

CLERGY

Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, MSP — Parish Administrator
Fr Francis Ayogu, MSP — Assistant Parish Priest
Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church
1 Wyndham Road
Kingston upon Thames
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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 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 16TH JANUARY 2022
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

Saturday 15th

9.30am Mary Frances MacDonald RIP
6.30pm Cyril Jarvis RIP

**Sunday 16th 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Peace Sunday**

9am Mr Bennie Rekers
10.30am Alan & Keith Fraser RIP
6.30pm People of the Parish

Monday 17th St Anthony, Abbot, Memorial

9.30am Thanksgiving Intentions

Tuesday 18th

9.30am Wellbeing & Special Intentions for
Mrs. Joan Colley

Wednesday 19th

9.30am Keith Fraser RIP

Thursday 20th

9.30am Patricia Corcoran RIP

Friday 21st St Agnes, Martyr, Memorial

9.30am Thanksgiving Intentions

Saturday 22nd

9.30am Wellbeing of Mavis Hatchman
6.30pm Wellbeing of Catherine Halpin

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.



PEACE SUNDAY

This Sunday, 16th January, is PEACE SUNDAY and this year Pope Francis asks us to think about 'Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace'.

The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peace-making? Which 'tools for building lasting peace' do you think Pope Francis might be talking about?

In the UK we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children.

<https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the online link: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/about-us/support-us/donation/> or please use the envelopes available in the church porch.



WELCOME

On Monday 31st January 2022 we will welcome Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP, to St Agatha's as our new Parish Priest. We know that you will make him feel very welcome when he arrives. Fr Eugene Lugh, MSP, will remain as our Assistant Parish Priest. They will both serve as Chaplains to Kingston Hospital. We offer them our continued prayers and support.

FAREWELL

Fr. Francis Ayogu, MSP, will leave on Monday 31st January 2022 for his new assignment as a Parish Priest. We thank him immensely for his ministry over the past months. Sunday 30th January 2022 will be his last Masses with us; please join us after the 10.30am Mass for tea, coffee and cake, so that we may take the opportunity to say thank you and wish him well. May the Lord reward him and bless his future ministry.

SYNOD 2021 2023

**COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION
IN THE PARISH AND THE WIDER CHURCH**

On **Wednesday 19th January 2022**, there will be an open meeting in the church hall at **7.30pm** at which parishioners will have the opportunity to comment on the preliminary analysis of the parish responses submitted to the recent questionnaire. These comments will be taken into account before the final version is submitted to the diocese. The meeting will be hosted by two of our parish delegates John de Quidt and Nicole Wiggill. This will be your last chance to influence what the parish will say: please don't miss it! Refreshments will be available.



PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please register for our next available class, on **Sunday 23rd January 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, whilst we catch up with those that were cancelled this past year, so the earlier you contact the parish office the better!



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL CELEBRATION DAY Friday 28th January 2022

The Missionary Society of St Paul of Nigeria, UK region, will be holding its annual MSP day celebration at Most Precious Blood and St Edmund Catholic Church, Edmonton, N9 7EN on Friday 28th January 2022, beginning with Mass at 6.30pm prompt, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Everyone is invited; if you wish to attend, please RSVP.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please note the following important dates and upcoming sessions.

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.



Group 1
Sunday 30th January 2022
Session 6 at 2.45pm.

Group 2
Sunday 30th January 2022
Session 6 at 4.30pm.

Parents are also required to attend this session.

We would like to remind parents that children need to arrive punctually for the start time of each session please!

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.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy
of the **Word**

Children's Liturgy is usually held every other Sunday during term time at the 10.30am Mass. The children are asked to come forward after the opening prayer of the Mass and then they proceed to the Old Sacristy or Cloister where the Liturgy takes place. They return to join the full congregation at the offertory. Any work they have done is brought up during the offertory as their gift to God and the Community.

Children's Liturgy is run by the parents/adults in the parish who are keen to pass on their faith to the children. They use a variety of resources and each session is based on the readings of the day.

We are URGENTLY looking for more people to help as either a session leader or helper to be able to return to our usual children's liturgy schedule in 2022. Please contact the parish office for further information.

PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays each week at 10 am after Mass. Please stay after Mass for 10/15 mins to pray with fellow parishioners.



THE ROSARY



We pray the Rosary in the church every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning after Mass. Everyone is welcome to join in.

CONTACTLESS GIVING

We are excited to have "Contactless Giving" at St Agatha's!

We are pleased to announce that we can accept cashless donations for the Parish by debit or credit cards from all major cards. You will find our new contactless handsets at the back of the church (on each side, beside the votive candles). Just use your contactless debit or credit card or you can insert your card into the keypad where you can authorise your donation using your card's PIN. You can also use your smartphone to donate. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card/phone onto the reader.



You can also register for Gift-Aid and you will only have to do this the first time you donate. NB. You will need register even if you are already registered as a Gift-Aider with the parish.

If you would still like to give your donation to the Parish Collection as cash or cheque, boxes are available at the back of Church. If you would like to give regularly by standing order, please contact the Parish Office.

We thank you for your continued generosity.

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C
Sunday, January 16, 2022

Gospel Reading

John 2:1-11

Jesus performs his first sign at a wedding feast in Cana.

Gospel Reflection

This Sunday we begin the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. For many Sundays in this lectionary cycle (Cycle C), our readings will be taken from the Gospel of Luke. Occasionally, however, we will read from John's Gospel. This is true of today's Gospel reading, which describes the beginning of Jesus' ministry and his first miracle.

To situate today's reading within the context of John's Gospel, we note that John's report of this event follows Jesus' call of his first disciples. John tells us that Jesus and his disciples were invited to this wedding at Cana, as was Jesus' mother, Mary. There is no parallel report of this miracle at Cana in the Synoptic Gospels.

In the Church's liturgical history, the wedding feast of Cana is closely associated with the baptism of the Lord and the adoration of the infant Jesus by the Wise Men. In this context, the sign Jesus performs at the wedding feast is celebrated as an epiphany or a manifestation of Jesus' divinity.

Yet awareness of Jesus' impending passion and death is ever present in John's Gospel. Even in this report of Jesus' first sign, the language used anticipates Jesus' passion. When Jesus says to his mother that his hour has not yet come, he protests against her wishes in language that John will use again when reporting Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples. When introducing the story of Jesus washing his disciples' feet, John writes that Jesus knew that his hour had come. In John's Gospel, Jesus is very much in command and aware of all that is to happen to him.

Here, as elsewhere in John's Gospel, Mary is not mentioned by name, but is referred to instead as the mother of Jesus. Mary is influential in Jesus' first sign. She will also be present at his Crucifixion, a witness to the final manifestation of his divinity.

John's Gospel describes seven signs that indicate Jesus' identity to his disciples. John never speaks of these signs as miracles because their importance is not in the deed that Jesus performs but in what these deeds indicate about Jesus' identity. Here, as when John describes the other signs, the disciples are said to begin to believe, but no mention is made as to whether the other wedding guests are even aware of what has happened.



Marriage and wedding feasts are metaphors used in Scripture to describe God's salvation and the Kingdom of God. Here at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, John's Gospel seeks to establish that Jesus is going to re-interpret and fulfil Yahweh's promise to Israel. Jesus establishes the New Covenant. A hint about what this New Covenant will be like is made evident in the deed that Jesus performs. Asked to do something to address the awkward situation that the absence of wine at a wedding feast would create, Jesus' miracle produces vast quantities of wine—six jars holding thirty gallons each are filled to overflowing with choice wine.

This lavish response to a simple human need is a vision for us of the abundance of God's kingdom. It challenges us to respond generously when confronted with human need today. We respond as best we can, fully confident that God can transform our efforts, bringing the Kingdom of God to fulfilment among us.

Family Reflection

Weddings are wonderful family celebrations. We go out of our way to make the occasion festive and extraordinary. People work hard to please one another. What better image of the Kingdom of God! Not every day is a wedding celebration, but we can anticipate the Kingdom of God each day in our attentiveness to one another's needs.

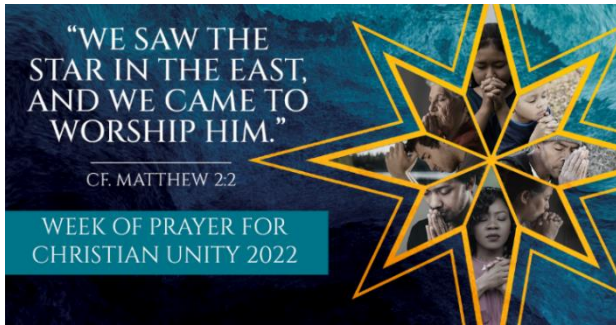
If your family has attended a wedding celebration together, talk about the experience and the planning and cooperation that made the celebration memorable. Talk about how weddings and feasts are images in Scripture for the Kingdom of God. Consider how these festive occasions are images of God's tremendous love for us and examples of how we can show our love for one another. Then read together today's Gospel, John 2:1-11. Talk about Mary's attentiveness to the needs of the hosts and about Jesus' response. What could your family learn from this story? Consider ways that you might show these values in your family's daily life. Pray together Saint Ignatius' Prayer for Generosity.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

18 - 25 January 2022



This year the theme is 'We Saw His Star in the East'. The story of the Magi visiting the Holy Family in Bethlehem is one very familiar to us. Indeed, we have recently celebrated Christmas, the Feast of Incarnation, and Epiphany.

The Magi have sometimes been seen as a symbol of the world's diversity – different religions and cultures – that come to pay homage to the Christ-child. The story might therefore represent the unity of all created that God desires. The Magi travel from far-off countries, and represent diverse cultures, yet they are driven by the same hunger to see and know the new-born king and are gathered into the little house in Bethlehem in the simple act of giving homage. In this we can find a metaphor for Christian unity: that is, of different Christian peoples drawn together in their common search to recognise Christ, to know him and worship him, witnessing to wider need for unity and to overcome injustice.

Further details are available at: <https://ctbi.org.uk/resources-for-week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

An exciting new collaboration between Sycamore, the Southwark Marriage and Family Life Team and the Agency Growing in Faith Together 'GIFT' is a course for engaged and married couples. Explore your faith, enrich your friendship and your love. Four weekly online sessions at: 8pm on Tuesday evenings, starting January 18th 2022; or 10.30am Saturday mornings, starting February 19th 2022.

To register go to <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/together>

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2022

Copies of the Diocesan Directory for 2022 are available to purchase, please email the Parish Office if you would like a copy. They cost £4.00 each.

+++ LATELY DEAD +++

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Keith Fraser who died on 8th January 2022, aged 56. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 11am. Our condolences to Philomena, Alex and Joan and their families.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, 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.

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.

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

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, Peter McChrystal, Susan Prince, Patrick Walsh, Therese Currie, Peter Kearns, May East, Martin McDonagh, Una Reed, Liam Mullane, Mary Brice, Joseph Absalom, Eileen Ryan, James Milburn, James Gerald Torrens, Robert Francis Colclough, Agneta Hill, Mary Shanks, Mary Frances McDonnell, Winifred Gertrude Maton, William Little, Mary Abraham, Micheal Gray, William George Hedger.

+++May They Rest In Peace +++

"All can work together to build a more peaceful world, starting from the hearts of individuals and relationships in the family, then within society and with the environment, and all the way up to relationships between peoples and nations." ~ Pope Francis, Peace Sunday 2022