

CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest
Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest
Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

**SUNDAY 7TH APRIL 2019 – 5TH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)
SUNDAY 14TH APRIL 2019 – PALM SUNDAY (C)
FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES**

Saturday 6th	David Jane Russell RIP Marie-Anne Xiberras RIP
Sunday 7th	5th Sunday of Lent Birthday Intentions for Michalina Urbanska People of the Parish Welling being of Stella
Monday 8th	William Daly RIP
Tuesday 9th	Holy Souls
Wednesday 10th	Baby Noah Hills RIP
Thursday 11th	Welling of Ben Luca
Friday 12th	Clive Wicks RIP
Saturday 13th	Birthday intentions for Mary Jo Davidson James Harrup RIP
Sunday 14th	Palm Sunday Arthur & robin O'Connor RIP People of the Parish Jane Beresford RIP
Monday 15th	James Scanlan RIP
Tuesday 16th	Holy Souls
Wednesday 17th	Tony Spooner RIP
9am	
Thursday 18th	Maundy Thursday NO MORNING MASS <i>Lent and Holy Week Programme</i>
Friday 19th	Good Friday NO MORNING MASS <i>Lent and Holy Week Programme</i>
Saturday 20th	Holy Saturday NO MORNING MASS <i>Lent and Holy Week Programme</i> Vincent Straccialano
7.30pm	
Exposition:	Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer:	Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions:	Saturday 10.00-10.30am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call.
Baptisms:	By previous arrangement on Sundays at 12.30pm.
Marriages:	Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.
<i>ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (4th May) WE WILL HAVE ONE HOUR OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. BETWEEN 10AM AND 11AM.</i>	

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Pat Appleby, John Sewter, Christina Ward, Bill Kerrigan, Tess Bird, Clare Horgan, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor and Ryan Morrison. *Due to the new data protection rules we are unable to have names on the sick list unless we have written permission from the person to publicise their names. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either you or your relatives and friends want to be mentioned in our sick list.*

ANNIVERSARIES

John Malone, Michael Lynn, Ottie Hewitt, Richard Lumey, Nellie O'Brien, Mary Hobbs, Harriet Roberts, Gertrude Thompson, Marie Philomena Sinteff, Denis Kennedy, John Nash, Mabel Friend, Frederick Evenden, Theresa Mary McKay, Mary Browne, Samuel Moorhouse, Anne Hall, Catherine West, Sister Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Inge Quarta, Clara Hawkins, May Lott.

+++ May they rest in Peace +++

**DELIVERANCE FROM BONDAGE
A REFLECTION OF PSALM 125**

Deliverance is one the major themes of the psalms. Deliverance from slavery in Egypt, and later from forces exile in Babylon, were the two strongest supporting pillars of Jewish memory. Their God was a God who saves. Isaiah, in our first reading, celebrates the end of the Babylonian bondage. 'No need to recall the past... See I am doing anew deed.'

In the fullness of time, the promised one came and his names is Jesus, meaning one who saves. In today's second reading, Paul looks on everything else as rubbish in comparison with knowing Christ Jesus. The liberation, which Jesus was to win for all people, is anticipated in the story of one woman: saved from death by stoning and encouraged to sin no more. Today's joyous psalm of deliverance originally celebrated liberation from Babylon, but it would lie just as comfortably on the lips of those who were freed from Egyptian slavery, or of Paul or the adulterous woman.

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed, we were glad.

Lent advances and we are close to the annual celebration of the saving deeds of Jesus in his death and resurrection. We will appreciate what he has done for us only to the extent that we recognise the bondage of evil power from which he has liberated us. His grace works like *streams in dry land*. Whatever penance we are doing for lent is co-operating with his saving death.

Those who are sowing in tears

will sing when they reap.

The Responsorial Psalms of Sunday – Silvester O'Flynn, The Columba Press

Lately Dead

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Tony Spooner who died recently, aged 92. His requiem will take place on Friday 12th April 2019 at St Elizabeth's, Richmond. 'Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.'

Parish Office

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from Friday 5th April, returning on Monday 15th April. Fr. Anthony and Fr Pius will still be available in case of emergency or for a pressing enquiry.

Easter Offering

Easter offering envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to use them for an Easter Offering for our Clergy. If you normally Gift Aid your weekly offerings would you please print your name/number clearly on the Easter Offering Envelope.

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£472.80	Loose	£389.03
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£15.00	Loose	£48.81
Confirmation Collection			Loose	£320.97

TOTAL £1246.61

This Weekend the retiring collection will be for the CAFOD Cyclone Idai Appeal. Further details are available on the Parish Noticeboard.

Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Til your good is better and your better is best. ~ St Jerome

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

BEHOLD THE MAN

A REFLECTION OF PSALM 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24, R/v2

They have pierced my hands and feet, they have numbered all my bones. These words remind me of the *En Ego*, a favourite prayer of my schoolmaster father, which we recited daily at the end of class. This vivid picture of the suffering saviour was printed on my young imagination.

These were the hands which welcomed the children and blessed them. Hands whose touch cleansed the leper, opened the eyes of the blind and raised the dead. Hands that welcomed the sinner and broke bread with the outcast. Praying hands raised in adoration or joined in earnest pleading. Expressive hands adding pictures to the words of the preacher. These were the feet beautiful with the good news brought from village to village. Feet directed in resolute pilgrimage towards Jerusalem. Good hands and beautiful feet, now pierced with searing metal by sin's mad rejection of the light. Pinioned and closed in a futile attempt to ease the pain.

The psalm we pray today anticipated scenes from the passion of Christ. Jesus cried out *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?* Pictures all mock him as *they curl their lips. They toss their heads.* Like dogs they surround him, baying for blood. His clothes are divided and there is a lottery for the seamless robe.

Yet the psalm is a prayer of confidence, leading unto praise. *O Lord, do not leave me alone, my strength, make haste to help me.* The awful scenes of the passion only serve as a dark backdrop to the awesome power of God in the resurrection.

The Responsorial Psalms of Sunday – Silvester O'Flynn, The Columba Press

Confirmation



We offer our congratulations to our 32 young people who were confirmed by Bishop Paul Hendricks on Sunday 31st March 2019, here at St Agatha's. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and inspire them as they make their way through life as active members of the Church and help them in discerning their charism and how to put them to use in building up the parish community.

The Apostleship of the Sea

We are seeking a parish representative for this worthy Catholic charity. The Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) provides practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality, belief or race. AoS port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors welcome seafarers, offer welfare services and advice, practical help, care and friendship. The Apostleship of the Sea in Great Britain is part of an international network known to the maritime world as Stella Maris, working in more than 250 ports around the world. 90% of world trade is transported by ship. However, the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones and often working in harsh conditions. So, The Apostleship of the Sea provides important support to these seafarers, and relies wholly on voluntary contributions. If you have an association with the world of seafarers or the navy, this may particularly appeal to you. It will not be a very time-consuming role. If interested, please contact Karin in the parish office.

Please see the Parish noticeboard for more details of the following events...

The New Malden Passion Play

Saturday 13th April 2019 at 1 & 3pm

Blagdon Park Recreation Ground, New Malden

Good Friday Walk of Witness

Good Friday Walk of Witness beginning at 11.00am at the United Reform Church in Eden Street. Refreshments (hot cross buns) served from 10.00am. Everyone is welcome.

The Passion of Jesus

Good Friday, 19th April and Easter Saturday, 20th April

'The Gift' at St Joseph's Parish, New Malden

You are warmly invited to 'The Gift', a monthly post Easter event.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Sunday 7 th Apr	Stations of the Cross
Wednesday 9 th Apr	Stations of the Cross
Sunday 14 th Apr	Stations of the Cross
Tuesday 16 th Apr	Lenten Reconciliation Service
Wednesday 17 th Apr	Mass at 9am
Wednesday 17 th Apr	Chrism Mass – St George's Cathedral
Thursday 18 th Apr	Maundy Thursday – No Morning Mass
Thursday 18 th Apr	Children's Celebration
Thursday 18 th Apr	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 19 th Apr	Good Friday – No Morning Mass
Friday 19 th Apr	Children's Celebration
Friday 19 th Apr	Solemn Liturgy
Friday 19 th Apr	Stations of the Cross
Saturday 20 th Apr	Holy Saturday – No Morning Mass
Saturday 20 th Apr	Easter Vigil
Sunday 21 st Apr	Easter Sunday
Sunday 28 th April	Baptism Preparation Class
Sunday 28 th April	FHC Session 8

First Holy Communion 2019

Please note the following dates for upcoming sessions:

Children's Session 8	Sunday 28 th April	4 – 5pm
Group 1 Rehearsal	Friday 3 rd May	4 – 5pm
Group 1 Sacrament of Eucharist	Sunday 5 th May	12 noon
Group 2 Rehearsal	Friday 10 th May	4 – 5pm
Group 2 Sacrament of Eucharist	Sunday 12 th May	12noon

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish usually meet together on the third Wednesday of each month but due to a clash with another event at the Wych Elm this has now been set for the fourth Wednesday of each month. Therefore, the group will meet on the following dates in 2019: **24th April**, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Please come along and join them.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next baptism preparation class will be on Sunday 28th April 2019, at 2pm, in the cloister. Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. If you are considering your child's baptism, please complete an application form and join us for this class. Parents need to 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.

Altar Servers' Rally 2019

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on Monday 6th 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 children are interested in joining the ministry or if you have questions about the ministry, please speak to Frs. Anthony or Pius. Further details are available on the Parish Noticeboard. Please let us know if you are intending to attend.

God loves us more than a father, mother, friend, or any else could love, and even more than we are able to love ourselves. ~ St John Chrysostom