



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
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 You.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY 2024

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 13th

6.30pm Dcn Bob Beresford

Sunday 14th 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Vincent Arendse RIP

10.30am Tom Howard RIP

6.30pm Pam Osorio RIP

Monday 15th

9.30am Christine Lysaght

Tuesday 16th

9.30am Peter Kramer RIP

Wednesday 17th St Anthony, Abbot, Memorial

9.30am Birthday Intentions for Clare Davidson

Thursday 18th

9.30am Ronnie Wilson RIP

Friday 19th

9.30am George & Nora Hedges RIP

Saturday 20th

9.30am Intentions of Antony Nighil

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.

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 07/01/2024

Collection Gift Aid £138.50 Loose £368.58

TOTAL £507.08

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish.

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's 'Give A Little' web donation page.



THANK YOU!!

A Huge Thank you to everyone for your kind wishes and the lovely Christmas cards, messages and gifts. You have all been so very generous. To **EVERYONE** that helped make all our Christmas celebrations so very special, to Celebrate the Birth of Christ, we thank you! ~ Frs. Francis and Peter.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!

- Sunday 14th January 2024
FHC Session 2 at 11.45am
- Wednesday 17th January
RCIA Class 7pm
Parish Men's Group – 8pm Wych Elm
- Sunday 21st January 2024
FHC Session 3 at 11.45am
- Wednesday 24th January
RCIA Class 7pm
- Friday 26th January 2024
Annual MSP Celebration (St George's Cathedral)
- Saturday 27th January 2024
FHC Reconciliation Service 11am
- Saturday 27th January 2024
Parish Novena Begins
- Sunday 28th January 2024
Baptism Preparation Class 2-4pm
- Monday 5th February 2024 – St Agatha's Day

PEACE SUNDAY 2024

Peace Sunday follows the international World Day of Peace and is celebrated in the parishes of England and Wales on the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.

This year the theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. You can read a full copy of his message for the World Day of Peace here:

[Pope Francis Message for World Day of Peace 2024](#)

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/>
Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, please visit: <https://paxchristi.org.uk/about-us/support-us> for further information. Donation envelopes are also available in the church porch.



CRIB OFFERINGS

At the request of Archbishop John Wilson, this year's crib offerings will be donated to a local homeless charity: Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness (KCAH). KCAH work with people facing housing crisis in the Kingston Borough. Their aim is help them secure a safe and stable home and to help them start rebuilding their lives. Please offer your support if you can; your kind donations made at the manger scene this Christmastide will go to support homeless in our Borough. Further details about KCAH can be found at: <https://kcah.org.uk/>



MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL

CELEBRATION DAY - Friday 26th January 2024

St Paul's Day Celebration: The Missionaries of St Paul (MSP) invite all parishioners to the Annual St Paul's Day on Friday 26th January 2024 at St George's Cathedral SE1 7HY. Mass begins at 6:30pm, followed by reception in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome.



ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY & PARISH NOVENA

Starts Saturday 27th January 2024

In recognition of our Parish's Feast Day of Saint Agatha on 5th February, we will observe a nine-day Novena before the Feast Day itself. The Novena will commence on Saturday 27th January 2024 continuing daily through to Sunday 4th February 2024, concluding with a Parish Thanksgiving on Monday 5th February 2024. We are hoping that this Patronal Feast and the nine days of reflection and prayer proceeding it will be a wonderful celebration and give us all an opportunity to come together to share and celebrate our faith and the great Catholic heritage of our Parish and also offer a chance to reconnect with your faith in a sacred space. The programme will include guest speakers to help enrich and enliven your faith. We invite everyone to participate in this spiritual devotion programme; please enter into the occasion as fully as possible.

The Novena will be observed on Saturday and Sundays during the evening Mass. Monday to Friday please join us each day at 7pm.

More details of the speakers will be announced next weekend as arrangements are confirmed....

"She teaches by her example, to hasten to the true Good - God alone." ~ St Methodius of Sicily (c 788-c 847) from a homily on St Agatha.

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## ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

### Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2024

We would like to invite everyone along to celebrate with us our Feast Day for a special Thanksgiving Mass at 7pm. Mass will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the Cloister. Please do come along and join us.

## 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

George Winnen, Charles Woogar, Alexander Paterson, Balbina Saiz Agudin, Kathleen McEnery, Mary Blythe, Ellen Crowley, Bridget Dodd, Sandra Ruff, Agnes Mary Hill, Caroline Duckett, Thomas Begley, Joanna Herd, Eileen Sagar, Cyril Jarvis, Rosario Stroud, Amber Rose Kijowski, Arthur Squires, James Coughlan, George Alexander Bergin, Winifred Frain, Ethel Finn, Joseph Coll, Michael Hart, Henry Heaton-Harris, James Burt, Madeline Gurney, William Hill, Marcella Sweeney, Patrick McDonagh, Joseph Ruddy, Frederick Burch, Umberto Milocco, Basil Gurney, Colin Alexander, Bruce Hickman, Eileen Mary Radnor, Peter McChrystal, Susan Prince, Patrick Walsh, Therese Currie, Peter Kearns, May East, Martin McDonagh, Una Reed, Liam Mullane, Mary Brice, Joseph Absalom, Eileen Ryan, James Milburn, James Gerald Torrens. **+++May They Rest In Peace +++**



## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

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.**



## PARISH MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024**, at the Wych Elm. Please come along and join them from 8pm. Everyone is welcome.



Here I am, Lord;  
I come to do your will.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, CYCLE B  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10*

*A prayer of commitment to follow the will of the Lord.*

**GOSPEL READING**

*John 1:35-42*

*John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, and Jesus receives his first followers.*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him Peter, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the

Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

**FAMILY REFLECTION**

In today's Gospel we learn about one of at least two family relations that appear among Jesus' first disciples. Andrew is the brother of Simon, whom Jesus renames Peter. In next week's Gospel, we will learn about the brothers James and John, the sons of Zebedee. We know from the letters of Paul and other witnesses to the early Church that it was a common occurrence for an entire household to be baptized together. From the very beginning of the Church, families helped one another to know and follow Jesus. We hope and pray that this continues to be true in our family life.

Before your family gathers, look around your house and gather some items that your family might have that remind you of your faith. Perhaps you have a cross or crucifix displayed in your home, a statue of Mary, or statues or other art depicting saints. In today's Gospel we learn about how Andrew led his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Read today's Gospel, John 1:35-42.

In our family life, we also help to lead one another to Jesus. Talk together about the items that you gathered, discussing what these items mean to you and how you might use them during the day for prayer. Pray that your family will continue to help one another grow in our faith in Jesus. Pray together the Glory Be to the Father.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

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**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B  
Sunday, January 14, 2024

**RESPONSE: YOUR SERVANT IS LISTENING**

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## 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.



## DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP

Following on from your generosity before Christmas, we are now planning our next delivery to the Dons. The final few days of January are provisionally pencilled in for the delivery. So please try and support this by contributing tinned and non-perishable foods into the box provided at the back of church. Thanking you in anticipation. We thank you all for your continued generosity and support.



*Keeping our community fed,  
connected & supported.*

### 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!*

## SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a Foundation Governor to join their dedicated Governing body.

The core responsibilities include:

- Ensuring accountability
- Monitoring and evaluating the school's progress
- Budgetary allocation and control
- Shaping plans for school improvement and overseeing their implementation
- Setting the school's aims and values
- Appointing senior members of staff including the Head Teacher



Please contact [office@stagathas.school](mailto:office@stagathas.school) for further details. We look forward to hearing from you.



*"Learning  
together in  
God's love"*

St Agatha's School vision is to nurture children's holistic development, guided by catholic values in partnership with parents and the community.

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children. All appointments are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check and other Safe Recruitment employment checks. We are an equal opportunities employer.

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School, St Agatha's Drive, Kingston Upon Thames, KT2 5TY

# THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL OF NIGERIA- UK REGION

## CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL MSP CELEBRATION DAY

HOLY MASS  
6:30PM PROMPT

26 JANUARY  
2024

St George's Cathedral,  
Westminster Bridge Road,  
London SE1 7HY

Reception in Amigo Hall immediately  
following the Mass of Thanksgiving

*"Some give to the mission by going; others go, by giving."*

Principal Celebrant: Rt Rev Bishop Philip Egan  
Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth Diocese

Regional Superior: Fr Mark Ehichioya Odion, MSP  
[region.superior@mspthers.co.uk](mailto:region.superior@mspthers.co.uk)

RSVP: Fr Francis Ayogu, MSP - 07534 050125

