

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.

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES**  
**SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2020**  
**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, (A)**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am

6.30pm Wellbeing & Recovery of Philip Cockle

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

9am Wellbeing of Viola O'Connor

10.30am People of the Parish

6.30pm John Dearing RIP

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Protection, Peace, Health & Faith for Clemência

**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Prisca Hasting RIP

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Wellbeing of Merlyn & Keith Fraser

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> St Bernard, Abbot, Memorial**

9.30am Holy Souls

**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> St Pius X, Pope, Memorial**

9.30am David Rattray RIP

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial**

9.30am Private Intention

6.30pm Marco Vincenzo Straccialano 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**

*Bernard O' Neill, Marmaduke Valentine Smith, Annie Grealish, Bernard Joseph Bull, Cyril Francis Harriott, Mary Agnes Matkin, Bridget Crosby, Harry Walter, Sidney Selleck, Christina & Joshua Gordon, Dorothy Mercer, Alfred Godfrey, Mary Lewendon, William Walsh, Bridie Mapstone, Roger Edward Cubitt, David Brayshaw, Henry McArdle, Tessa Pitts, Thomas Flaherty, Wilfrid William Hayward, Josephine Carroll, Ann Power, Giuseppe Sammarco, Libera Ricci Strafino, Marie Louise Crunelle, William Fry, Marion Sim, Eileen Porter, Bridget Barlow, Bill Marsh, Andrew de Quidt, Brendan Cornelius Lucy, Marco Vincenzo Straccialano, Rev. Fr. Gerry O'Brien. ++ **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.

**CORONAVIRUS UPDATE.....**

**FACE-COVERINGS/MASKS**

Face coverings/masks are mandatory in Places of Worship from Saturday 8th August 2020.

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-your-own/face-coverings-when-to-wear-one-and-how-to-make-your-own#when-you-do-not-need-to-wear-a-face-covering>

Communion must be given silently in the hand only, with the communicant standing, and avoiding any physical contact. People should wait in their pews until instructed to move forward to the priest for Holy Communion, always aware of the regulations on social distancing in an orderly queue. When they approach the priest, they should do so with arms at "full stretch" so that there is a good distance between the priest and the communicant. Their hands, palms upwards, one of top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible. The communicant should unloop their face covering and consume the Sacred Host and then replace the face covering before moving back to their pews.

For readers: Readers should sanitise their hands before and after reading and should avoid touching the microphones or the Lectionary during the Liturgy of the Word, apart from page turning. Readers may remove their face coverings at the lectern to read and should replace them before stepping away from it providing the lectern is sufficiently distant from the congregation.



## St Agatha's Church is open for Public Worship

We have resumed public worship, however, whilst many are excited about the prospects of returning to Mass, we must do everything possible to make the participation at Mass safe through the required hygiene and social distancing measures. Numbers for each Mass will be limited; we are maintaining a distance of 2 metres. We have 28 seating areas, which has 2 areas per pew, and each area can have no more than 4 persons each (adults and children). Therefore, a household of 5 (i.e. 2 adults and 3 children) or more will be asked to use a whole pew. Once all the allocated seats in the church are filled, there will be no further access into the church.

**We have also been asked that we should comply with the Governments NHS Track and Trace requirements, which means that everyone coming to the church will be asked to provide their contact details upon entering. If you are able to complete the form before coming to the church to hand to the stewards this would be very helpful. It can be downloaded from the parish website.**

Extra Masses are not permitted at the moment on Sundays and numbers will need to be restricted by our Stewards. Please, kindly note that the dispensation from Sunday obligation granted by the Bishops at the onset of the lockdown is still in place until further notice and we encourage you to come to the weekday Masses instead of Sundays as this will be helpful for numbers in church and may be more convenient for our elderly parishioners.

Livestreaming of a Sunday Mass, 10.30am, will continue, from our website and a Facebook page for those who may not consider it safe for them to attend Mass in person. <https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92>

Holy Communion, under 'one kind' must be received in the hand. Fr Anthony or Fr Ebuka will give clear instructions during Mass regarding Holy Communion – please follow them. Mass will be kept simple, and there can be no singing. Homilies will be brief and there will be no Prayer of the Faithful (Bidding Prayers).

The main doors, and windows, will be left open (weather permitting) during Masses.

There will be an opportunity to give to the parish through a static collection box at the entrance and exits. Mass Intentions can also be posted at this point.

The times of Masses will be as in normal time. Please note: there may also be last minute changes, depending on availability of stewards.

### 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

For your safety, and that of others, please see key instructions below:

- Please sanitise your hands well on entering and exiting – hand-sanitiser is provided.
- Please wear a face covering or mask whilst in the church. Please see further guidance above.
- At all times follow the directions of the stewards and the signs in church.
- Please note the stewards act in Fr. Anthony's name and with his authority.
- Once all the allocated seats in the church are filled, there will be no further access into the church.
- If you feel unwell, please do not put others in danger and stay at home. Please **do not** visit the Church if you have a high temperature or a new continuous cough or less of or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell.
- Please be prompt to leave when Mass is finished, but be guided by the stewards
- Physical veneration of relics, statues and shrines is not permitted.
- No person under 16 is allowed to enter a church building unless accompanied by a responsible adult.
- Please note that the toilets will not be available.

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### Consider Bringing Your Sunday Missal To Mass

As part of the safety measures as we resume Mass with a congregation, Mass Books will not be provided till further notice and, for environmental reasons, we will not supply single-use Mass Sheets. If you would like to consider purchasing your own Sunday Missal, there are a couple of options at: <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk> – the Redemptorists Sunday Missal "Your Sunday Missal" or <https://www.ctsbooks.org/returning-to-mass/> – CTS Sunday Missal. Both priced at around £20.

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### Mass Intentions

Fr Anthony and Fr Ebuka continue to offer daily Masses. We have plenty of available slots for upcoming Masses. Mass intentions envelopes are available in the church porch and can be left in the corresponding 'Mass Request Box' or posted at the Presbytery. Alternatively, please email the Parish office. 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. 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 and we will endeavour to accommodate the date asked for. If no date is specified 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 the parish office during office hours.

## Church Stewards Still Needed PLEASE

IF WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH STEWARDS ON ROTA  
OUR CHURCH WILL NOT BE ABLE TO OPEN.

*Our thanks to our current stewards for their continuing assistance, without their help we would not be able to open, and thanks also to all who have come into the church, for adhering to the new way of doing things.*

One of the diocese requirements is that we must have at least two stewards in the church at the times the church is open, for all Public Worship services. For our Sunday Masses we require at least 4 Stewards. Stewards will assist with showing people what to do, where they can sit and how to keep themselves and others safe and to complete the track and trace information cards. Our current opening times have been arranged around the availability of our stewards. If we can get more volunteers to offer their time on different days then we will be able to open for more of our Public Worship Masses in the coming weeks.

In order to enable this, we are asking for more volunteers to join the rota; if you are in good health, with no underlying health issues, are under 70 and not shielding anyone vulnerable at home (NB not those classed as "vulnerable" to Covid-19), please consider doing this for one a week.

If you are able to help, please email the parish office [kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk) with the following information:

- Your contact details (name, email address and phone number).
- What day Monday – Sunday and time (Saturdays and Sundays only) morning or evening you can help.
- Any particular day of the week you can commit to. It would be easier if people could generally commit to the same slot each week (but not essential).

Please do get in touch as soon as possible. Instructions and PPE equipment will be provided. This is a serious task, and all the measures being put in place will need to be adhered to at all times, but it will also be a joyful time, welcoming people back to the real presence of Our Lord.

*We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in a world where some revel, spend with abandon, and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in abject poverty. ~ Gaudete et Exultate, para.*

## GIFT AID ENVELOPES 2020/21

We have had a few enquiries regarding the new Gift Aid envelopes for 2020/21 which commenced in April. The envelopes have been received from the diocese, unfortunately we are unable to issue them until we have instructions from the diocese to do so in a safe way. Could all of those parishioners who are in touch 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.**



**THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,  
CYCLE A  
SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2020**

**Gospel Reading**

*Luke 1:39-56*

*Mary greets Elizabeth and sings God's praise.*

**Gospel Reflection**

Today's feast celebrates Mary's Assumption into heaven. It is one of three feasts of Mary that are Holy Days of Obligation for Catholics in the United States. January 1 is the feast of Mary, the Mother of God, and December 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. The assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into heaven has long been held as an important Catholic belief. The belief was not defined as dogma, however, until 1950 by Pope Pius XII. The dogma teaches that Mary, who was without sin, was taken, body and soul, into the glory of heaven.

The Gospel for this holy day recalls Mary's actions after the announcement of Jesus' birth by the Angel Gabriel. Mary goes to visit her cousin Elizabeth who is also with child. Elizabeth greets Mary with full recognition of the roles they and their unborn children will play in God's plan for salvation. Mary responds to Elizabeth's greeting with her song of praise, the Magnificat. Both women recall and echo God's history of showing favor upon the people of Israel. Mary's Magnificat, in particular, echoes the song of praise offered by Hannah, the mother of Samuel.

The Gospel for this day reminds us that Mary's Assumption into heaven is best understood with regard for the full spectrum of Catholic beliefs about the person of Christ and the person of Mary. Only Mary, who was born without stain of original sin—the Immaculate Conception—could give birth to Christ, who is fully God and fully human. This is called the Immaculate Conception. Because of Mary's role in God's plan of salvation, she does not suffer from the effects of sin, which are death and decay. Mary is the first to receive the fullness of the redemption that her son has won for all of humanity. The Church, therefore, recognizes Mary as the sign of the salvation promised to all.

Today's Gospel highlights Mary's faith. Mary's faith enabled her to recognize the work of God in her people's history and in her own life. Her openness to God allowed God to work through her so that salvation might come to all. Mary is a model and symbol of the Church. May we be like Mary, open and cooperative in God's plan of salvation.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

**Family Reflection**

In today's Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary recognize the work that God is doing through them. With eyes of faith they see the power and salvation of God breaking through into their lives and into the world.

Gather as a family and talk about what you know about Mary and her being a model of faith. Recall that we are celebrating a holy day, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. On this day we remember that God took Mary to heaven, body and soul. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 1:39-56. In this reading we hear Mary's song of praise to God, the Magnificat. Invite each person in the family to write or draw one or more ways in which they see God working in your family life and in our world today. Use these prayers of thanksgiving to create your family's song of praise to God. Conclude by praying together this song of praise.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

