & John Lovekyn RIP  
6.30pm Harmet Terziam RIP

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 (1<sup>st</sup> February 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: Pat Appleby, 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.

ANNIVERSARIES

Annie Burton, Mary Dobson, Frederick Fear, Bridget Cumiskey, Alfred Mulcahy, Joseph Rice, Eileen Wharton, George Winnen, Charles Woogar, Alexander Paterson, Balbina Saiz Agudin, Kathleen McEnery, Mary Blythe, Ellen Crowley, Bridget Dodd, Sandra Ruff, Agnes Mary Hill, Caroline Duckett, Thomas Begley, Joanna Herd, Eileen Sagar, Cyril Jarvis, Rosario Stroud, Amber Rose Kijowski, Arthur Squires, James Coughlan, George Alexander Bergin, Winifred Frain, Ethel Finn, Joseph Coll, Michael Hart, Henry Heaton-Harris, James Burt, Madeline Gurney, William Hill, Marcella Sweeney, Patrick McDonagh, Joseph Ruddy, Frederick Burch, Umberto Milocco, Basil Gurney, Colin Alexander, Bruce Hickman, Eileen Mary Radnor. +++ 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 BAPTISM OF THE LORD, CYCLE A

Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3:13-17 The Spirit of God comes upon Jesus as he is baptized by John.

Reflection

The baptism of Jesus is attested to in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The account that appears in Matthew is the only one to include the dialogue between Jesus and John, however. Another difference in Matthew's presentation of this event is the announcement made by the voice from heaven, which says, "This is my beloved son . . ." In Mark and Luke, this voice addresses itself to Jesus: "You are my beloved son . . ."

The baptisms that John performs prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptizes for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the Baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptizing you with water . . . He will baptise you with the holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).

The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

This Sunday marks a transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. In a way, today's feast is the high point of the Christmas season. Before Jesus' birth, angels announced to Mary and to Joseph who Jesus would be. At his birth, the shepherds and the Magi recognize Jesus as the Messiah. At his baptism, Jesus accepts that he is God's son and inaugurates that mission.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

LATELY DEAD

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Antonio Siorellino who died recently, his requiem will take place here on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 11am.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of Tessie Bird who died recently, aged 93. Her requiem will take place here on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 9.30am followed by Kingston Cemetery at 11am.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.'

Divine Mercy Music

This Sunday we will be joined by Singer Songwriter Martina Keany who will be here to promote her five novena, prayer and music CDs, which will be available to purchase after Mass. For further details please visit:

[www.divinemercymusic.com](http://www.divinemercymusic.com)

WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEKEND!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

**The Baptism of the Lord, Cycle A**  
**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 3:13-17 The Spirit of God comes upon Jesus as he is baptized by John.*

**Family Reflection**

At Jesus' baptism, God affirms his Son's mission for salvation. God announces his pleasure with Jesus and, in Matthew's Gospel, announces to all that, "This is my beloved Son" (Matthew 3:17). With this affirmation, Jesus is able to resist the temptations described next in Matthew's Gospel and to begin his public ministry. As family members, we can support one another in our Christian living by affirming the importance of each person in our eyes and in God's. Confident that through our Baptism we too were made children of God, we can resist temptation and share in Christ's mission.

Gather as a family to read today's Gospel, Matthew 3:13-17. Recall that God's message about Jesus was meant for us, "This is my beloved Son." It was also an affirmation for Jesus about his role in God's plan.

Place each family member's name on a slip of paper and put the names in a bowl. Invite each person in the family to choose another family member's name and to prepare a message for that person, affirming their importance in God's eyes and in your family life. Pray together that your family will continue to support one another in your baptismal promises to be disciples of Jesus and then invite each person to read aloud the message they prepared. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

**Commissioning Day for Extra Ordinary Ministers  
of Holy Communion**

The next Commissioning Day for Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be in at the Metropolitan Cathedral Church of St George on **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020**, starting at 10am concluding with Mass at 2.30pm. **Please contact the parish office ASAP for further details.**

**Missionary Society of St Paul Celebration Day**

The Missionary Society of St Paul of Nigeria UK Region will be holding its annual MSP Day Celebration at St George's Cathedral on **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2020**, beginning with Mass at **6.30pm** Prompt, followed by a reception in the Amigo Hall. Everyone is invited; if you wish to attend, please RSVP the Parish Secretary as soon as possible.



**SCAM ALERT** – Please be aware that fraudulent messages are circulating via e-mail allegedly coming from our Priests, Bishops, or others in the Catholic community, asking for money or gift cards. Please **DISREGARD** all such messages! Do **NOT** reply or engage with the individuals sending these messages. The email addresses typically look like they could be real; they ask if you are busy, ask for a favour, or directly asks for gift cards or funds. Do **NOT** send gift cards, money, or cash transfers if requested to do so over e-mail. If you receive messages asking for help like this from our Bishops or Priests, either contact their offices directly to check whether they are authentic, or just ignore the message. Do **NOT** reply to it.

**Peace Sunday – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2020**

**Sharing Pope Francis' World Peace Day Message**

Every year Pax Christi promotes the Holy Father's World Peace Day Message on the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. On **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January**, Peace Sunday, we will celebrate 'PEACE AS A JOURNEY OF HOPE: DIALOGUE, RECONCILIATION AND ECOLOGICAL CONVERSION' ~ Pope Francis', World Peace Day message

**2020 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**

Every year, Christians around the world are invited to celebrate a Week of Prayer for the unity of all Christians, to reflect on scripture together, to participate in jointly-organized ecumenical services, and to share fellowship. The materials for the 2020 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity have been prepared by the Christian churches in Malta and Gozo (Christians Together in Malta) The theme for 2020 is "They showed an unusual kindness", which finds its origins in Acts 27:18 - 28:10.

*The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity will be observed from the 18th to the 25th January – the octave of St. Peter and St. Paul.*

**Parish Men's Group**

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2020** at the Wych Elm from 8.00pm. Please come and bring your friends.

The Group will normally meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month, except in February when they shall meet on the third Wednesday (19<sup>th</sup> February) because 26<sup>th</sup> is Ash Wednesday. In March they will meet as normal on the fourth Wednesday (25<sup>th</sup> March).

**MEN'S**  
GROUP

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

**Part 2 – THE TRANSMISSION OF DIVINE REVELATION**

God "desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth": that is, of Christ Jesus. Christ must be proclaimed to all nations and individuals, so that this revelation may reach to the ends of the earth:

God graciously arranged that the things he had once revealed for the salvation of all peoples should remain in their entirety, throughout the ages, and be transmitted to all generations.

**I. The Apostolic Tradition**

"Christ the Lord, in whom the entire Revelation of the most high God is summed up, commanded the apostles to preach the Gospel, which had been promised beforehand by the prophets, and which he fulfilled in his own person and promulgated with his own lips. In preaching the Gospel, they were to communicate the gifts of God to all men. This Gospel was to be the source of all saving truth and moral discipline."

In the apostolic preaching. . .

In keeping with the Lord's command, the Gospel was handed on in two ways: - orally "by the apostles who handed on, by the spoken word of their preaching, by the example they gave, by the institutions they established, what they themselves had received - whether from the lips of Christ, from his way of life and his works, or whether they had learned it at the prompting of the Holy Spirit"; - in writing "by those apostles and other men associated with the apostles who, under the inspiration of the same Holy Spirit, committed the message of salvation to writing".

. . . continued in apostolic succession

"In order that the full and living Gospel might always be preserved in the Church the apostles left bishops as their successors. They gave them their own position of teaching authority." Indeed, "the apostolic preaching, which is expressed in a special way in the inspired books, was to be preserved in a continuous line of succession until the end of time."

This living transmission, accomplished in the Holy Spirit, is called Tradition, since it is distinct from Sacred Scripture, though closely connected to it. Through Tradition, "the Church, in her doctrine, life and worship, perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, all that she believes." "The sayings of the holy Fathers are a witness to the life-giving presence of this Tradition, showing how its riches are poured out in the practice and life of the Church, in her belief and her prayer."

The Father's self-communication made through his Word in the Holy Spirit, remains present and active in the Church: "God, who spoke in the past, continues to converse with the Spouse of his beloved Son. and the Holy Spirit, through whom the living voice of the Gospel rings out in the Church - and through her in the world - leads believers to the full truth, and makes the Word of Christ dwell in them in all its richness."

**Important Upcoming Dates:**

Sun 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	FHC Session 1
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Confirmation Family Meeting
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Agatha's Church Youth Club
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Peace Sunday
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jan	FHC Session 2
Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Confirmation Session 1
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	St Agatha's Church Youth Club
Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	MSP Celebration Day

**Offerings**

First collection	Gift Aid	£493.00	Loose	£549.99
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£5.00	Loose	£87.40
TOTAL		£1135.39		

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

**Crib Offerings**

At the request of Archbishop John Wilson, this year's crib offerings will go to The Friends of the Holy Land (FHL). The Friends of the Holy Land have been giving hope and providing practical help to the most vulnerable Christians in and around Bethlehem for 10 years.

**2020 Calendars**

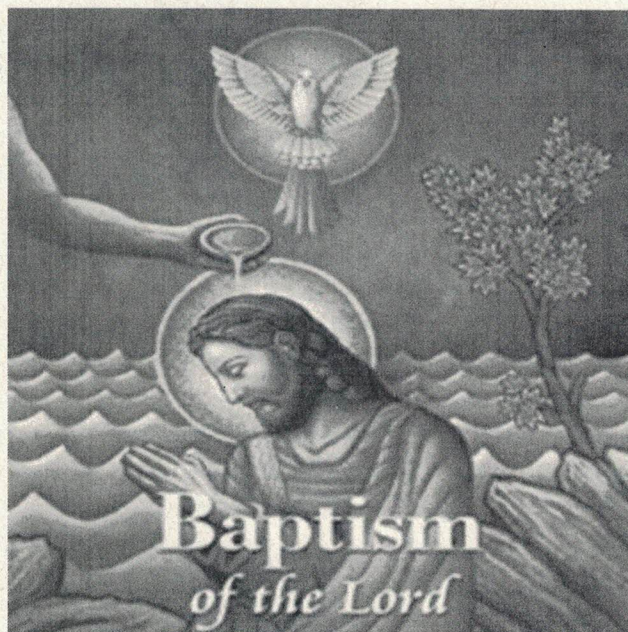
A few of the 2020 calendars are still available to purchase at £1 each; please contact the parish office to purchase.

**Diocesan Directory**

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

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

Date for your Diary: On this day we will have a special Mass at 7.30pm. More details to follow soon....





### First Holy Communion

FHC Classes will start on **Sunday 12th January 2020 at 4pm** with Children's Session 1. A full programme of the sessions can be found on the parish website.

### St Agatha's Confirmation 2020

There will be an enrolment meeting for Candidates and their families on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.45pm. The first candidate session will be Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 at 7.15pm. The Inscrption Mass will be on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 6.30pm. A full programme of the sessions was with the application form and can also 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 (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.

### Church Banners

A longstanding parishioner of St Agatha's kindly sponsored the purchase of the church's new Advent Banners; our thanks to him, we truly appreciate the donation. If anyone would be interested in sponsoring the purchase of further banners for instance for Christmas, Lent, Easter or Seasonal Banners, please contact the Parish Office to discuss further.

### Baptism Preparation Class

Our next Baptism preparation class is on **Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 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 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.

### Mass Intentions

Mass intentions envelopes are available at the back of the church. When requesting a Mass, please CLEARLY indicate the NAME and INTENTION and whether the Mass is for the deceased, the sick or for another intention.

It is a very busy time for requests and sometimes Masses can be booked several weeks in advance, so if you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, it is very important that you let the parish office know as soon as possible. We cannot guarantee a requested date when submitting Mass Intentions; if no date is specified or a date requested is not available, the Mass Intention will be assigned to the next open date.

If you require confirmation of a Mass date and time, please ensure you provide your contact details or call into the office during office hours.

**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 Christian is exhorted to offer his body and all his being to practice only good, mutual love, and justice; he is called to consecrate himself entirely to the service of God for the benefit of others.  
**Baptized and Sent: The Church of Christ on Mission in the World, Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples Pontifical Mission Societies.**