

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

There are no feasts this week.

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£542.00	Loose	£536.72	
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£84.70	Loose	£62.66	TOTAL £1226.08

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Christina Ward, Marie Ann Xibberas, Clare Horgan, Grace Gibbs, Paul and June McMahon, Michael Boyle, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan Gallagher, Stephane Patten, John Sewter, Ryan Morison, Keith Fraser, Ronnie Xavier, Christopher Browne, Mary Wallace, Anna O'Brien and Brian Towler.

ANNIVERSARIES

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, Michael McDonnell, Margaret Hardless, Mary O'Connell, Martin O'Brien, George Deeb, Alfred Paish, Charles Philpot, Walter Hewitt, Mercie Young, John Malone, Michael Lynn, Ottie Hewitt, Richard Lumey.

+++ May they rest in peace +++

Parish Prayer Group

The **Parish Prayer Group** meets on Tuesdays at **8.00pm** in the church for rosary, prayer and intercession. All parishioners are most welcome to join us.

Parish Office

The parish office should be your first port of call for any enquiries including arrangements for all sacraments (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals). Please email the Parish Secretary at parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk or call on 020 8546 4633. The office is open from **9.30am to 2.00pm Monday to Friday**. Could you please limit telephone calls outside these hours to emergencies only. Please note the office will be closed on the upcoming bank holidays.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Course

The RCIA course is intended for adults who are seeking to be baptised and for Christians baptised in another denomination who would like to become Catholics or explore their faith more. If you fall into either of these categories please contact Fr. Vitalis. The course will commence later in the year.

Lost Property

Unfortunately, our Lost Property Box is overflowing! There are many lost items in our lost property box by the main entrance, especially hats, scarves, gloves, umbrellas etc. there are also a couple of pairs of glasses.

If you think you may have left something in the church in the last few weeks, please pop in and check the box. Hopefully we can reunite some of those belongings with their owners.



St. Agatha's Catholic Church
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Tel: 020 8546 4633
www.stagathaschurch.org.uk
parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk

CLERGY

Fr. Vitalis Vaakwagh Kondo MSP — Parish Priest

Fr. Julius Otoaye MSP

Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 1st April 2018

Easter Sunday (B)

Saturday 31 st	9.30am	NO MASS—PLEASE SEE EASTER PROGRAMME
	8pm	Easter Vigil
Sunday 1 st	9.00am	Caroline Hopkins RIP
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Special Intention
Monday 2 nd	9.30am	Jean Finlay
Tuesday 3 rd	9.30am	Joe Walsh RIP
Wednesday 4 th	9.30am	Dorothy Hall RIP
Thursday 5 th	9.30am	Tom Greene RIP
Friday 6 th	9.30am	Anne Carberry RIP
Saturday 7 th	9.30am	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish

Confessions: Saturday 10.00–10.30am, 18.00–18.15pm and at call

Exposition: Saturday 10.00–10.30am

Baptisms: By previous arrangement

Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule

Easter Reflection:

On being alerted by Mary Magdalene, Peter and John run to the Lord's tomb to see if the body had been stolen by someone – a hypothesis that was ruled out by what they saw there. They re-read the event in a new way, in the light of Scripture. The liturgical assembly on Easter day exults in realising all the hopes of the messianic people of God – the hope of liberation, of entering into the Promised Land, of restoration of justice, of new earth and new heavens. The faithful of Christ have entered into this new reality and live and move in its light. The real newness is Christ who came into the world, lived with humans, died and rose again and is ever present. It is Him that the interior human being is renewed every day (2 Cor 4:6). The exterior man, the old reality, needs to be broken to open up the way for the birth of the new human reality, the fruit of redemption in Christ. 'to put on Christ' is one of the many expressions coined by St. Paul to present this mysterious reality of grace. To put on Christ means to enter into Him and to live in Him so that our life becomes hidden in Him and with Him in God. Thus 'anyone who is in Christ is a new creature' (2 Cor 5:17). The Christian is dead to sin and risen with Christ to new life.

Important Upcoming Dates

Saturday 31st March Easter Vigil 8pm
Wednesday 4th April Choir Practice
Sunday 8th April Baptism Preparation Class
Tuesday 17th April Confirmation session 5
Wednesday 18th April Men's Parish Group

St Agatha's Church and Presbytery Repairs and Maintenance

We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to provide a Responsive Repairs day to day service and occasionally an emergency out of hours service to the Church and Presbytery properties. This would be a varied requirement including but not limited to general maintenance and decorating, locksmith tasks, electrical and plumbing assistance to more extensive developments as they occur.

If you have a business providing these services and would be interested in assisting us, please contact the Parish Secretary to discuss in further detail our requirements and the services you could provide.

St Agatha's Church Choir

The next choir practice will be on **Wednesday 4th April from 7–8pm** in the church. If you are interested do come along and try it; if you feel you cannot commit to joining us regularly we will welcome people to join us for special services as long as you attend several rehearsals beforehand. There is no need to have sung in a church choir before and it doesn't matter if you haven't a wonderful voice it will improve with practice. You don't need to be able to read music. Much of what we sing can be learnt by listening carefully.

Sacramental Preparation

There will be a baptism preparation meeting at **2pm on Sunday 8th April** in the cloister. Please book your place by email parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk. Only one parent need attend. If you are considering your child's baptism within the next few months, please complete an application form and consider joining us for this class. Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for your child's baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for the adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

Preparation for First Holy Communion

The next class for our young people who are preparing for First Holy Communion will be on **Monday 23rd April at 3.30pm**.

The rehearsal for Group 1 will be on **Friday 27th April at 3.30pm**.

The First Holy Communion Mass will be on **Sunday 29th April at 12noon**.

The rehearsal for Group 2 will be on **Friday 5th May at 3.30pm**.

The First Holy Communion Mass will be on **Sunday 6th May at 12noon**.

Confirmation

The next two preparation Sessions, after Easter break, will be on **Tuesday 17th and Tuesday 24th April**. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Sunday 13th May**.

Children's Liturgy

More helpers are needed to join the team of volunteers taking Liturgy of the Word for Children at 10.30am Sunday Masses. No experience needed, only a willingness to assist the leader, particularly if you have a child attending. If you feel you can help, please come along to one of the sessions.

A Day with Mary

There will be a Day with Mary on **Saturday 7th April** at Our Lady and St Peter, Victoria Drive, SW19, starting at **9.30am**. A day with Mary is an open day of prayer held in a Catholic church or shrine. It emphasizes Worship of the Blessed Sacrament and devotion to Our Lady. You are welcome to join the event for a little while or for the whole day. It includes the Mass, Scripture, Rosary, Meditations on the Passion, Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction, Processions of the Blessed Sacrament and of Our Lady, Act of Consecration, Theological Instructions, Hymns, a programme on the story of Fatima and periods of rest with refreshments. The Sacrament of Penance is readily available. There is a bookstall and the opportunity to enrol in the Brown Scapular (consecration to Our Lady) and Miraculous Medal if so wished. For more details see the poster on the church notice board.

Divine Mercy Sunday —'Sunday 8th April

Afternoon devotions at St. Raphael's Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston, KT1 2NA.

3pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Divine Mercy Prayers. Followed by Confessions & Rosary. Concluding with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 3.45pm.

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish are invited to meet together on **Wednesday 18th April** at the Wych Elm from **8.00pm** for sharing, friendship and fun, aided by a pint or two. Please come and join us.

Marriage Encounter Weekend – Purley, Surrey

A Weekend of Discovery for Married Couples, 'Encounter Weekend', is a non-residential event on **28/29th April** at Margaret Roper Primary School, Russell Hill Rd, Purley CR8 2XP. It is aimed at couples with average to good marriages of a few years or decades. For more details contact: Phil and Mary Pond on 020 8651 2477 or email marriage2014@virginmedia.com.

Altar Servers' Rally 2018

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on **Monday 7th May** at **The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent**. **Bishop Paul Mason** is the principal celebrant. The annual rally gives servers in Southwark a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge and celebrate their special Ministry of Service in the church. Furthermore, the event encourages servers to socialise with other servers and share and renew their faith. If you have not attended before please take the time to 'come and see'. All servers and their families and friends are welcome. A poster with more details is on the church noticeboard.

Altar Servers perform a very important role in liturgical services. After approx. 2 years regular serving, servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St. Stephen for Altar Servers and receive the Guild bronze medal. If you or your child are interested in joining the ministry or if you have questions about the ministry, please speak to Fr. Vitalis.

Accommodation Needed—Can you Help?

On **Saturday 16th June** Sister Yudith Anu, from the Missionary Sisters Servant of the Holy Spirit, Birmingham, will be visiting the parish for their annual appeal. Would you be able to provide 2 nights of serene accommodation on the **Saturday and Sunday?** Please contact the Parish Secretary to discuss details further.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress

The Bishops of England and Wales are holding a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress. scheduled to take place in Liverpool from **7th to 9th September 2018**. 10,000 people have been invited, including 570 delegates from Southwark Archdiocese, two per parish. We are still seeking representatives from St Agatha's parish; if you are interested in representing us, please speak with Fr. Vitalis.