

**CLERGY**

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

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES  
SUNDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020  
ST PETER AND ST PAUL, (A)**

<b>Sunday 28<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St Peter &amp; St Paul, Apostles, Solemnity</b>
	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
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup></b>	
	People of the Parish
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church</b>
	People of the Parish
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>St Oliver Plunket, Bishop, Martyr</b>
	Holy Souls
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	
	People of the Parish
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>St Thomas, Apostle, Feast</b>
	Thanksgiving for the Makala Family
<b>Saturday 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>St Elizabeth of Portugal or Our Lady</b>
	Holy Souls
<b>Sunday 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>14th Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>9am</b>	Louis Briffa RIP Mr Raymond Soloman RIP
<b>10.30am</b>	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser and Wellbeing of Priests, Deacon & Parishioners of St Agatha's
<b>6.30pm</b>	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**

*Maureen Patricia McArdle, Mary Farrelly, Hugh Glenn, Amelia Van Den Bosch, Maud Medhurst, Joseph Rocca, Gerald Appleby, Eileen Barber, Joan & Sean O'Connor, Yvonne Thompson, Louis Boribond, Mary Ann Duckett, Adele Morganti, Mary Ellen Lewis, Mother Rita, Hannah McIsaac, Horace Rice, Paul Cantoni, Margaret Mary Elliott, Vanda Warne, John O'Donoghue, Thomas Navin, Eliza Judge, Edward Keating, Mary Flaherty, Raymond Solomon.*

**++ 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.

**PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish office will re-open fully on Monday 6th July 2020. The best way to contact us at the moment 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: [kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk)

**Message from  
The Catholic Bishops' of England**

In light of the recent announcement (23rd June) of the next phase of the relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions by the Government the four Archbishops of England have issued a joint message. [Click here to read the message in full](#) or [click here to download a PDF copy](#).

Excerpts from the message:

"On Tuesday we heard the announcement that, from the 4th July this year, places of worship will be able to reopen for prayer and services. We welcome this news with great joy... Now, in our churches, and with our people, we can look forward again to celebrating the central mysteries of our faith in the Holy Eucharist.

"We want to thank everyone within the Catholic community for sustaining the life of faith in such creative ways, not least in the family home..."

"With the easing of restrictions on worship with congregations, we tread carefully along the path that lies ahead... We must now rebuild what it means to be Eucharistic communities..."

"It is important to reaffirm that, at present, the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended. A significant number of churches may remain closed as they are unable to meet the requirements for opening for individual prayer. Fulfilling these requirements is a precondition for any church opening after the 4th July for the celebration of Mass with a congregation."

"We ask every Catholic to think carefully about how and when they will return to Mass... Given there is no Sunday obligation, we ask you to consider the possibility of attending Mass on a weekday. This will ease the pressure of numbers for Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to the Eucharist for more people."

"As we prepare to gather again to worship, let us, respectful of each other, come together in thanksgiving to God for the immense gift of the Holy Eucharist.

Yours devotedly in Christ

- ✠ Vincent Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster
- ✠ Malcolm McMahon OP, Archbishop of Liverpool
- ✠ Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham
- ✠ John Wilson, Archbishop of Southwark"

This letter is addressed to the Catholic Community in England only.



**PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!**

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



## Our Church is open for Private Prayer this week.....

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 confirmed opening times this week will be:

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June: 4 – 6pm**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020: 10am – 12pm**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020: 10am – 12pm**

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020: to be confirmed**

Further days and times may still be announced.... Please check the website regularly for more up-to-date information.

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. Please note that the toilets will not be available – parishioners must come prepared for prayer only.***

If you are planning to come to the church, and would like to see what measures we have put in place, please check our website for photos taken of the church with the current measures in place:

[www.stagathaschurch.org.uk](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)

## Church Reopening for Public Worship from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July

We are looking forward to resuming public worship from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020. However, whilst many are excited about the prospects of returning to Mass after three months, we must do everything possible to make the participation at Mass safe through the required hygiene and social distancing measures. Numbers will be limited, for social distancing reasons; we are maintaining a distance of 2 metres and we have 32 seating areas, 2 areas per pew, each area can have no more than 4 persons each (adults and children). Therefore if you are a family of 5 (i.e. 2 adults and 3 children) or more you will be asked to use a whole pew.

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 a Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92> and our website, for that those who may not consider it safe for them to attend Mass in person.

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 will be left open (weather permitting) during Masses.

There will an opportunity to give to the parish through a static collection box at the entrance. 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.

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.
- At all times follow the directions of the stewards and the signs in 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.

### More Church Stewards Urgently Needed:

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

*Our thanks to our current stewards, without their help we would not be able to open, and thanks also to all who have called 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, this is for both private prayer this week and also for Public Worship services from Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020. This is 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 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 [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. Those of you with current DBS clearance are particularly needed, but not essential.

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.

## ST PETER AND ST PAUL, CYCLE A SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 2020

The solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul is normally celebrated on the 29th of June. In Rome and most parts of the world, it would still be observed on this date. However, in England and Wales, the Bishops Conference has, with the approval of the Holy See, moved the celebration to the preceding Sunday (today, 28 June), to facilitate its observance as a holy day of obligation.

### Reflection

The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, God's unlikely heroes! Today, as a church we are remembering and celebrating two of God's most unlikely heroes; Peter and Paul. Each in their own way carried on the mission and ministry of Jesus as they proclaimed the gospel through their words and actions as missionary disciples in the early church.

The gospels tell us that Peter knew Jesus for at least three years. He was one of his closest friends and followers. He heard Jesus speak and teach, he saw Jesus work miracles. Peter was at the Last Supper with Jesus; he was witness to all that happened to Jesus. And, as we know Peter not only witnesses these events, he was directly involved in them. Famously, he denied that he even knew Jesus as he was being arrested and beaten prior to his crucifixion and death. Peter lost faith in Jesus, but Jesus never lost his faith in Peter.

When Jesus appeared to his friends after the resurrection, he asked Peter not once, but three times whether he loved Jesus! When Peter says he did love him, Jesus said to him, 'Look after my sheep... feed my sheep.' So Peter, the very one who denied and disowned Jesus is now called, chosen and entrusted with responsibility of leading this new infant group called 'The Christians', which will eventually become the Church, the People of God.

Given his history, no one in their right mind would have picked Peter to lead the new church. But God's ways are not our ways. God does not choose the powerful, the wealthy, the clever or the important. God chooses the least likely who have the most potential. As it says in the Old Testament; *God does not look at outer appearances, but at the heart of a person.*

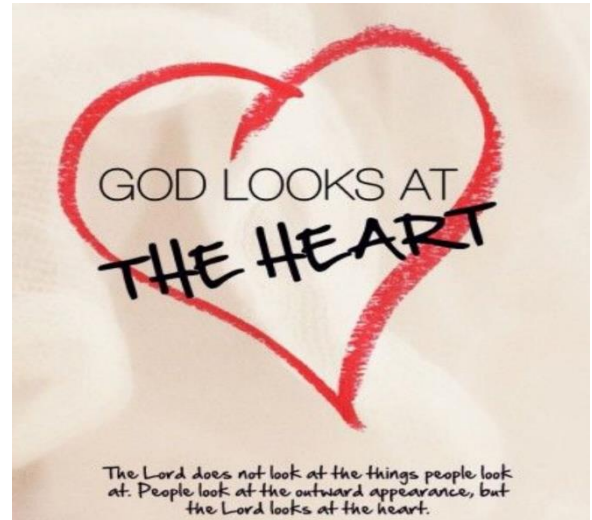
Paul never actually met Jesus, but he did experience Jesus in a most profound way. He was Jew of high standing. He was entrusted with the responsibility of hunting down, and if necessary killing these new Christians. He watched as Stephen, the first martyr was stoned to death. They were a threat to everything Paul (then called Saul) believed and held sacred; his Jewish faith and the Law.

But on the road to Damascus; he heard these words, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?' By persecuting the followers of Jesus, Saul is persecuting Jesus himself. Saul becomes Paul, the greatest missionary of the early Church. Again, *God does not look at outer appearance, but at the heart of a person.*

We have to be very careful that we don't simply worship, and praise them from afar as if they were or are

totally different than we are today. These are role models of what it means to be a follower of Jesus today. Jesus called Peter who denied him and Paul who persecuted him to be his witnesses; so why wouldn't the same Jesus call you and me today to be his witness and followers? Are we so different from these two men? Perhaps we when hear Jesus call us by our name, we might say Who me or Why me? Maybe that's what Peter and Paul both said when Jesus called them by their name! We say, Lord, 'Why me?' Jesus says, 'Why not you?.'

Br Michael Moore OMI,  
The Oblates of Mary Immaculate



### 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 at the back of the church 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.

### 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.

*It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass. ~ Saint Pio of Pietrelcina*

## 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".**

## 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)

**We thank you for your continued generosity.**

## "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.](#)**  
**A PDF version can be [downloaded from here.](#)**

## The CELEBRATE Online Conference 27th - 28th June 2020

Celebrate events have always been for the whole family and the online conference is no different. Hear from inspiring speakers, take time to prayerfully retreat, get creative, join with live worship and celebrate Mass together. All the content over the weekend will be hosted on the CELEBRATE Facebook page so make sure you 'Like' and 'Follow' us to not miss anything. Not a Facebook user? Not a problem! You don't need to have an account to access our page. You can join the conference by following this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/Celebratecommunity/>

If you have friends, family or members who might like to take part then why not invite them along and send them the details – all are welcome!

## 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: <https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-Emergencies/Coronavirus-appeal>. CAFOD Thank you for your ongoing support.

*At times we find it hard to make room for God's unconditional love in our pastoral activity. We put so many conditions on mercy that we empty it of its concrete meaning and real significance. That is the worst way of watering down the Gospel. ~ Amoris Laetitia, para 311*