

#### CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Ebuka Umekachikelu, 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 kingston@rcaos.org.uk

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 21 <sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2020 MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD (A)	
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
Sunday 21st	Day of Prayer for Human Life
	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
	Special Intention for Merlyn Fraser
	Sydney George Alexander RIP
	Bill Drea RIP
	Priests & Parishioners of the Parish
	Fathers of the Parish
	People of the Parish
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Ss John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Feast
	Desmond & Kitty Shier RIP
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	
	Eleanor Margaret Alexander RIP
Wednesday 24th	The Nativity of John the Baptist, Solemnity
	Rev Fr Bill Keogh 42yr Ordination Anniversary
Thursday 25th	
	People of the Parish
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	
	Holy Souls
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	
	People of the Parish
Sunday 28th	Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles, Solemnity
	Angelo & Tina Piccirillo RIP
	John Pereira RIP
	Rose Pereira RIP
	Rev Fr Gerry O'Brien RIP
	Wellbeing of Philip Cockle
	Wellbeing of Naz Neeckpayman
	People of the Parish

#### 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**

Margaret Begley, Joseph Smyth, Charles O'Donoghue, John Norman, Cornelius Sheehy, Lilian Elizabeth Murray, Sirio Fiaschi, Yvonne Gawthope, Dennis Sweeney, Jane Egan, Peter Bolger, Brendan Patrick Hogan, Margaret Creely, Ellen Williams, John Owens, Paul Canton, Edwin Charles Clarke, Fredrick James Ricks, Fr. John Coleman, Mary Francis Cherry, Sister Lucy Staunton, Mary Gentry, Thomas Egan, Margaret King, John McCarthy, Charles Rabbitts, Maureen Patricia McArdle, Mary Farrelly, Hugh Glenn, Amelia Van Den Bosch. ++ May they rest in Peace ++

# **LET US REMEMBER**

Let us remember those who have died recently, 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.

# Our Church is now reopening for Private Prayer

We have completed the risk assessments, made adjustments and put social distancing measures in place, and we have a small team of stewards who are ready to supervise private prayer.

Our opening times this week will be:

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020: 10am – 12pm Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2020: 10am – 12pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020: 10am – 12pm

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed during these times. Please ensure you observe the rules regarding social distancing, use sanitising gel on entering and leaving, and please follow the instructions of the church stewards on duty.

If you are planning to come for private prayer, and would like to see what measures we have put in place, please check our website for photos taken of the church today: www.stagathaschurch.org.uk

MORE CHURCH STEWARDS NEEDED: One of the diocese requirements is that we must have at least two stewards in the church at the times the church is open, to show people what to do, where they can sit and how to keep themselves and others safe. 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 other days can gradually be added. 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 or two hours a week.

If you are able to help, please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk with the following information:

- •Your contact details (name, email address and phone number).
- •What day (Monday Sunday) and time (morning, afternoon 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. Those of you with current DBS clearance are particularly needed.

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.









#### 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 in the box in the church porch, 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: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92">https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92</a> 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.

The Parish office will still not be staffed. The best way to contact us is by email. Fr Anthony will be available in case of an emergency or a pressing enquiry on 020 8546 4633. For non-urgent enquiries please email: <a href="mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk">kingston@rcaos.org.uk</a>

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**

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 you continued generosity.

"When He takes away what He once lent us, His purpose is to store our treasure elsewhere, more safely and bestow on us, those very blessings, that we ourselves would most choose to have."

~ St Aloysius Gonzaga

## **Fathering Sunday**

Today we remember all fathers, grandfathers, and all those who, although are not dads, still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We also remember and keep in our prayers also Frs. Anthony and Ebuka, Deacon Bob and all clergy, who are always there to fulfil our spiritual needs.



We thank them especially for being there for us during the past few months, for keeping us united in faith, and for their guidance and perseverance.

We also remember those who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

### "No Place for Racism"

A Message from our Bishops to the Young People in Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Southwark
Archbishop John, Bishop Pat Lynch, Bishop Paul
Hendricks and Canon John O'Toole, have prepared a
message addressed particularly to the young people.
Below are two extracts from the message:

"Racism is incompatible with the Catholic Faith. Whether expressed by the attitudes or behaviour of an individual, or the behaviour of a group, or through unjust structures in society that exclude and discriminate, there is no place for racism at any time or in any place. We say this again: there is no place for racism."

"Dear young friends, we want you to use your passion for justice to make a difference to your schools and parishes, your neighbourhoods and communities. Make them places where the gifts and skills, the experience and heritage, of all people, of every background, are honoured, valued, cherished and celebrated. There is no place for racism. Let us work side by side to make it part of our history, not part of our present or of our future together."

Click here to read the full text of the message.

The original PDF version can be downloaded from here.

# **CAFOD Coronavirus Appeal**

Coronavirus is affecting every country we work in. The poorest and excluded are most vulnerable. CAFOD has launched an emergency appeal. In order to continue protecting and improving the lives of those in poor communities across the world, your essential support will help families survive. Please visit this link to find out more about CAFOD's response and donate whatever you can to our appeal: <a href="https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal">https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal</a>. CAFOD Thank you for your ongoing support.

# 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, CYCLE A SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020

# **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 10:26-33

Jesus assures the Twelve that God cares about them.

#### Reflection

We read today's Gospel in the context of last week's Gospel in which Jesus sent the twelve disciples to proclaim the kingdom of heaven. In between last week's reading and today's reading, Jesus has predicted that the disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the disciples because of the disciples' commitment to Jesus and the kingdom. Today's Gospel offers the disciples consolation against this difficult truth.

This section of Matthew's Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew's intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering cannot be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavour to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.



# **Family Reflection**

It is not only individuals who need reassurance about God's love and protection. Communities need this reassurance as well, including the community of the family. Children rely on the confidence of their parents for this assurance. Parents can help the entire family's growth in trust and confidence in God by witnessing ways in which daily family needs are entrusted to God's care.

As the family gathers, distribute pieces of paper to each person. Tell them to write or draw ways in which they believe that God's help is needed for each person and for the family as a whole. Each slip of paper can then be collected in a basket.

Invite one member of the family to read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:26-33. Recall together how well God knows your family and thank God for this wonderful grace. Conclude by praying together for each of the needs identified on the slips of paper. After each need is read, pray together, "God, we trust you because you know us so well." Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father.

This practice might become a regular part of your family's prayer. Set the basket in a place of prayer and encourage family members to add other needs throughout the week. Perhaps your family can pray for these things together during a family meal.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

# The Nativity of St John The Baptist Wednesday 24th June 2020

St John the Baptist has two feasts to himself. One, in August, celebrates his death, and one, in June, celebrates his birth. And this is as it should be, for as Christ himself said, John was the greatest of the sons of men.

The greatest, but also the most tragic. A prophet from before his birth, leaping in the womb to announce the coming of the incarnate God, his task was to proclaim the fulfilment of all prophecies – and thus his own obsolescence. And he did it: with unequalled courage he spread the news that he, the greatest of all men, was the least in the kingdom of heaven. His disciples, and the devil, would have preferred him to fight, to build his sect, to defeat this upstart whom he himself had baptised, to seize his place in history. But he did not – and so, rightly, he has his place, and he has glory in heaven.

We envy the great and the talented, and sometimes we think that they themselves are beyond envy. But when they come across someone with greater gifts, as one day most of them will, they will see for the first time what it means to feel like us. Let us pray that they, like John the Baptist, may pass that

