

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 31ST MAY 2020
PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)**

Sunday 31st	Pentecost Sunday
	Arthur & Robin O'Connor RIP
	Father Thomas McElborne RIP
	People of the Parish
Monday 1st	Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial
	People of the Parish
Tuesday 2nd	Ss Marcellinus & Peter, Martyrs, Memorial
	People of the Parish
Wednesday 3rd	Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs, Memorial
	People of the Parish
Thursday 4th	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, Feast
	Rev Frs. Francis Harley and Edmund Harley RIP
Friday 5th	St Boniface, Bishop, Martyr, Memorial
	Thanksgiving for the Makala Family
Saturday 6th	Saint Norbert, Bishop, Memorial or Saturday memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary
	People of the Parish
Sunday 7th	The Most Holy Trinity
	Marie-Ann Xiberras RIP
	Sean McConvey RIP
	Leo & Elizabeth Dooley RIP
	Thanksgiving for the family of Theophile Kouadio and for continued blessings and protection
	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

Anne Brooks, Maria Wright, Clare Cox, Mary Woods, Charles Hewson, Bernard Emerson, Margaret Dunne, John Elliott, James Wiseman, Elizabeth Roberts, Charles Rogerson, Alice Webb, Emma Frazer, Barry Copaldas, John Kennedy, Mary Eileen Moden, Thomas Price, Father John Cremin, Francis Culligan, Francis Lamb, Amy Florence Webb, Thomas Muldoon, Sheila Margaret Atkinson, Leonard Cowdery, Mary Roath, Elenora Alexander, Donald Bird, Stephen Carrig, Kay Williams.

++ 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.

Please pray for Fr Edmund (Ed) Hartley and Fr Francis Hartley, both retired priests in our diocese, sadly, both have died this past week. Our thoughts and prayers are with their family and all those who mourn them, in particular their brother Fr John Hartley, also retired and also a resident in our diocese, not least as he celebrates 62 years of priestly ministry this weekend.

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

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE...

Easing of Lockdown Measures and Our Archbishop's Letter to the Prime Minister

As the COVID-19 lockdown is eased gradually, questions are being asked about our churches re-opening. Archbishop John Wilson has written a letter to the Prime Minister (and to every Member of Parliament within the Archdiocese) making a passionate plea for the need to reopen our churches for prayer, and worship in some form, in the light of the Government's plan for progressive easing of the lockdown from the 1st of June. We would like to encourage all to pray for Archbishop John and other Church leaders as they continue to dialogue with the Government to facilitate the reopening of our churches. We await Diocesan updates, and we will keep everyone informed as we learn more ourselves. In the meantime, as schools start to reopen, we keep in our prayers teachers, staff, carers, children and their parents, that they are all kept safe and protected. Please continue to observe social distancing as advised and continue to pray for the eradication of this disease. Do your best and God will do the rest...

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.

*Alleluia! The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world.
Come, let us adore him, alleluia.*

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, CYCLE A
SUNDAY, MAY 31, 2020**

Gospel Reading

John 20:19-23 Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Reflection

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.



Family Reflection

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Read together today's Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today's Psalm or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another a Sign of Peace.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Lord,
by the light of the Holy Spirit
you have taught the hearts of your faithful.
In the same Spirit
help us to relish what is right
and always rejoice in your consolation.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Pentecost Sunday

Archbishop John will livestream his 10am Mass from the Cathedral on YouTube, via the following link: <https://youtu.be/L8cYujY5u4M>

National Rosary Rally 9am to 9pm Sunday 31st May 2020

We are all invited to join in an initiative at Pope Francis' request: The Pentecost Sunday National Rosary Rally, from 9.00am to 9.00pm across Scotland England and Wales. Our Diocese has been asked to pray a Rosary Hour at 3pm and Archbishop John warmly invites us to take part. *(It does not matter what time during the specified hour that the Rosary is prayed.)*

Timetable for the Dioceses

- 09.00am Arundel & Brighton, Northampton and HM Forces
- 10.00am Birmingham, Nottingham & Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy
- 11.00am Brentwood & Plymouth
- 12 Noon Cardiff, Portsmouth & Dunkeld
- 1.00pm Clifton, Salford & St. Andrews & Edinburgh
- 2.00pm East Anglia, Shrewsbury, Aberdeen
- 3.00pm Hallam, **Southwark**
- 4.00pm Hexham & Newcastle, Wrexham, Ordinariate OLW, Galloway
- 5.00pm Lancaster, Westminster, Argyll & the Isles
- 6.00pm Leeds, Polish Catholic Mission & Glasgow
- 7.00pm Liverpool, Middlesbrough & Motherwell
- 8.00pm Menevia, Paisley & Syro Malabar Eparchy
- 9.00pm Rosary Rally will end with a final online Rosary & Blessing from Bishop John Keenan at St. Mirin's Cathedral in Paisley.

Come Holy Spirit and Renew the Face of the Earth
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us.