

CLERGY

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

The Parish office will not be staffed until further notice. The best way to contact us is by email.

Fr Anthony is available in case of an emergency or a pressing enquiry on 020 8546 4633. For non-urgent enquiries please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 19TH APRIL 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Saturday 18th	Easter Saturday People of the Parish
Sunday 19th	Second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday Caroline & Bertram Woodhouse-Currie RIP Montague Laing RIP The Late Archbishop Emeritus Peter Smith RIP The People of the Parish
Monday 20th	People of the Parish
Tuesday 21st	People of the Parish
Wednesday 22nd	People of the Parish
Thursday 23rd	St George, Martyr, Patron of England People of the Parish
Friday 24th	People of the Parish
Saturday 25th	St Mark, Evangelist, Feast People of the Parish
Sunday 26th	Third Sunday of Easter Pat Jones RIP Paddy McIlvenny RIP Continued Recovery & Wellbeing of Philip Cockle People of the Parish

St Agatha's Catholic Church and the Parish Office are Closed. Masses will continue to be celebrated each day WITHOUT A PUBLIC CONGREGATION, so you will still be able to book Mass Intentions. Please post any Mass Intention envelopes through the presbytery door, or email via the parish email address kingston@rcaos.org.uk Mass on Sunday will be celebrated at 12 noon. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be still be available but only on request, please contact Father by phone or email first.

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

Cormac Scott Byrne, Alice McMahon, James Mullens, John Browne, Una Matthews, Denise Hawkes, Tess Hegarty, Ken Sykes, Emanuele Giammacco, David Jones, Ellen Moore, Carmello Giamocco, Catherine Cusiack, Mary Squires, Bridget Kieley, Michael Cooke, Linda Hull, Tom Kelleher, Ellen Smith, Hannah McCarthy, Caroline Sidaway, Stella Collins, Kenneth Rose, Daniel Paterson, Edward Arthur Kavanagh, Julia Whelan, Ethel Herbert, Anne Overy, George Sargent, Gretta Conway, Charles Edwards,+++ 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.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE..

Our Masses will continue to be celebrated each day WITHOUT A PUBLIC CONGREGATION, so you will still be able to book Mass Intentions. Please post any Mass Intention envelopes through the presbytery door, or email via the parish email address kingston@rcaos.org.uk. Mass on Sunday will be celebrated at 12 noon and will be livestreamed from a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92> and our website. A leaflet has been provided by the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales: When Mass cannot be celebrated publicly. Please see our website.

The sacrament of reconciliation will be still be available but only on request, please contact Father by phone or email first.

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Our website will continue to be updated to help parishioners with their personal and family worship during this difficult time - please check on a regular basis.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Some people have asked how they can continue to give their offerings to the parish. If you are able to, please either make an electronic transfer or set up a standing order to the Parish Bank account. (Forms are also available on the parish website).

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 .

Those who sincerely say 'Jesus, I trust in You' will find comfort in all their anxieties and fears. There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercy – that love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God. ~ John Paul II

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEPT WELL!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, CYCLE A
SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY
SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2020**

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31 Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

Reflection

The Gospels tell us that Jesus appeared to the disciples on several occasions after they discovered that his tomb was empty. Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit but in bodily form. The bodily form was not one that the disciples recognized though. In John's Gospel, Mary of Magdala does not recognize that the figure standing before her is Jesus until he speaks to her. In Luke's Gospel the disciples who meet Jesus on the road to Emmaus do not recognize him until he breaks bread with them. The resurrected Jesus had a physical presence, but the disciples couldn't recognize Jesus unless he allowed them to. His resurrected body, nonetheless, showed the marks of his crucifixion.

From readings such as today's Gospel, we also see that in his resurrected body, Jesus seems to be free of physical constraints. He appears to the disciples despite the fact that the doors were locked.

Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace and the gift of the Holy Spirit. In doing so, Jesus commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun: "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." During the meeting, Jesus also shows the integral connection between forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The story of Thomas illustrates our Christian experience today: We are called to believe without seeing. In fact, all Christians after the first witnesses have been called to believe without seeing. Thomas's doubt is hardly surprising; the news of Jesus' appearance was incredible to the disciples who had seen him crucified and buried. Thomas's human nature compelled him to want hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to the disciples after his death was indeed the same Jesus who had been crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to act on that desire. He is our witness that Jesus is really risen.

Our faith is based on the witness of the Church that has preceded us, beginning with Thomas and the first disciples. Through Baptism we receive the same Holy Spirit that Jesus brought to the first disciples. We are among those who are "blessed" because we believe without having seen.



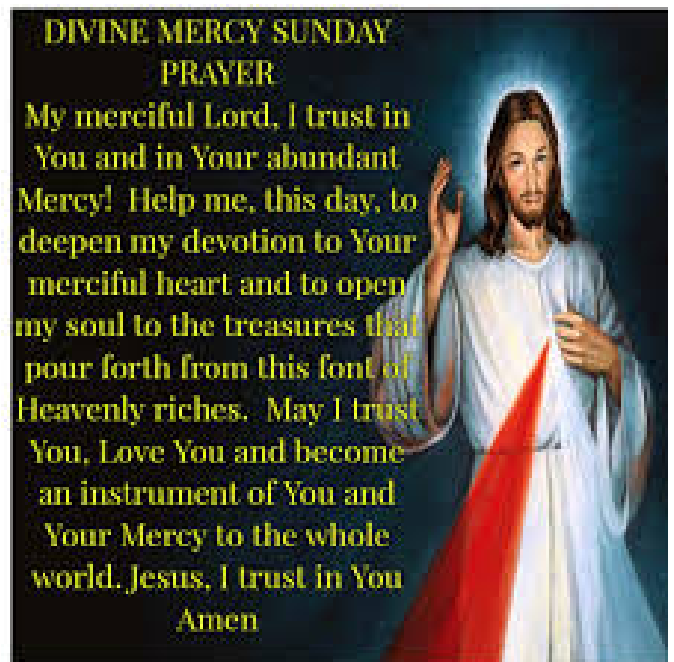
Family Reflection

Many of us can relate to Thomas's response to the news that the disciples had seen Jesus. We want to see for ourselves too, but we grow in faith, trusting the experience and knowledge of others.

Many of us have heard the saying "Seeing is believing." As your family gathers, take some time to consider what that saying means. What are some things we believe because we see them? Is there anything we believe without seeing? Today's Gospel reminds us that faith sometimes asks us to believe things we cannot see with our eyes. Read today's Gospel, John 19:19-31, with your family. Think about Thomas's response to the reports about the risen Lord. Is Thomas's doubt reasonable? How does Jesus respond to Thomas? Jesus grants Thomas the evidence that Thomas needs to believe, but Jesus also affirms the faith of those who will be called upon to believe without first-hand experience. We are among those whom Jesus calls blessed. Discuss with your family the basis of each member's faith in Jesus—the witness of the first disciples, the Gospels, the continuing activity of the Holy Spirit, the community of the Church.

Pray together that your faith in Jesus will be strong. Pray an act of faith together.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



It is essential to draw near to new forms of poverty and vulnerability, in which we are called to recognize the suffering Christ, even if this appears to bring us no tangible and immediate benefits. I think of the homeless, the addicted, refugees, indigenous peoples, the elderly who are increasingly isolated and abandoned, and many others. ~ Evangelii Gaudium