

CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest 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 any 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 9.30am to 2.00pm Monday to Friday. Could you please limit telephone calls outside these hours to emergencies only.

# SUNDAY $17^{\text{TH}}$ FEBRUARY 2019 – $6^{\text{TH}}$ SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES THIS WEEK

Saturday 16th

9.30am Carmel Hurley RIP 6.30pm Flannan Hehir RIP

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary time

9.00am Michael McDonagh & Helen Connelly RIP

10.30am Wellbeing of Alan Butler6.30pm People of the Parish

Monday 18th

9.30am Alfred & Edith Knight RIP

Tuesday 19th

9.30am Wellbeing of Christine Lysaght

Wednesday 20th

9.30am Thoughts and Prayers for Venezuela

Thursday 21st

9.30am Nancy Skehan RIP

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St Peter, Apostle, Feast

9.30am James Harrup RIP

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> St Polycarp, Bishop, Martyr, Memorial

9.30am Reginald & Marie Boxall RIP

6.30pm Louis Briffa RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.

Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.

Confessions: Saturday 10.00-10.30am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call.

Baptisms: By previous arrangement on Sundays at 12.30pm.

Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

ON THE FIRST SATURDAY (2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019) OF EVERY MONTH WE WILL HAVE ONE HOUR OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

BETWEEN 10AM AND 11AM.

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Pat Appleby, John Sewter, Christina Ward, Bill Kerrigan, Tess Bird, Clare Horgan, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor and Ryan Morrison. Due to the new data protection rules we are unable to have names on the sick list unless we have written permission from the person to publicise their names. Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either you or your relatives and friends want to be mentioned in our sick list.

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

Georgina Helen Petit, Selene Robinson, Peter Mulvaney, Alicia Coll, Anthony Scott, Edward Cook, Agnes Hope, Alison Weyers, Mary Connell, Charles Hope, Ethel Pyke, Edward Mitchell, Vincenza Marchese, Sheila McCormick, Edwin Reeves, Bridget Fenton, Mary Kathleen Dudley, William Lucas, Bruno Zuffo, Bernard McArdle, Mary West, George Alexander, Thomas McCormack, Charles Waddell, Mervyn Woolger, Ursula Nolan, Julia Turner, Nestor Paralta, Maria Onorato, Michael Whelan, Giovanna Capaldi, Mary Ellen O'Donoghue, John Mclaughlin Sim, Josephine Flynn, Kathleen Law, James Brooks. +++ May they rest in Peace +++

#### **OFFERINGS**

First collection Gift Aid £448.50 Loose £458.50 Retiring Collection Gift Aid £8.00 Loose £67.85

TOTAL £982.85

## This week's retiring collection is for Racial Justice Sunday.

## **Diocesan Directory**

Copies of the Diocesan Directory for 2019 are now available at the back of the church. They cost £3.00 each. Please place the money in the papers box in the porch.

# THE TWO WAYS A REFLECTION OF PSALM 1:1-4, 6.

If you want some new piece of technology to work smoothly, it is advisable to follow the manufacturers instructions. The same holds true for the smooth running of society. At the risk of being simplistic and naïve, I suggest that our manufacturers instructions are in the Commandments and other expressions of God's law. We may well wonder why the editor of the Book of Psalms chose today's psalm to be first in the collection. Is it intended as a preface to the Book? It introduces a theme that is popular in the wisdom of the Old Testament: the choice of the two ways; the way of obeying God's law or going one's own way. This black and white contrast between the blessings of the good life and the cursed condition of self-seeking is also the theme of todays first reading and gospel.

Notice the progressive steps downward in one who first *Follows* the wrong counsel, then *lingers in the way of sinners* and finally *sits in the company of scorners*. Scorners are those who know everything that is wrong with church, government, everybody... bar themselves. By contrast, the wise person constantly asks what does God want of me in this instance... pondering on and delighting in God's law.

The wise person is compared to the healthy, evergreen tree beside the flowing waters *that yield its fruit in due season.* The opposite life is like *winnowed chaff*, emptied of grain. The foundation of social stability and personal happiness lies in respect for God's law

Happy the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

The Responsorial Psalms of Sunday – Silvester O'Flynn, The Columba Press

Our Organist and Pianist, Maggie, has had a hip operation this week, so there will be no-one to play the organ for the next two months on Saturday evenings for the 6.30pm Mass. Is there anyone in the Parish who could help out by playing either the organ or piano on a Saturday evening? We have three hymns: Entrance hymn, Offertory hymn and Recessional hymn. Please see either the parish secretary or Frs. Anthony or Pius if you can be of assistance! Thank you.

Dowry Tour of Our Lady of Walsingham

St George's Cathedral, Southwark 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd February</sup> 2019.

Further details are on the church noticeboard.

#### St Patrick's Night Dinner

The St Patrick's Night Dinner will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March in the Cloister at 7.30pm. The price is £10.00 per head, drinks extra. The menu will comprise soda bread and toppings; bacon, parsley sauce, cabbage & potatoes, apple pie & custard, cheese and biscuits. Please sign up on the notice at the back of the church.

## Joel's Birthday Fundraiser!

Come along and join in with a Ceilidh & Curry Night to Celebrate the Joel Community Night Shelter's 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm at St. Peter's Church. Full details on the church noticeboard.

Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought. ~ Saint Pope John XXIII

## HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

## REFLECTION - FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY 2019 SAINT PETER'S CHAIR, FEAST

Today the church celebrates the ministry that Jesus Christ conferred on Peter as the head of the apostles and of the church. This leadership role has continued to the present Pope. Let us reflect on the trust God reposes on human beings. Salvation is so important that God took human flesh and became man. As important as salvation is, Jesus entrusted His church to peter knowing full well how weak he was. God trusts us so much but we sometimes trust ourselves less. May God open our eyes to understand how much more we can achieve if we reply on His grace.

God's Word 2019 Daily Reflections, St Pauls Publishing

## **CAFOD Family Fast Day** Friday 15th March 2019 Let's eat simply so others can simply eat!

CAFOD remind us that "No one should be beyond the reach of love and the care they need", and that "Through our global church network, we are able to reach the most vulnerable people in the most difficult locations". CAFOD however are unable to respond to one in three requests for help because they simply do not have sufficient funds to meet the demand. Once again it is suggested that we eat a simple meal in solidarity with those who live amongst drought, floods and storms. Please try to support the work of CAFOD and her sister agencies within the Caritas network.

#### The Passion of Jesus

On Good Friday, 19th April, 20,000 people will gather to watch the Easter story in Trafalgar Square. Supported by the Mayor of London, one hundred Wintershall players bring their electric and moving portrayal of the final days of Jesus to this iconic location in the capital. The 90-minute production is completely free of charge - a gift to Londoners and visitors. No tickets are required. There is a performance at 12 noon and 3:15 pm. The production is open air with visibility maximised using large screens. There is a realistic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. British sign language Further details are on the church interpretation is provided. noticeboard.

On Easter Saturday, 20th April, the Wintershall cast of players and animals moves to the High Street, Guildford, in their home county of Surrey. The play begins at the Guildhall at 12 noon and again at 2:30 pm and moves down the High Street to finish outside M&S. The free 90-minute performances take place amongst shoppers in the home town of many of the cast and crew. Come and see the High Street transformed into the stage for one of the greatest stories ever told. No tickets are required. Parental guidance is advised.

## Celebrate Twickenham! 2019



"Be strong and courageous! For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9 NLT)

The annual Charismatic Catholic Family Weekend on 15th and 16th June 2019 at St Mary's University, Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, TW1 4SX. YOU HAVE TO PRE BOOK! Unfortunately, you can't just turn up as the weekend is full to capacity. Early booking is advised especially in the children's streams to avoid missing out as they do fill up quickly. Bookings will be accepted on a first come, first served basis. The programme includes main talks, praise and worship, seminars and workshops, theatre, adoration, prayer ministry and time for chatting over a cup of tea. So that parents with children can really benefit from the weekend, there is a full programme for all young people from the age of 4 upwards plus a warm, welcoming crèche. For further information and a booking form, please see the poster on the notice board, pick up a flyer at the back of the church or visit https://www.celebrateconference.org/twickenham

## Important Upcoming Dates this Month:

Sunday 24th Feb Baptism Prep Class Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feb Parish Men's Group Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Feb Confirmation Session 5 Thursday 28th Feb **FHC Parents Meeting** 

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> Mar Confirmation 'Faith in Action' Day

#### Confirmation 2019

The next session (5) is on Monday 25th February. 'Faith in Action' Day is on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March; please ask Frs. Anthony or Pius for the permission letter. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on Sunday 31st March 2019.

#### First Holy Communion 2019

Please note the following dates for upcoming meetings and sessions: Parent's Meeting Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Feb 7.30pm Children's Session 5 Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 4 - 5pmSunday 17th March Children's Session 6 4 - 5pmChildren's Session 7 Sunday 31st March 4 - 5pmChildren's Session 8 Sunday 28th April 4 - 5pmGroup 1 Rehearsal for Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 4 - 5pmSacrament of Eucharist Group 1 Sacrament of Eucharist Sunday 5th May 12 noon

4 – 5pm Sacrament of Eucharist Group 2 Sacrament of Eucharist Sunday 12th May 12noon

Friday 10th May

Group 2 Rehearsal for

## **Baptism Preparation Class**

Our next baptism preparation class will be on Sunday 24th February 2019, at 2pm, in the cloister. Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. If you are considering your child's baptism, please complete an application form and join us for this class. Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for your child's baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for the adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

## Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish usually meet together on the third Wednesday of each month but due to a clash with another event at the Wych Elm this has now been set for the fourth Wednesday of each month. Therefore, the group will meet on the following dates in 2019: 27th February, 27th March, 24th April, 22nd May, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Please come along and join them.

#### Altar Servers' Rally 2019

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on Monday 6th May at The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent. Bishop Paul Mason is the principal celebrant. The annual rally gives servers in Southwark a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge and celebrate their special Ministry of Service in the church. Furthermore, the event encourages servers to socialise with other servers and share and renew their faith. If you have not attended before please take the time to 'come and see'. All servers and their families and friends are welcome. A poster with more details is on the church noticeboard. Altar Servers perform a very important role in liturgical services. After approx. 2 years regular serving, servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St. Stephen for Altar Servers and receive the Guild bronze medal. If you or your children are interested in joining the ministry or if you have guestions about the ministry, please speak to Frs. Anthony or Pius.

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Course

The RCIA course is intended for adults who are seeking to be baptised and for Christians baptised in another denomination who would like to become Catholics. If you fall into either of these categories please speak with Frs. Anthony or Pius. Arrangements for The Rite of Election will take place later in the year.

God is not indifferent. He does not look away from our human pain. The God of mercy responds and takes care of the poor, of those who cry out in desperation. God listens and intervenes in order to save, raising men able to hear the groan of suffering and to work in favour of the oppressed. ~ Pope Francis