

CLERGY

Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, MSP — Parish Administrator
Fr Francis Ayogu, MSP — Assistant Parish 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 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 30TH JANUARY 2022
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

Saturday 29th

9.30am Thanksgiving Intentions
6.30pm Edith Knight RIP

Sunday 30th 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Wellbeing of Rev Canon Colm Acton
10.30am Keith & Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm Jo Reilly RIP

Monday 31st St John Bosco, Priest, Memorial

9.30am Holy Souls

Tuesday 1st

9.30am Roger lisaia RIP

Wednesday 2nd The Presentation of the Lord, Feast

9.30am John Pereira RIP

Thursday 3rd St Laurence of Canterbury, Bishop, Memorial

9.30am Margaret Qualter

Friday 4th

9.30am Mickey Ward RIP

Saturday 5th St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial

9.30am Elpiolina Francisco RIP
6.30pm People of the Parish

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.

**ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY
Saturday 5th February 2022**

We would like to invite everyone along to celebrate with us on this our Feast Day for a special thanksgiving Mass at the 6.30pm Mass. Mass will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the cloister. Please do come along and join us.



WELCOME

On Monday, 31st January 2022, we will welcome Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP, to St Agatha's as our new Parish Priest. We know that you will make him feel very welcome when he arrives. Fr Eugene Lugh, MSP, will remain as our Assistant Parish Priest. They will both serve as Chaplains to Kingston Hospital. We offer them our continued prayers and support.

FAREWELL

Fr. Francis Ayogu, MSP, will leave on Monday, 31st January 2022, for his new assignment as a Parish Priest. We thank him immensely for his ministry over the past months. Sunday 30th January 2022 will be his last Masses with us; please join us after the 10.30am Mass for tea, coffee and cake, so that we may take the opportunity to say thank you and wish him well. May the Lord reward him and bless his future ministry.

Hugl fawr!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Please note the following important dates and upcoming sessions.

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.



Group 1

Sunday 30th January
Session 6 at 2.45pm.

Group 2

Sunday 30th January
Session 6 at 4.30pm.

Parents WILL NOT be required to attend this session.

We would like to remind parents that children need to arrive punctually for the start time of each session please!

CONFIRMATION 2021/22

An update will be available by next weekend.



PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



**SYNOD 2021 2023
COMMUNION, PARTICIPATION AND MISSION
IN THE PARISH AND THE WIDER CHURCH**


Thank you to everyone who responded to the Synod questionnaire and participated in the meeting last week. The responses and feedback will now be sent on to the diocese.



PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays each week at 10 am after Mass. Please stay after Mass for 10/15 mins to pray with fellow parishioners.

THE ROSARY

 We pray the Rosary in the church every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning after Mass. Everyone is welcome to join in.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please register for our next available class, on **Saturday** 26th March 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, whilst we catch up with those that were cancelled this past year, so the earlier you contact the parish office the better!



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's Liturgy is usually held every other Sunday during term time at the 10.30am Mass. The children are asked to come forward after the opening prayer of the Mass and then they proceed to the Old Sacristy or Cloister where the Liturgy takes place. They return to join the full congregation at the offertory. Any work they have done is brought up during the offertory as their gift to God and the Community.

Children's Liturgy is run by the parents/adults in the parish who are keen to pass on their faith to the children. They use a variety of resources and each session is based on the readings of the day.

We are URGENTLY looking for more people to help as either a session leader or helper to be able to return to our usual children's liturgy schedule in 2022. Please contact the parish office for further information.

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.

CONTACTLESS GIVING

We are excited to have "Contactless Giving" at St Agatha's!

We are pleased to announce that we can accept cashless donations for the Parish by debit or credit cards from all major cards. You will find our new contactless handsets at the back of the church (on each side, beside the votive candles). Just use your contactless debit or credit card or you can insert your card into the keypad where you can authorise your donation using your card's PIN. You can also use your smartphone to donate. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card/phone onto the reader.



You can also register for Gift-Aid and you will only have to do this the first time you donate. NB. You will need register even if you are already registered as a Gift-Aider with the parish.

If you would still like to give your donation to the Parish Collection as cash or cheque, boxes are available at the back of Church. If you would like to give regularly by standing order, please contact the Parish Office.

We thank you for your continued generosity.



New Year's Resolution – Volunteer for CAFOD

A vital aspect of church is people being willing to share their talents, experience and energy. Could your New Year's resolution be volunteering for CAFOD? We have lots of different ways you can get involved such as:

- **In the parish** - where you will be highlighting CAFOD's work to support communities globally who are living with injustices and in poverty.
- **In local schools** – where you'll deliver assemblies and workshops about CAFOD's work. No experience necessary. Full support, resources and regular training provided.
- **Coordinating volunteers** to help us support, encourage and bring together a small group of volunteers.

If you'd like to know more, please get in touch with Celeste or Sarah at southwark@cafod.org.uk or tel: 07825 734 390 / 07775 704546

Walk against Hunger

Our new Lent challenge is here!

Something positive this Lent. Challenge yourself to walk 200k this Lent and help stamp out hunger, one step at a time. You can walk, roll, skip or stroll your way to 200k. You can boldly go it alone and take it on 5k a day for 40 days, or you can smash the target all at once as a team.

There are 200 million children in the world whose lives are at risk from malnutrition. So, this Lent, challenge yourself to conquer 200k, and help give hunger its marching orders.

Visit <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> for more information.

You are going there to make yourself available to God.

~ Bishop Edward Galvin,

Founder of the Society of St. Columban

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C
Sunday, January 30, 2022

Gospel Reading

Luke 4:21-30 Jesus is rejected in his hometown of Nazareth.

Gospel Reflection

This Sunday we read from the Gospel of Luke, continuing immediately from last week's Gospel. Recall that in last Sunday's Gospel, Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah and announced that this Scripture was now fulfilled. In today's Gospel, we learn that the people of Nazareth are impressed by Jesus' words, and yet they seem surprised. They still think of Jesus as merely Joseph's son. They do not expect such words from someone they believe that they know.

This Gospel is about who Jesus is and who people believe him to be. The story of Jesus' preaching and rejection at Nazareth is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels. In Luke's Gospel, this incident is told in a way that foretells Jesus' passion and death and helps explain the inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of salvation. In Luke's Gospel this incident appears at the beginning of Jesus' ministry; in Matthew and Mark, this event is placed considerably later, after Jesus has preached and taught elsewhere. Only Luke identifies the content of Jesus' teaching in any detail, telling us that Jesus read from the book of the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue. In Mark and Matthew's Gospels, Jesus teaches in the synagogue in Nazareth, and the townspeople take offense because Jesus is only the son of a carpenter. They reject his authority to teach them. In Matthew and Mark, it is only after Jesus is rejected that he observes times when Israel has rejected prophets.

In Luke's Gospel, the people are surprised but not immediately offended by Jesus' words in the synagogue. It is the words that follow his reading from the prophet Isaiah that seem to offend them. Jesus challenges and provokes the people of Nazareth by referring to examples in which Israel rejected the prophets. He also challenges them to respond to his message, the message of a prophet, in a way that is different from their ancestors. This call for a new response leads to his rejection.

It is helpful to consider the historical context of Luke's Gospel. Luke has witnessed the acceptance of the gospel message among many Gentiles. He endeavours to explain why the Good News of Jesus has not been as well-received by his Jewish contemporaries. Luke's report interprets the cause of Jesus' rejection at Nazareth in the context of this later Christian history. Just as the people at Nazareth did not welcome the Good News that Jesus announced, so too many among the people of Israel will not accept the preaching of the gospel.

After Jesus' words of challenge, Luke reports that there was a movement to kill Jesus by throwing him over a cliff. This differs from the reports found in Mark and Matthew's Gospels, where Jesus is said to be unable to perform miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Luke says that Jesus walks away from the crowd that intended to kill him; it is not yet his time. The animosity of the people of Nazareth prefigures and prepares the reader of Luke's Gospel for the cross. Luke wants all to understand that it is through his death on the cross that Jesus offers God's salvation to all.

Family Reflection

Jesus' statement that no prophet is accepted in his home town reminds us that it is often difficult to hear a challenging message from those who know us best, even if it is true. Perhaps we remember and even regret this aspect of our childhood and adolescence. We may have overlooked the wisdom and guidance of our parents, while allowing the voices of others—teachers, friends, and counsellors—to carry more weight, even when these people were telling us the same thing. Perhaps this developmental stage is unavoidable. Perhaps as we have matured, we have come to a new appreciation for our parents and others whose perspective and experience we once rejected. Today's Gospel provides an opportunity to talk about and to learn from such experiences.

As you gather as a family, consider proverbs or otherwise sayings that are familiar to your family ("Blood is thicker than water;" "All that glitters is not gold."). Consider what these proverbs mean and whether you believe them to be true. Why or why not? Jesus challenges the people of Nazareth by reminding them of old sayings that seem to have a lot of truth in them. Let's listen to this Gospel and consider what these proverbs mean. Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 4:21-30. Ask: What were the proverbs that Jesus quoted? (Physician, cure yourself; No prophet is accepted in his native place.) Consider the meaning of these proverbs and look for examples from your own family life that show their truth. Consider how your family might accept one another's wisdom and guidance and not reject the prophets in your midst. Conclude by praying together the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



PSALM 71:1

GRIEF IN LOSS, HOPE IN CHRIST: 18th -20th March 2022

BEREAVEMENT WEEKEND

Mourning the loss of a loved one? Trying to cope with feelings out of control? If so, this retreat is for you. It runs from Friday 18th – Sunday 20th March 2022, at Aylesford Priory. The Marriage and Family Life Commission offer this weekend for those who have been bereaved. It takes place away from the pressures of day-to-day life, and its aim is to help those who have suffered the loss of a loved one to begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance.

Due to the special nature of this weekend retreat, places are limited and subject to a telephone call to determine if it is right for the person enquiring. To book or find out more information contact Elizabeth Partridge: Telephone 01303 670880 or Email: mflgac@rcaos.org.uk

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

One in Christ: Sunday 13th February 2022

Archbishop John Wilson created the Archdiocesan Commission for Racial Justice and Cultural Inclusion in 2021, appointing Fr Victor Darlington, Parish Priest of Sacred Heart Parish in Camberwell, as Episcopal Vicar.

The primary purpose of the Commission is to engage with the clergy and people of the Archdiocese of Southwark, stating the key message of God's love for everyone, and that there is no place for racism in our parishes, schools and churches. Highlights in 2021 have included working with Southwark schools to address racism, alongside the Education Commission, and giving presentations to St Thomas Academy Trust in Birmingham and the Education Commission of Westminster Diocese: this is a vision that will be driven further in the years ahead.

All parishes are invited to celebrate Racial Justice Sunday, and in particular, to give thanks for this new Southwark Commission and their work. It is the aim of the Commission to remind everyone of our Christian vocation to follow Jesus' Great Commandment to 'love one another', and to live as one in our diversity.

Parishioners are warmly invited to attend 10am Mass in St George's Cathedral, celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson on Racial Justice Sunday, to celebrate the fact that we are all 'One in Christ'.

Cultural Dress is very welcome.

Please let the Commission know if you plan to attend:

racialjusticecommission@rcaos.org.uk

View the livestream: <https://youtu.be/62sluHPSbIU>

DIOCESAN JOB VACANCIES

The Diocese currently have vacancies for a Parish Secretary at Mortlake, a Youth Minister for the Bromley Deanery, an Office Administrator for Safeguarding and a Caretaker for the Cathedral site. More details can be found on the Diocesan Website:

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies/vacancies-in-southwark/>



+++ LATELY DEAD +++

† Please pray for the repose of the soul of Matthew Crocker, who died on 27th January 2022. Our condolences to his wife Helen, their children, and their families. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's, further details to follow....

† Please pray for the repose of the soul of Colin McCarthy who died on 8th January 2022, aged 63. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's on Thursday 3rd February 2022 at 11am. Our condolences to Linda, Patrick, Niall, and their families.

† Please pray for the repose of the soul of Keith Fraser who died on 8th January 2022, aged 56. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's on Tuesday 8th February 2022 at 11am. Our condolences to Philomena, Alex and Joan and their families.

'Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.'

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, 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

Frederic William Humm, Helen Cave, Mary Kiely, Charles Miller, Sandra Stiff, Sylvia Mitchell, Dorothy Hall, William Brenninkmeyer, Patrick Nunez, Martin & Nora Connolly, Baby Mary Connolly, Bridget Egan, Joseph Galligan, Maude Mansfield, Margarete Hards, Luigi Mezzetta, Frank Mifsud, Johannes Kortenray, Ann Cunningham, Marilyn Celia Tinenti, Winifred Duckett, Elizabeth Sharkey, Margaret Scott, Martin Hughes, Emily Wright, Catherine Mary Fisher, Mary Cassidy, Frederick Thomas, Frances Carr, Catherine Sellwood, Alan Hanley, Catherine McDonnell, Francis Brain, William Gentry.

+++May They Rest In Peace +++
