

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK
Monday 9th – The Annunciation of the Lord

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£995.09	Loose	£1579.76	TOTAL	£2610.47
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£4.07	Loose	£31.55		

ST. PATRICKS NIGHT SUPPER

The St. Patricks Night Supper on Friday 16th March raised **£174 for CAFOD**.
Thank you to everyone who attended a most enjoyable evening.

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

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, Caroline Milburn, Arthur Burgess, Jane Beresford. +++ May they rest in peace +++

LATELY DEAD

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Joan Wareham** who died on **Sunday 1st April**. Eternal rest grant her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. AMEN

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.

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.



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CLERGY

Fr. Vitalis Vaakwagh Kondo MSP — Parish Priest
Fr. Julius Otoaye MSP
Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 8th April 2018

Second Sunday of Easter (B) – Devine Mercy Sunday

Saturday 7 th	9.30am	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 8 th	9.00am	John De Quit (Snr) RIP
	10.30am	Joan Wareham RIP
	6.30pm	Welfare of Klaes Family
Monday 9 th	9.30am	Montague Laing RIP
Tuesday 10 th	9.30am	Welfare of Mederos Family
Wednesday 11 th	9.30am	Pauline Welham RIP
Thursday 12 th	9.30am	Anne Hall RIP
Friday 13 th	9.30am	Harriet Alexander RIP
Saturday 14 th	9.30am	Jane Beresford RIP
	6.30pm	Caroline & Bertram Woodhouse-Currie RIP

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

Reflection:

Giving them his spirit, Jesus gives his Apostles the power to remit sins; thus, he makes human beings participate in his triumph over evil and sin. The Risen Lord gives Thomas, who did not believe the testimony of his fellow Apostles, a lesson which is significant also for us: it is necessary to pass from vision to faith. The new mode of life of the Risen Lord means that he cannot be known as an earthly man, but as one who is present to us in the sacraments and in the life of the Church. Today's liturgy proclaims that each one of us is regenerated to a living hope through the Resurrection of Christ. Nearly every day we die to something: our ego, a dream, an ambition, an old idea – in order to rise with a greater ability to love, to welcome the reality around us, to be enthusiastic in continuing the adventures of our lives. The mystery of death and resurrection goes on. The Resurrection, therefore, is not only a fact of past history but also a present reality. In our life, after every crisis we begin again; after every rupture we rebuild. Through all these experiences the Lord teaches us how to go forward and prepares the way for us to arrive at the final death and resurrection. In this pilgrimage the Christian must be characterised by faith in the Resurrection, being conscious that the present moment is a passage from death to life.

Important Upcoming Dates

Tuesday 17th April Confirmation session 5
Wednesday 18th April Men's Parish Group
Wednesday 18th April Choir Practice
Monday 23rd April First Holy Communion Class



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who have given so generously of their time and skill and helped to organise, prepare and present the Holy Week and Easter Services and all the Services during Lent:

To everyone who helped prepare the Church for Easter – to all the church cleaners, gardeners, flower arrangers, to our musicians, singers, readers, sacristans, eucharistic ministers and altar servers for their contributions during Holy Week and Easter and to everyone who took part in the ceremonies, we thank you.

A BIG thanks to everyone for the tremendous response to the Easter Spring cleaning day. The church looked magnificent. *A very special thank you to the children and young adults of the parish who also generously gave their time to help on this day; we look forward to seeing you again at further events through the year.*

Thank you to all the children from St. Agatha's school for their solemn and powerful presentation of 'The Stations of the Cross' for the school service held on Holy Thursday.

We are so proud of our young parishioners who presented the "Living Stations of the Cross" as part of the Good Friday Service; they did an absolutely amazing job!

And lastly, a specific thank you to our Priests; Fr. Vitalis and Fr. Julius for the countless hours hearing Confessions at the church, and also at schools across the borough, and celebrating the Sacraments to prepare the parish for the Easter Season, and for our beautiful Holy Week liturgies! A special thank you to Rev. Bob Beresford, our Deacon, for his continued assistance with these sacraments.

There are dozens and dozens of people involved in making everything run smoothly at St. Agatha's during the festive periods; we thank you one and all.

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.

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.

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.

St Agatha's Church Choir

The next choir practice will be on **Wednesday 18th 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.

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.

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.