

The parish office should be your first port of call for all 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. Thank You.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

**SUNDAY 10TH MARCH 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Saturday 9th	
6.30pm	Intentions for Imelda lisaia
Sunday 10th 4th Sunday of Lent	
9am	Lancelot Patrick Joseph RIP
RCIA: Second Scrutiny	
10.30am	Zoran Popovic RIP
6.30pm	Pauline Welham RIP
Monday 11th	
9.30am	Jack Roycroft RIP
Tuesday 12th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 13th	
9.30am	Antoinette Daly RIP
7pm	Exposition, Adoration, Reconciliation
Thursday 14th	
9.30am	Rev. Fr. Casper Lutz RIP
Friday 15th	
9.30am	Thomas Gerard Luson RIP
Saturday 16th	
9.30am	Eileen Payne RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Mass Times: Monday to Friday: 09:30
Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30
Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am or at call.
Baptisms: Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.
Marriages: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule

**HOST OUR LADY OF LOURDES STATUE
IN YOUR HOME FOR MAY DEVOTIONS**

Our Lady's Statue has now begun her home visitations again.

If you would like to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue in your home, please fill out the form available in the church porch and return it to the Parish Office.

Please note, this is only a request which will be confirmed via a phone call to you. A date cannot be guaranteed and is subject to demand.



EASTER SPRING CLEAN

Save the date!!

This year our dedicated Easter Spring Cleaning morning will be on Saturday 23rd March 2024, from 10am.

There are a variety of tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us.



"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

A sign-up sheet is available in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) Refreshments and all cleaning products will be provided. Everyone is welcome, teens especially, those aged 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult please.

We would also like to ensure the church grounds are looking their best too and we would welcome anyone who can bring a few spring plants or flowers along for the front gardens and help to plant them. Again, please get in touch with the Parish Secretary if you would like to help out. Please bring your favourite garden tools and gardening gloves!

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 03/03/2024

Gift Aid £145.60 Loose £518.74

TOTAL £664.34

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO DONATE TO YOUR PARISH

**Supporting
Your Parish**

MAKE A DONATION ONLINE:

Donate to St Agatha's Church online via Bank Transfer using the following details:

Account Name: RCAS Kingston

Account number: 10317821

Sort code: 60-60-02

(NB. The details may come up as RCAOS or Southwark – these are also correct)

VIA OUR QR CODE: The QR code will take you to our parish's 'Give A Little' web donation page.





Throughout Lent the church will be open every Wednesday Evening for either Stations of the Cross or Exposition and Adoration, please see below for the full details.

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| Stations of the Cross            | Exposition and Adoration         |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March  | Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March |
| Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March | Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March |

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

Throughout Lent, Stations of the Cross will be led every Friday morning, after the Morning Mass (15th & 22nd March). In addition, on alternating Wednesday Evenings, at 7pm (20th March). This devotion provides an opportunity for us to walk the road to Calvary with Our Blessed Lord. *Everyone is welcome.*

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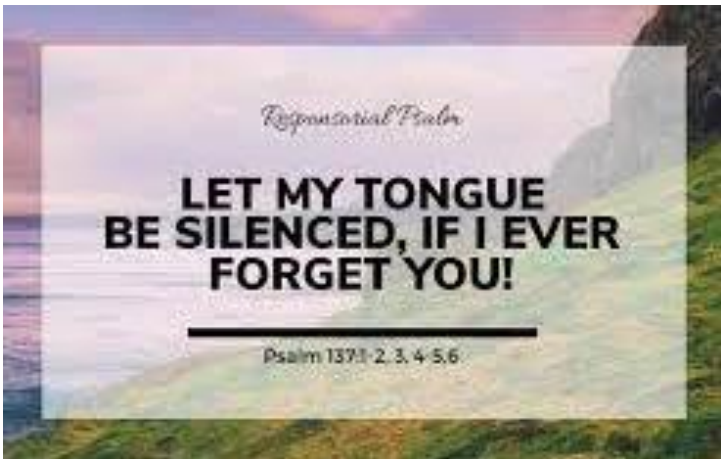
**EXPOSITION AND ADORATION DURING LENT AND LENTEN RECONCILIATION:**

The church will be open on alternating Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7pm – 8pm for Exposition and Adoration. (13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March). This is a beautiful opportunity for Quiet Prayer and Adoration. Please come for as long you can, be it 5 or 10 minutes or the whole hour, everyone is welcome. Reconciliation will also be available on these dates during this hour.

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LENT READING – ‘MY DAY BY DAY’

Copies of the Lent edition of ‘My Day by Day’, for adults and juniors, are available at the back of the Church – they cost £1.00 each. Please put money in the box marked ‘My Day by Day’. This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Lent and is an excellent way to prepare for Easter.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle.

Please let the Parish Office know, in writing, if either you or your relatives would like to be mentioned on our sick list.

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 Christ grant eternal rest to all who have died.

ANNIVERSARIES

Thomas Gerard Leslie Luson, John Conway, Cecil Cox, Christine Andrews, Elizabeth Clarke, J. P. McGowan, Renee Fox, Mr. H. Cockerhill, Mabel Rooke-Ley, Marie Monaghan, Arthur Tunesi, John Dignum, Helen Halden, Edna Morgan, Daniel Cremin, Richard de Kerckhove, Josephine May, Edith Anne Connellan, Forbes Stimson, Ann Elizabeth Harding, Agnes Hall, Winifred O’Connor, Timothy Malone, Alphonse Schembri, Gerry Byrne, Herbert Lewis, Thomas Francis Mulcahy, Mary Pickard, Rita Da Silva, Aaron Bennett, Mary Chisholm, Virginio Anghileri, Anne Lally.

+++*May They Rest In Peace*+++



St Agatha's Catholic Primary School Spend-A-Penny Fundraising Campaign



ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL

'SPEND A PENNY' FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Together with the Parent Staff Association (PSA), St Agatha's Catholic Primary School have recently launched a fundraising campaign to raise funds for a much-needed refurbishment of the children's bathroom facilities.

Any donations towards this project would be greatly appreciated, so if you are 'feeling flush' please visit our Go Fund Me campaign at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-agathas-spend-a-penny-fundraising-campaign> or alternatively you can just scan the QR code to make a donation!

Thank you in advance for your support! The St Agatha's School and PSA Team.



SUPPORTING DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP

Our collection point remains in the church porch for you to donate any non-perishable items, please do not donate anything that is perishable such as fruit, vegetables, or bread items. Please also check the date on all items to ensure they have a good storage life. Thanking you in anticipation of your continuing support.

Please see the newsletter insert for an update on the support that the Dons Local Action Group have provided in 2023 and January 2024, which has seen a significant increase!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT, CYCLE B
SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2024

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 137:1-2,3,4-5,6

A lament from exile for the loss of Jerusalem

GOSPEL READING

John 3:14-21 Jesus tells Nicodemus that the Son of Man will be raised up so that those who believe in him will have eternal life.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

The fourth Sunday of Lent is sometimes called Laetare Sunday. Laetare is a Latin word that means “rejoice.” Traditionally, Sundays are named after the first word of the liturgy’s opening antiphon. On this Sunday, the antiphon is taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 66:10-11). Even as we observe our Lenten sacrifices, we rejoice in anticipation of the joy that will be ours at Easter.

Today’s Gospel reading is taken from John’s Gospel. It consists of two parts. The first part is the final sentence of Jesus’ reply to Nicodemus, the Pharisee who approached Jesus at night. Nicodemus acknowledged Jesus as someone who had come from God and seemed to want to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus greeted Nicodemus with the observation that one must be born from above to see the Kingdom of God. The dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus that followed was about the meaning of this phrase. Nicodemus misunderstood Jesus at every point, but there was no animosity in the questions he posed to Jesus.

In the part of the conversation with Nicodemus in today’s Gospel, Jesus referred to an incident reported in the Old Testament. When the Israelites grumbled against the Lord during their sojourn in the desert, God sent venomous serpents to punish them for their complaints. The Israelites repented and asked Moses to pray for them. The Lord heard Moses’ prayer and instructed him to make a bronze serpent and mount it on a pole. All who had been bitten by a serpent and then looked upon the bronze serpent were cured. By recalling this story, Jesus alludes to the salvation that would be accomplished through his death and Resurrection.

The second part of today’s Gospel is a theological reflection on Jesus’ words to Nicodemus. The Gospel of John is known for this kind of reflection offered within the narrative. The words of the Evangelist are in continuity with the words of the prologue to John’s Gospel. In these reflections, John elaborates on a number of themes that are found in his Gospel: light and darkness, belief and unbelief, good and evil, salvation and condemnation.

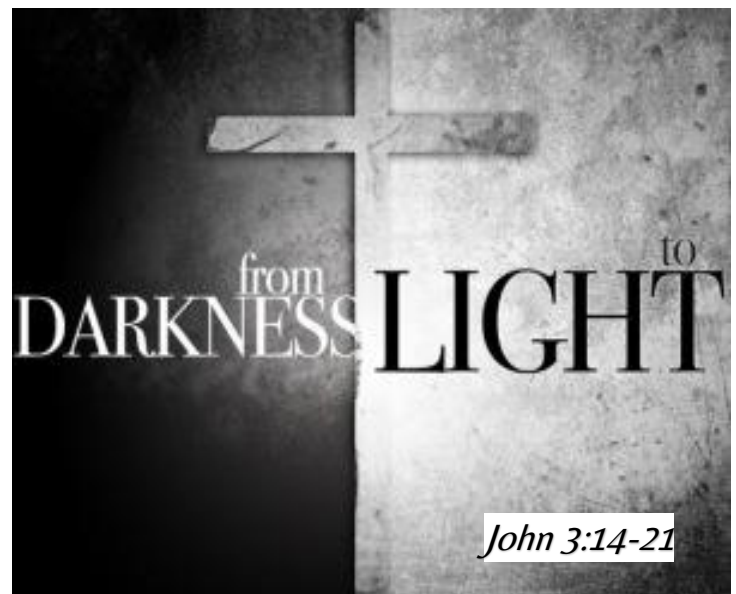
In John’s reflection, we find an observation about human sinfulness. Jesus is the light that has come into the world, but people preferred the darkness. We wish to keep our sins hidden, even from God. Jesus has come into the world to reveal our sins so that they may be forgiven. This is the Good News; it is the reason for our rejoicing in this season of Lent and throughout our lives.

FAMILY REFLECTION

Parents whose children are afraid of the dark are struck by John’s observation that darkness is preferred to light. Perhaps this is as it should be. God made us to live in the light of his love. But this original friendship with God was corrupted by sin. Our sin causes us to shy away from Christ, the light that has come into the world. During the season of Lent, we try to fight this tendency by remembering God’s great mercy and the salvation that we have received through Jesus. We do not fear confessing our sins, knowing that God forgives us, and so, during Lent, we seek out opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

After your family gathers, sit for a time in darkness, then light a candle. Invite people to talk about what it felt like to be in the darkness and to compare that to their feelings when the candle was lit. What are we able to see by the limited glow of the candlelight that we couldn’t see when we were sitting in darkness? Read today’s Gospel, John 3:14-21. John’s Gospel teaches us that Jesus was the light that came into the world. In this light we know ourselves to be sinners, but we are not condemned. Instead, we have been saved because we have been forgiven through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross. Conclude in prayer together, thanking God for the great gift of forgiveness we have received through Jesus. Pray together the Act of Contrition.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

4th Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

Sunday 10th March 2024

RESPONSE:

AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

A very warm welcome to our Parish; we hope that you are settling down in your new home and will soon feel part of our community. If you are new to the parish, please do introduce yourself to a member of the clergy, and please complete a family registration form which can be found in the church porch and is also on the parish website. If you have any questions or enquiries, please contact the Parish Office.



MARRIAGES IN 2024/25

2024 or 2025 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 the intended date.*



If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparations for our parishioners must Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

CONFIRMATION 2024

The next candidate session will be on Monday 11th March 2024 at 7.15pm.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

An important email update has been sent to all parents with regards to session due to be held on Sunday 10th March (Session 5). The next session will be held on Sunday 24th March 2024. The children's books will be returned at this session.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please attend our next class being held on Sunday 21st April 2024. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm. Please complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.



Our subsequent class will be held in June 2024. *Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is recommended that Godparents also attend.*

MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE SOUTHWARK

FOR THE BEREAVED

Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. This weekend, from March 22-24, will take place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one 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, held at Aylesford Priory in Kent, places are ordinarily limited and subject to a telephone call to determine if it is right for you. Please call: 01622 717 272 to discuss.

MAKING A NEW START

Beginning Experience is a residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. The next programme will be on April 12-14. For details phone 0208 647 4760 or email besouthofengland@gmail.com

THE ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS

The date is July 13, 3pm at St George's Cathedral. Couples celebrating a special anniversary – one, 10, 25, 40, 50 or 60 or more years – and wishing to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, should email mflsw@rcaos.org.uk

St Agatha's Canasta Club

The Canasta Club meets on Mondays between 1pm to 4pm.



St Agatha's Scrabble Club

The Scrabble Club meets on Thursdays from 2.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to come along and share the space, warmth, and have a chat and a cuppa. You will find them in the Church Hall!

“When the voices and experiences of women are heard, all of society is truly enriched. Let us Pray Together that, through encounter and dialogue, “the genius of woman” may be allowed to flourish in today’s world.”

~ Pope Francis – International Women's Day

THE ROSARY

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



DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

We 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

