

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP – Parish Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 Rev. Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, MSP – Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain
 Rev. Robert Beresford – Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church
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 Kingston upon Thames
 Surrey, KT2 5JR
 Tel: 020 8546 4633
www.stagathaschurch.org.uk
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 27TH MARCH 2022
 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)**

Saturday 26th	
9.30am	Evelyn Mary Jarvis RIP
6.30pm	Keith Fraser RIP
Sunday 27th 4th Sunday of Lent Laetare Sunday	
9am	Laura & Andrew Carver & Thanksgiving for Patricia
10.30am	Keith & Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Zoran Popovic RIP
Monday 28th	
9.30am	Elpidina Francisco RIP
Tuesday 29th	
9.30am	Patricia & James Corcoran RIP
Wednesday 30th	
9.30am	Keith Fraser RIP
Thursday 31st	
9.30am	Tony & Lizzet Belcher – Wedding Anniversary
Friday 1st	
9.30am	Zoran Popovic RIP
Saturday 2nd	
9.30am	Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Guadeloupe
6.30pm	Keith Fraser RIP
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.	

LENTEN RECONCILIATION

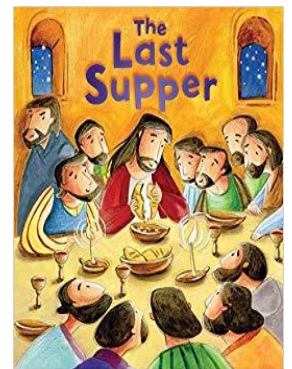
A Lenten Reconciliation service will be held on **Wednesday 30th March at 7.30pm** here in the Parish of St Agatha, for everyone. It is an opportunity for those who would like to go to confession before the Easter Triduum, which begins on Maundy Thursday. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the healing sacraments and a powerful help on our Journey of Faith.

EASTER SPRING CLEAN

This year our dedicated Easter Spring Cleaning morning will be on Saturday 2nd April 2022, from 10am. There are a variety of tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us. A sign-up sheet is available in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) refreshments and all cleaning products will be provided.

**MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY
 CHILDREN'S CELEBRATIONS**

All children are welcome to join us at 12pm on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as we observe both days with child-friendly services.

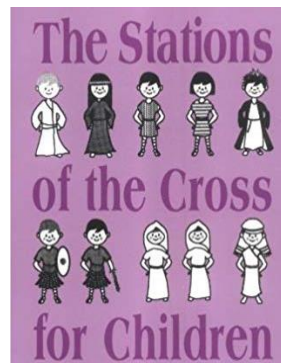


During these hands-on services, children of all ages will walk together through the Last Supper and the Stations of the Cross, learning as they go.

On Maundy Thursday we have a re-enactment of the last supper in the Cloister with readings, acting and singing, and lunch to share afterwards.

On Good Friday we have the Stations of the Cross read and acted by our young people.

Please sign up at the back of the church, or email: kingston@kingston.org.uk, if you are able to attend and your child(ren) would like to take part. Year 6



and above to read on Good Friday, but all children will be able to take part in both services as we need actors for a variety of roles. No rehearsals but on Good Friday, please come to the church at 11.15 to collect readings and have a quick practice.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Please note the following important dates.

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.

Remaining timetable for Group 1A and Group 1B
Preparation for First Reconciliation & First Communion
Group 1A & 1B – Thursday 28th April, 4pm
First Reconciliation Group 1A & 1B – Friday 29th April, 4pm
First Communion Mass Group 1A – Saturday 30th April, 12pm
First Communion Mass Group 1B – Sunday 1st May, 12pm

Remaining timetable for Group 2A and Group 2B
Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Communion
Group 2A & 2B – Thursday 5th May, 4pm
First Reconciliation Group 2A & 2B – Friday 6th May, 4pm
First Communion Mass Group 2A – Saturday 7th May, 12pm
First Communion Mass Group 2B – Sunday 8th May, 12pm

CONFIRMATION 2021/22

The next candidate sessions will be on:
Monday 28th March 2022 at 7.15pm.
Tuesday 19th April 2022 at 7.15pm
Friday 22nd April 2022 at 7.15pm

Confirmation Masses are on
Sunday 24th April 2022 at 12pm
Sunday 24th April 2022 at 2.30pm



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS



For those who wish to have their child baptised, please register for our next available class, on **Sunday 22nd May 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, so the earlier you contact the parish office the better!

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.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: 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

William Irvin Reed, Joseph Cassidy, Theodore Schlatter, Christina Josephine Pilgrim, Sydney George Alexander, Johanna Lombard, Theresa Dilliway, Catherine Henry, Bridget Battersby, Margaret Brigham, Mary Carraig, Leon Lorek, Mafalda Dilieto, Alan White, Johanna Norton, Carlo Marchese, Ruby May Fenton, Giovanni Grassi, James McArdle, Francis Brocking, Henry Wright, Sr. Stanislaus Holohan, Mario Bedoye, Maureen Swinbourne, Mary Lott, Alice Baker, Sarah Watson, John McKenna, James Patrick Kennedy, Caroline Hopkins, William Philip Murphy, Alice Delaney, Ellen Desmond, Eugene Doyle, Bernadette Harris, Evelyn Fiaschi, Clare Chambers, George Higginson, Bridget Doyle.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++



Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle C
Sunday, March 27, 2022

Gospel Reading

Luke 15:1-3,11-32 Jesus teaches about forgiveness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.

Gospel Reflection

The parable Jesus tells in today's Gospel is unique to the Gospel of Luke. Jesus has been teaching the crowds as he journeys to Jerusalem. As he teaches, the Pharisees and scribes complain and challenge Jesus because he is welcoming sinners at his table. Today we hear the third of three parables that Jesus tells in response to his critics. These three familiar parables—the lost sheep, the lost coin, and today's parable of the prodigal son—invite us to consider the depth of God's mercy and love.

The Pharisees taught a scrupulous observance of Jewish Law. In their interpretation and practice, observant Jews who shared table fellowship with sinners would be made unclean. Like Jesus, the Pharisees hoped to lead sinners back to God. The Pharisees, however, required that sinners first become ritually clean—observant of the Pharisees' interpretation of Jewish Law—before sharing table fellowship. This appears to be one of the major differences between the Pharisees and Jesus. Jesus reaches out to sinners while they are still sinners, inviting them to conversion through fellowship with him. Jesus is God acting among us; by befriending us, he is inviting us to return to friendship with God. Through friendship with Jesus, our sins are forgiven and we, in turn, bear fruit for God. Recall last Sunday's Gospel and the barren fig tree.

Our familiarity with today's parable risks dulling us to its tremendously powerful message. We call this the parable of the lost son or the prodigal son. Any focus on the younger son, however, must also be balanced by an examination of the unusual behaviour of the father.

First, we must imagine our first response to the audacity of a son who asks for his inheritance before his father has died. Indignation would certainly be a justifiable response to such a request. Yet the father in this parable agrees to honour the son's request and divides his property among his two sons. How might we describe such a father? Foolish comes to mind, but so does trusting. Without property of his own, the father must rely upon his sons to provide for his well-being.

The younger son takes his inheritance and leaves home. The older son remains, continuing to provide for the father and the household. Having been disgraced by the younger son, the father spends some time watching the road for the return of the lost son. When he eventually sees his wayward son returning, the father not only welcomes him but also runs out to greet him and then honours him with a party. We say that this father is loving and forgiving. Yet these adjectives only begin to describe the depth of love and mercy that characterize the father.

We find no surprise in the anger of the older son. Yet the father appears sad and even confused by the older son's indignation. He says in reply that they should celebrate because the lost son had returned. The father is filled with gratitude and love for the older son's faithfulness. This love is in no way diminished by the father's rejoicing at the return of the younger son. Yet the older son's jealousy reveals his limited understanding of the depth of his father's love.

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means "rejoice." Today's Gospel describes the reason for our joy: God's great love for us has been revealed in Jesus. Through his Passion, Death, and Resurrection, Christ has reconciled us with God and one another.

Family Reflection

"Hey, that's not fair!" How many times have we heard this spoken in our family? Family members challenge one another's generosity, operating from the perspective of limited resources. If we have given to one, perhaps there won't be enough for the other. Jesus wants us to understand that this is not how it is with God's mercy and forgiveness. God offers his love to all of us in abundance. The forgiveness of the father in the parable is an image of God's love for us, generous beyond measure in his love for both of his sons. Can we truly believe that God acts this way towards us and accept his mercy without jealousy, knowing that God's love for another does not diminish his love for us?

As you gather as a family, talk about the words and phrases you speak to one another when angry. Identify words or phrases that reflect jealousy towards one another. Talk about why we sometimes feel jealousy towards one another. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 15:1-3,11-32. Talk about why the older brother is jealous of the younger brother. Identify words that the family members in the parable might say to one another to begin to heal their broken relationships. Make a family commitment to say these types of words and phrases to one another with greater frequency. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press





HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAMME

Please pick up a copy of our Lent and Holy Week Programme available in the church porch. It is also available on the website.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday mornings after Mass, and at 5.45pm on Sundays, during Lent (from Friday 4th March to Sunday 10th April 2022). This devotion provides an opportunity for us to walk the road to Calvary with Our Blessed Lord.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION DURING LENT

The church will be open on Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7.30pm – 8.30pm for Exposition and Adoration. (6th April). Everyone is welcome.

pub quiz
Tuesday
29 March

The Wych Elm
Arrive at
7.30pm for
8pm start

**£5 entry per person. Teams of 6.
Teachers & parents battle it out
Who will be this year's winners?
Finishes at 10pm**

www.jumblebee.co.uk/pubquiz2022

ST AGATHA'S
PSA



CAFOD LENTEN COLLECTION

Thank you to you all for your generous response to the CAFOD Lenten Collection. The total amount collected was £1619.58. You can still donate online at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give>. An update from CAFOD as to what is happening to your donations is available to see here: [CAFOD UPDATE](#)

Thank you for your continued support to CAFOD.

CHOCOLATE SALE IN AID OF THE HARRIET ROBERTS FOUNDATION

All are welcome at another chocolate sale in aid of the Harriet Roberts Foundation, a Royal Marsden Cancer Charity. If you would like to support and eat to beat, please bring your pocket money on Saturday 2nd April 12-2pm at 77 Gibbon Road, KT26AE.

GODCALLS: ADVENTURE

GodCalls Adventure from the National Office for Vocation, is a free, 40-day self-guided course which aims to help you grow in holiness, and root each day in prayer.

The downloadable resources focus on cultivating different virtues, ranging from meekness to purity, gratitude to courage. There is also guidance on using the Bible, how to pray and reflect with the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross.

Further details at: www.godcalls.co.uk/godcalls-adventure

**GodCalls Adventure is not just for Lent,
try the 40 days at any point of the year**



Some consider reconciliation as an impossible dream which ideally might become the lever for a true transformation of society. For others it is to be gained by arduous efforts and therefore a goal to be reached through serious reflection and action. Whatever the case, the longing for sincere and consistent reconciliation is without a shadow of doubt a fundamental driving force in our society, reflecting an irrepressible desire for peace. ~ Pope Saint John Paul II,



We are collecting for Ukraine



On 11th April a local resident is driving out to Ukraine with supplies and provisions. We would gratefully appreciate any of the items from the lists below to help with his trip.

The church hall will be open between 10am and 11am Monday to Friday to drop-off or please drop-off at any of the weekend Mass times.

If you have any strong boxes for transporting the items these would be welcome also.

1. Children's food

- ready food (fruit purees, canned vegetables, meat, fish, protein bars for children, chocolate)
- dry, ready milk for babies (0-3 year)

2. Adult food

- chocolate, sweets, protein bars, canned food (meat, fish, soups), cereals, dried fruits)

3. Medical supplies

- children's medicines (Calpol, ibuprofen, vitamins)
- first aid kits, bandages

- Multi Vitamins for adults and children

4. Personal hygiene items

- shampoo, soap, toothpaste, gel.
- Nappies.

5. Children's shoes

- Spring/Summer (size 18-44)
- Children's underpants and socks (age 3-16 years old)

6. Sleeping bags

7. Men's NEW underwear and socks



~ NO CLOTHES ~ NO GLASS PLEASE! ~



Please ensure you have dropped off any donations by
11am on Friday 8th April 2022. Thank you for support.