

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 1 Wyndham Road Kingston upon Thames Surrey, KT2 5JR Tel: 020 8546 4633

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

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES SUNDAY 13 TH AUGUST 2023	
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)	
Saturday 12 th	
6.30pm	Wellbeing of Paul Benton
Sunday 13 th	19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time
9am	Beverly Uy RIP
10.30am	Luz G Homa RIP
6.30pm	Sarah & Louis Cronin RIP
Monday 14 th	St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, Priest,
	Martyr, Memorial
9.30am	Anna Schwaner RIP
Tuesday 15 th	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin
	Mary, Solemnity
9.30am	Gavin Mullen RIP
7pm	Private Intentions
Wednesday 16 th	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Michael Livesey
Thursday 17 th	
9.30am	Alison De Marco RIP
Friday 18 th	
9.30am	Intentions for Jo O'Hanlon
Saturday 19 th	
9.30am	Holy Souls

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am. Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am. Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am or at call. Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 09:00 Mass Times: Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass)

Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30 Baptisms: Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.

Marriages: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule

PARISH OFFERINGS

Sunday Collection 06/08/2023

Collection Gift Aid £87.00 Loose £381.04

> TOTAL £468.04

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish.

TEA AND COFFEE AFTER MASS

Tea and coffee will be served in the Cloister after the Sunday morning Masses this weekend. Do come and join us to meet and greet others, and our clergy.

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, SOLEMNITY, HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Tuesday 15th August 2023

There will be two Masses on Tuesday: 9.30am and 7pm.

HOUSEKEEPER/CLEANER ST AGATHA'S PARISH

Applications are invited for the post of Housekeeper/Cleaner. After many years of wonderful service, our current housekeeper is leaving her role due to personal circumstance and we are therefore seeking a new Housekeeper/Cleaner. Would you like to join the parish team as our Housekeeper? If so, please apply!

The post holder will be required to provide confidential and efficient housekeeping and cleaning duties to a high standard, to the Parish Priests, whilst ensuring a pleasant, safe, welcoming and clean Presbytery is provided to other presbytery workers and parish visitors. The position requires 8-10 hours each week - work pattern to be agreed with the successful applicant. Previous experience of housekeeping and cleaning are essential, references will be required.

Essential Skills Required: Knowledge of safe working practices; Confidentiality in all matters; Good organisational ability and attention to detail; Self-motivated; solution focussed and reliable; Courteous and polite manner; good communication skills and good time management, Flexible, adaptable and able to respond to changes in routine.

If you would like to know more about this position, please contact Karin, the Parish Secretary, on 020 8546 4633 during parish office hours.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

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. 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.



Society of African Missions

Society of African Missions Sunday 20th August 2023

Next weekend we will be joined by Father Henry Somah, SMA, who will be doing a mission appeal at all the Sunday Masses for the Society of African Missions. We will have a Retiring Collection for the work of the SMA, please also use the red bucket in the church porch.

Fr Henry Somah was born in Liberia in West Africa and was ordained 19 years ago, is currently based in Manchester in the Mission Animation and Appeals Team of the Society of African Missions, British Province. He has previously worked in Liberia, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Nigeria. We know that you will make him feel very welcome.

SMA are an international missionary Society with members coming from 24 countries. Their missionary focus is Africa and her people. Their purpose is to spread the Gospel. Their missionaries presently serve in 17 different African countries. For more information about the SMA please visit: https://www.sma-gb.org/

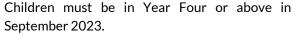




SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023/24

FHC application forms are now available from the church porch or the Parish Office.





Application forms must be completed and returned <u>in person</u> <u>only</u> at one of the following sessions:

Friday 29th September 2023 between 2pm and 5pm, at the Presbytery.

Saturday 30th September 2023 between 5.45pm and 6.15pm, in the Cloister.

Sunday 1st October 2023 after the 10.30am Mass, in the Cloister.

You must attach a PHOTOCOPY of your child's baptism certificate; we cannot accept any application forms without the certificate. If your child has not yet been baptised, please contact the Parish Office to discuss the procedure for enrolling on this programme.

<u>Late applications will not be accepted; Reminders will be posted in the newsletter nearer the time.</u>

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023/24

Confirmation application forms are now available from the church porch or the Parish Office.

Candidates must be in Year Nine or above in September 2023.

Application forms must be returned to the parish office no later than Friday 29th September 2023, so that we can identify how many candidates will be enrolling.

<u>Late applications will not be accepted; Reminders will be posted</u> <u>in the newsletter nearer the time.</u>

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, our next class is being held on Sunday 17th September2023. The class is held in the church hall



from 2-4pm. Please ensure you complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office before you attend a class.

<u>Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is recommended that Godparents also attend.</u>

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 <u>you are required to inform the church at least six</u> months before the intended date.

If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparation for our parishioners must take place here at St. Agatha's. Please contact the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS COURSE

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Or wanting to explore your Catholic faith further?

Our Evangelium course will start in October/November 2023. The programme will consist of weekly sessions running until Easter, including vital

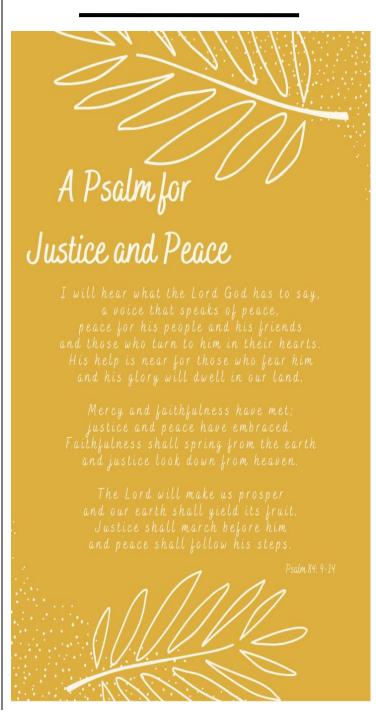
Evangelium is for adults who have not been Baptised and for Christians of other denominations who want to be Received into the Catholic Church.

Please email the Parish Office with your details and to register for this next programme:

kingston@rcaos.org.uk

dates during Lent.

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. Everyone is welcome along!



Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A Sunday, August 13, 2023

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 85:9-14
The Lord is the source of salvation.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Jesus walks on water, and the disciples acknowledge him as the Son of God.

Gospel Reflection

Today's Gospel directly follows last week's account of Jesus feeding a crowd of more than 5,000 people with just five loaves of bread and two fish. For the sake of the crowds, Jesus had postponed his time of solitude. Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends his disciples ahead of him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray.

The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves, making little progress in their journey. We are reminded of a previous story in Chapter 8 of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus calms the seas. This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water. In this story it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with last week's Gospel about the feeding of the multitude, today's Gospel is also about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do. In last week's Gospel, when the disciples see the crowds, they ask Jesus to send the crowds away. Jesus turns the situation around, telling the disciples to feed the crowd with the provisions that they have. Both of these Gospels tell us much about ministry.

Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants this request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done. Peter walks on water. The five loaves and two fish feed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven. When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter's example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God's only Son.

Family Reflection

The mission of the Church is to continue the work of Jesus. The family, the domestic church, participates in this mission too.

Talk about how your family participates in the mission of the Church. Discuss ways in which you seek to reach out to your neighbours and people in need through acts of kindness, mercy, and justice. Then read together today's Gospel, Matthew 14:22-33. Talk about how Peter wanted to be like Jesus, to walk on water like Jesus did. Note that Peter was successful for a time, but then he doubted Jesus, and he began to sink into the water. Talk about how your family's acts of mercy and justice are rooted in your faith in Jesus. Pray together that Jesus will continue to work through your family to prepare the kingdom of heaven. Pray together the Morning Offering or the Lord's Prayer.

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.

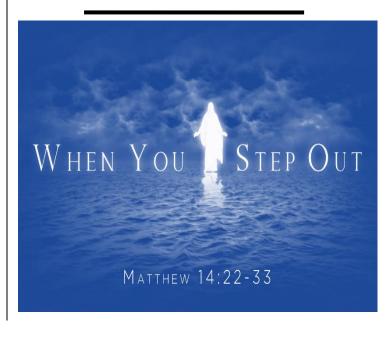
LET US REMEMBER

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

Ellen Allen, Martha Ann Marsland, Teresa Mary Smith, Vincent Fucco, Josephine Teresa Ferritto, Edmund Burke, Francis Duckett, Bernard O' Neill, Marmaduke Valentine Smith, Annie Grealish, Bernard Joseph Bull, Cyril Francis Harriott, Mary Agnes Matkin, Bridget Crosby, Harry Walter, Sidney Selleck, Christina & Joshua Gordon, Dorothy Mercer, Alfred Godfrey, Mary Lewendon, William Walsh, Bridie Mapstone, Roger Edward Cubitt, David Brayshaw, Henry McArdle, Tessa Pitts, Thomas Flaherty, Wilfrid William Hayward, Josephine Carroll, Ann Power, Giuseppe Sammarco, Libera Ricci Strafino.

+++May They Rest In Peace +++

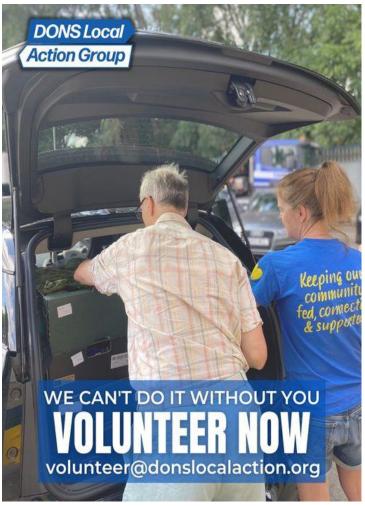




Supporting Dons Local Action Group

Did you know you can make an impact in your community with just one item? By simply donating one food item today, you can help fight food poverty and make someone's day brighter!

Just a quick reminder about our donations box in support of Dons Local Action Group; A huge thank you to those that have already donated items, these have again successfully been delivered to the DLAG hub. 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.



AA DRIVERS WANTED

Do you have a car and a few spare hours a week?
With deliveries going out every day, we need as
many drivers as possible to make sure we're
meeting our recipient's demand
Email our volunteers team to find out more info, or
drop us an email with any questions:

volunteer@donslocalaction.org

HOST THE OUR LADY OF LOURDES STATUE IN YOUR HOME DURING OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

Our Lady's Statue has been in visitation since the start of May and will return to the church for the summer. Our Lady always draws us closer to her son, Jesus Christ. We invite you to spend a week with Our Lady by hosting the Lady of Lourdes statue in your home for a week during the autumn.

If you would like to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue in your home during September, October or November, 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.

LIFTS TO MASS

If you could occasionally offer someone a lift to any of the Masses, that you normally attend, please could you kindly contact Karin in the Parish office to discuss further. We have a couple of parishioners who are unable to get to Mass due to mobility issues but live just a few roads away and would greatly appreciate an opportunity to come to Mass, even just occasionally. Thank you!

CALL OF CREATION: READING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

You are invited to join this webinar hosted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, CAFOD and St. Mary's University in conversation with Archbishop Peter Loy Chong of Fiji and Sr Margaret Atkins.

When: Tuesday 12 September, 7:00PM

Duration: 1 hour

Further details available at:

https://www.cbcew.org.uk/call-of-creation-reading-the-signs-of-the-times/

Register: https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/signsoftimes

'Let us remain with Christ. Let us always try to be one with Him. Let us follow Him. Let us imitate Him in his movement of love, in how He goes out to encounter others. Let us go forth. Let us have the audacity to trace new paths for proclaiming the Gospel.' ~ Pope Francis