

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday: St John Chrysostom
Wednesday: The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Thursday: Our Lady of Sorrows
Friday: Saints Cornelius & Cyprian

OFFERINGS

First collection Gift Aid £769.11 Loose £290.33
Retiring collection (CAFOD) Gift Aid £35.50 Loose £63.72

This week's retiring collection is for the Catholic Education Service.

PARISH DIARY

Monday 7.30pm Prebaptism meeting
Tuesday 8.00pm: Parish Prayer Group

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Grace Gibbs, Simon Leo, Paul & June McMahon, Michael Boyle, Maureen Allen, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan Gallagher, Kay Kennedy, Stephane Patten, John Sewter, Ryan Morison, Keith Fraser, Ronnie Xavier, Marie Elsey, Christopher Browne, Mary Wallace, Rosa Vitolo, Elsie Malone & Colette Patten.

ANNIVERSARIES

Ellen Gadd, Frank Andrews, Constance O'Neill, Ken Woolger, Nellie Flynn, Maureen Geary, Lionel Osborne, Elizabeth Pettyfer, Nancy Casey, Herminea Lintern, Roseanna Stimson, Henry Stimson, Anne Collopy, Roy Browne, Oswald Garrow-Fisher, William Parker, Edward Heaton Harris, Kathleen Edwards, Ellie Mary Cahill, Michael Henry, Marie Dolan, Thomas Murray, Carlo Fiorellino, Percival Rowland McCormack, Francis Steward, Norma Verhoven, Arnold Brenninkmeyer, William Brady, Daniel Cullinane, Eric Wilson, Eric Ross, Peter Jones. +++ May they rest in peace +++

Education Commission – Archdiocese of Southwark

The Education Commission is currently recruiting for a Buildings Officer to work alongside its existing Principle Buildings officer from January 2017. The closing date for applications is **12th September**. Interviews will take place on **22nd & 23rd September**. For further details or an application form please contact donna.gray@educationcommission.org.uk, tel 01689 883341 or see the small notice board in the porch.

Diocesan Day for Catechists & Jubilee Day for Catechists

The annual day for catechists will take place at St George's Cathedral from 11.00am till 5.00pm on **Saturday 24th September**. For further details of the day see the notice in the porch or speak to Fr Gerry.



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien

Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

St. Agatha's Catholic Church

1 Wyndham Road

Kingston Upon Thames

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www.stagathaschurch.org.uk

Please visit our website regularly to keep abreast of important current issues.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 11th September 2016

24th Sunday of the Year (C) – Education Sunday

Saturday	9.30am	Seamas Dooley
	6.30pm	Special Intention
Sunday	9.00am	Christina Corcoran
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano
Monday	9.30am	Tim Malone
Tuesday	9.30am	Thomas Kerrigan
Wednesday	9.30am	John O'Regan
Thursday	9.30am	Catherine Power New Year School Mass
Friday	9.30am	Jean O'Hehir
Saturday	9.30am	Holy Souls
	6.30pm	Ethel Thorne
Confessions:	Saturday 10.00-11.00am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call	
Baptisms:	By previous arrangement	
Marriages:	Six months notice required – Diocesan rule	

The fact that Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them was a cause of scandal to the Pharisees. They, the 'separated ones' avoided all contact with sinners. They assumed that God had no dealing with sinners either. But Jesus shows them a very different kind of God. By means of three parables he justifies his concern for sinners. All three parables stress God's concern for the lost one, and his joy when a lost one is found.

Calling all musicians

There will be a meeting for musicians after the **10.30am** mass on **Sunday 11th September** in the old sacristy. This applies to all those who sing at either the 10.30am or 6.30pm masses on Sundays. If you would like to help out but cannot attend, please give your details to Fr Gerry.

PARISH NOTICES

Prebaptism meeting

There will be a Prebaptism meeting in the Presbytery on **Monday 12th September** at 7.30pm. Only one parent need attend. Please do not bring children with you.

Parish Prayer Group

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

School mass

The school will attend the 9.30am mass on **Thursday 15th September** to celebrate the start of the new academic year.

Sri Lankan dinner

There will be a sumptuous Sri Lankan dinner and dessert at St Thomas Aquinas church hall, Ham , TW10 7HT, on **Saturday 17th September** at **7.00pm**. The dinner will include a glass of wine, live entertainment and a raffle. Tickets cost £20.00 per head. The proceeds of the event will go towards helping vulnerable children, the elderly and the sick in Sri Lanka. For tickets and donations of prizes for the raffle, contact Delrine Perera (0208 974 5761)

Annual Southwark Day of Renewal

This will take place on **Saturday 8th October** at St George's Cathedral from 9.45am to 4.45pm on the theme of Charismatic Renewal and the Father's Mercy. The day will include a keynote presentation, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a gentle Eucharistic Healing Service, and concelebrated Mass. All are most welcome.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

This nationally accredited certificate provides an introduction to Catholic theology for teachers, catechists, chaplains and school governors. To find out more, come to the introductory evening on **Thursday 15th September** at the Centre for Catholic Formation, 21 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS from **7.30pm—8.30pm**. For enquiries ring 020 8672 7684 9 or go to www.ccftootingbec.org.uk. Further information may be found on the notice board and at the back of the church.

Joel Community Trust – Kingston Night Shelter

There will be a training day for actual and potential volunteers for the Kingston Night Shelter from 10.00am till 4.00pm on **Saturday 17th September**. Lunch will be provided. If you are interested in finding out more or to register for the course please contact John de Quidt on 8549 4175 or johndequidt@hotmail.com. Attending the training does not commit you to volunteering.

Parish Men's Group

The Group will meet on **Wednesday 21st September** at the Wych Elm from 8pm.

REFLECTION

lamb

Lord Jesus, we pray for all the sheep that are lost, but our hearts go out especially to the lost lambs. Have mercy on the human wolves who steal, exploit, and sometimes kill the lambs of the Father's flock; help them to see the horror of what they are doing. Comfort the grieving parents who in many cases don't even have the consolation of a burial service. In your merciful love grants that these lambs, though lost here, may be found hereafter. Watch over those who are still straying here below. Guide them along paths that are safe. Send shepherds to look after them. And open the eyes of society so that we may cease to regard property As more important than people.

Prayer for the lost

Flor McCarthy S.D.B.

First Reading: Exodus 32: 7–11, 13–14

In our first reading today from the Book of Exodus, we hear how Moses begs pardon from the Lord for the Israelites who have strayed away from following God's path. God listens to the prayer of Moses for leniency and is merciful to his people.

Second Reading: ! Timothy 1: 12–17

In this extract from his first letter to Timothy, a very humble Paul recognises that his own conversion story is living proof of the mercy of God – from being someone who fought passionately against the early Church to becoming one of its most zealous followers, even to the point of death. 'Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them'

Gospel Reading: Luke 15: 1–32

We listen to three very familiar parables in our Gospel today – the parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the most familiar one of the Prodigal Son. Each tells us of the wonderful and boundless kindness of God. They demonstrate how our merciful and generous God stretches out his hand in forgiveness to us sinners in spite of our consistent unfaithfulness to him. These parables are so familiar to us that we often hear them but do not listen closely to them, that we become immune to their meaning. Today, let us open our hearts and minds anew to what this Gospel is telling us at this particular time.