

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday St Anthony
Saturday St Agnes

PARISH DIARY

Monday 3.30pm: First Holy Communion Preparation Class
Monday 7.15pm: Confirmation Preparation Class
Tuesday 8.00pm: Parish Prayer Group
Wednesday 8.00pm: Parish Men's Group

OFFERINGS

First collection Gift Aid £816.80 Loose £516.78
Retiring collection Gift Aid £31.00 Loose £83.53

This weekend's retiring collection is for Pax Christi, the international Catholic movement for peace.

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

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, Robert Francis Colclough, Agneta Hill, Mary Shanks.

+++ May they rest in peace +++

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual octave of prayer for Christian Unity runs from **Wednesday 18th** to **Wednesday 25th January**. No joint services are planned in the immediate local area. However, St Agatha's is an active participant in the Joel Kingston Night Shelter. We are all asked to pray for this and our other joint initiatives.



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien

Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

St. Agatha's Catholic Church

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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 15th January 2017

Second Sunday of the Year (A) – Peace Sunday

Saturday	9.30am	John Hickey RIP
	6.30pm	Ian Fraser RIP
Sunday	9.00am	Raymond Wade RIP
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Peter Eshelby
Monday	9.30am	Patrick Nunez RIP
Tuesday	9.30am	Edward & John Lovekyn RIP
Wednesday	9.30am	Eucharistic Service
Thursday	9.30am	School Year 2 mass
Friday	9.30am	Canon Jack Madden RIP
Saturday	9.30am	Mary Frances McDonald RIP
	6.30pm	Tina Piccirillo RIP
Confessions:	Saturday 10.00-11.00am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call	
Baptisms:	By previous arrangement	
Marriages:	Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule	

FR GERRY

Please pray for the health and welfare of Fr Gerry. He will be living for some weeks at Coloma Court, West Wickham for a period of rest and recuperation. We will provide a telephone number on which he can be contacted in due course.

Hospital chaplain

If you, or a member of your family are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform the ward staff that you are a Roman Catholic and would like to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Julius. His phone number is 8942 2178.

PARISH NOTICES

World Peace Day 2017

This Sunday – **15th January** – has been chosen as Peace Sunday. It offers a timely opportunity for us to explore the Catholic tradition of nonviolence which goes back to Jesus and to develop ways to make Gospel nonviolence better known through our sacramental and education programmes, as well as an effective influence on our social justice work and political choices. This weekend's retiring collection will be for Pax Christi, the International Catholic Movement for Peace.

Crib Offerings

Our crib offerings this year will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land which supports Christians in the Holy Land and especially Gaza. At the latest count, the amount raised was over £100.00.

Sacramental Preparation Programme

The next First Holy Communion preparation class will be on **Monday 16th January 2017 at 3.30pm**.

The first class for the candidates preparing for confirmation will be on **Monday 16th January at 7.15pm**. The retreat day will be **Saturday 28th January**.

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.

Parish Men's Group

The Parish Men's Group will meet on **Wednesday 18th January** at the Wych Elm from **8.00pm** onwards. All men of the parish are welcome to join us for an evening of fellowship, lubricated by a pint or two.

Southwark Catholic Directory 2017

Copies of the Diocesan directory for 2017 are available at the back of the church at a cost of three pounds. It contains full details of the parishes and organizations in the diocese, the clergy and the liturgical calendar and is a valuable reference book.

2017 diaries

Copies of the 2017 Catholic diary are also available at the back of the church. Please take one. There is no charge.

CAFOD ambassadors – Share your love at Christmas

CAFOD are looking for volunteers to visit schools on its behalf to speak at assemblies and hold workshops on the problems facing peoples around the world and the wonderful work CAFOD does in helping them to improve their lives. The work is very rewarding. Training will be provided. For more information contact the local CAFOD volunteer centre on 020 8466 9901 or southwark@cafod.org.uk.

Scriptural Reflection

In the Gospel John the Baptist tells the people who Jesus is and what his mission is. Jesus is God's Chosen One who will take away the sins of the world. He is that 'Servant of God' Isaiah spoke about who would gather the scattered tribes of Israel and bring them back to God. Indeed his mission would go further. He would be 'a light to the nations' and would bring salvation to the very ends of the earth.

Reflection for Peace Sunday

Nonviolence

Violence is not the cure for our broken world. Countering violence with violence leads at best to forced migrations and enormous suffering, because vast amounts of resources are diverted to military ends and away from the everyday needs of young people, families experiencing hardship, the elderly, the infirm and the great majority of people in our world. At worst, it can lead to the death, physical and spiritual, of many people, if not of all...

In 2017, may we dedicate ourselves prayerfully and actively to banishing violence from our hearts, words and deeds, and to becoming nonviolent people and to building nonviolent communities that care for our common home. Nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. Everyone can be a maker of peace.

Pope Francis' World Peace Message 2017

First Reading: Isaiah 49: 3, 5–6

The servant of God, in the Prophet Isaiah, discovers two things: the fact of his calling – the heart of his God-given identity: and the intention of the One who sends him – to spread salvation to the ends of the earth. The Servant of God cannot be true to himself without being true to that vision. And salvation can never be spread through the barrel of a gun or through threat of violence.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 1–3

St Paul begins his First letter to the Corinthians with a reminder of how the Gospel transforms every human community. It creates communion, making us belong to each other. And it demands a transformation of our way of living, so that we may truly live as saints, bearers of the grace and peace Jesus came to bring.

Gospel Reading: John 1: 29–34

If you, like John the Baptist, were commanded to point out Christ in the crowd, what would you look for? What would you point to? John looks for the action of the Spirit, the Dove of Peace descending and remaining on a life which makes sense in itself and offers meaning to others. Before we can proclaim salvation today, we also have to look at the Crucified and Risen Jesus, the defenceless lamb who laid down his life for all.