



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

CLERGY

Rev. Fr. Francis Olaseni, MSP – Parish Priest & Hospital Chaplain
Rev. Fr. Peter Akor, MSP – Assistant Priest & Hospital Chaplain
Rev. Robert Beresford – Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church
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Kingston upon Thames
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www.stagathaschurch.org.uk
kingston@rcaos.org.uk

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 12TH NOVEMBER 2023

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Table with 2 columns: Day/Time and Event. Includes Masses for Saturday 11th, Sunday 12th, Monday 13th, Tuesday 14th, Wednesday 15th, Thursday 16th, Friday 17th, and Saturday 18th. Also lists Exposition, Morning Prayer, Mass Times, Confessions, Baptisms, and Marriages.

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 05/11/2023

1st Collection £707.63
2nd Collection £603.77

TOTAL £1311.40

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish. Last Sunday we had a collection of the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSP), our parish raised a total of £603.77.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO DONATE TO 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 'Give A Little' web donation page.



ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL
SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2023

The Archbishop's Appeal is a Diocesan collection that funds key areas of ministry: Youth and Evangelisation, Our Faith in Action (Caritas) and Clergy Care and Formation.

Your support will enable the Archdiocese of Southwark to support innovative projects taking place within Catholic parishes and Schools throughout South London and Kent that seek to invest Faith, Hope and Love into the communities they serve.

Please be generous to the Archbishop's Appeal 2023. Every gift is welcome. Find out more, or donate online:

https://www.rcaos.org.uk/archbishops-appeal

Scan QR Code using your mobile camera

Telephone weekdays 9 am - 5 pm: Please call - 020 7960 2504

Cash/Cheque - please use the Archbishop's Appeal envelopes at the back of church.



Thank you for your generosity of heart.

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF ALL SOULS

In the month of November, we remember all our loved ones whom God has called from this life and pray for them at our daily Masses. Envelopes are available at back of church for you to put in the list of all loved ones in your family and friends whom have died. You can place a donation inside the envelope. Please hand it to Father or place it in the basket at the altar throughout the month of November. +++Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. +++

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS FOR THE DECEASED
CLERGY OF KINGSTON DEANERY

A Requiem Mass for the deceased clergy of Kingston Deanery will be held at St. Ann's on Friday 17th November 2023, 12pm. Everyone is welcome. Please note that the 85 bus stop is very near St Anne's, also there is a large car park available.



**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
CYCLE A
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 63:2,3-4,5-6,7-8

Our souls are thirsting for God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, teaching his disciples the importance of being prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time, Cycle A
Sunday, November 12, 2023

RESPONSE: IN THE SHADOW OF YOUR WINGS

FAMILY REFLECTION

In the daily activities of family life, we can easily find excuses for not attending to our spiritual lives. If not given top priority, prayer and reading Scripture risk becoming occasional activities rather than daily practices. In today's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that if we fail to give our spiritual life priority, we will find ourselves unprepared to receive Jesus. Daily prayer and spiritual practice keeps us ready to receive Jesus.

Gather together as a family and talk about some of the things our faith calls us to do every day and every week to keep God first in our lives. Talk about what might happen if we don't do these things regularly. Explain to your family that Jesus taught us that it is important to keep ourselves ready to receive him when he comes again. Tell them to listen as you read the parable that Jesus tells in today's Gospel. Read aloud Matthew 25:1-13. Talk with your family about why Jesus says that it is so important to remain ready to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. Pray together that your family will always keep God first in your lives so that you will all be prepared to receive Jesus when he comes. Pray together the Act of Hope.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

**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.*

**HOLY COMMUNION FOR
SICK AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

If you are sick and/or housebound, our Priests would be happy to visit you, to pray with you, and to bring you Holy Communion in your home, please do let the Parish Office know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests or the Parish Secretary.

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

Patrick Francis Crowley, Gerald Stewart, John Finn, George Caine, Jane Gardner, Thomas Egan, Julia Larkins, William Henry Jones, Catherine Delaney, George Smith, Christina Dunne, Catherine White, Mary Gallagher, Mary Owen, Angelo Piccirillo, Ellen Sheehy, Joseph Thomas Dudley, Mary McGuinness, Catherine Buck, Aloysius Martin, Johanna Sheehan, Ann Marie Kirby, Suzanne Gilbert, William Curtin, Katherine Cutmore, Patricia Ruddy, William MacBride, Shirley Constable, Silvio Antonio De Bellis, Martha Bridget O'Kane, Dora Dombre.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++

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 Secretary.



THE ROSARY

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



PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

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.



Faithful Waiting

Matthew 25:1-13



MY SOUL IS THIRSTING

for you,
O LORD

MY GOD.

Psalm 63

www.pray.com.au | @pray_au

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023/24

The Inscription Mass is this Sunday, 12th November 2023, at the 10.30am Mass. All children **MUST** attend the Mass. Session 1 for Children **AND** Parents will be immediately after Mass.



CONFIRMATION 2023/34

An email update and the schedule has been sent to candidates and parents – if you have not received this please contact the Parish Office ASAP.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class on Sunday 26th November 2023.



Please ensure you complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office before you attend a class. Parents **MUST** attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is encouraged that Godparents also attend.

MARRIAGES IN 2024

2024 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 be done at the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS COURSE

The RCIA course has begun, please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join the programme.



R.C.I.A (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a set of rites, or ceremonies, designed to introduce and prepare non baptised adults into becoming full members of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Initiation, namely, Baptism, (or Reception if already Baptised), Confirmation and Holy Eucharist (The Body and Blood of Christ). It is also for baptised Christians of other churches who take a similar, but unique path through the rites where they will be Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.

Baptised Adult Catholics seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation, and possibly the Holy Eucharist if not already received, can also join this programme. It can also be a good experience for full members of the Catholic Church who may not have practised their faith for a number of years, or for those who wish to more fully understand and deepen their faith.

“MY PLACES”



**‘Meet and Greet’
the Artist on Saturday
18th November 2023,
2–4pm.**

AN EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS BY BOB MEECHAM

“My Places” an exhibition of paintings by our very own resident artist Bob Meecham is to be held in the Church Cloister from 14th November – 4th December 2023.

You are invited to the private view of “My Places” on Tuesday 14th November 2023 from 6.30pm – 8.30pm.

The exhibition will be open Thursday – Saturday from 2 – 4pm. Other times available by appointment.

Please come along and visit. All are welcome!

A proportion of any sales of work will be donated to the church fund and to the RNLI

Any one available to help with stewarding at the exhibition please contact Bob or Maggie in person, or phone 07804498983 or email bbm@blueyonder.co.uk



St Agatha’s Canasta Card Club

The St Agatha’s Canasta Card Club meets each Monday in the Church Cloister between 1pm to 4pm to play Canasta, have a coffee/tea and a chat.

It is a lovely social time for parishioners to get together, meet new people and enjoy some fun time together and build community.

You don’t have to sign up, you don’t have to know how to play. Just come along and you will learn as you play. Everyone is welcome, men, women, and young adults. Just come along and join as often or as little as you would like. We look forward to welcoming you.

Are you interested in playing chess or scrabble perhaps? These games are also available and you would be very welcome to come along and share the space, warmth and to also have a chat and a coffee.



WRAP UP LONDON

7th -27th November 2023

Nearest coat drop off point:

**Surbiton Fire Station – Open 24 hrs
(31/33 Ewell Rd, Surbiton. KT6 6AF)**

Now in its 13th year, Wrap Up London will be collecting pre loved warm winter coats to be shared with frontline charities supporting people through the hardest of cold conditions this winter.

197,245 coats have been distributed since 2011 so please search in your cupboards and drawers, ask friends and donate to Wrap Up London.

Donating a coat also works as a gateway for an individual to gain access to other services and support given by the charity’s partners. Coats are need for men, women, children and babies and they even accept dog coats!

More information can be found at:

www.handsonlondon.org.uk/wrap-uplondon



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

CAFOD - ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS

We have all been shocked and saddened by the images and stories in the media from Israel and Gaza and CAFOD ask us to join Pope Francis’ urgent call for peace and an end to the violence.

CAFOD have set up an Israeli-Palestinian Crisis appeal so that they can provide urgent, practical help to the families who need it, as soon as it's safe to do so.

Further details about this and CAFOD efforts are available in the church porch or please visit:

<https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/israeli-palestinian-crisis-how-you-can-help>

‘In every personal or social situation or circumstance of our life, the Lord is present. He calls to us to live in our own time, to share our lives with others, to mix in with the joys and sorrows of the world.’ ~ Pope Francis