

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 17TH MARCH 2024
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

Saturday 16th	
6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano RIP
Sunday 17th 5th Sunday of Lent	
9am	Caroline Baskell RIP
RCIA: Third Scrutiny	
10.30am	Keith & Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Dorothy Hall RIP
Monday 18th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 19th St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Solemnity	
9.30am	Intentions for Teresa Dooley
Wednesday 20th	
9.30am	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
7pm	Stations of the Cross
Thursday 21st	
Year 3 School Mass	
9.30am	Michel Dequidt RIP
Friday 22nd	
9.30am	Montague Laing RIP
Saturday 23rd	
9.30am	Charles Laing RIP

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.
Marriages:	Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule

POOR PARISHES COLLECTION

This weekend there is a retiring collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the poorer parishes in the Diocese. For example, your donation could help a financially poor parish replace their 30-year-old boiler which had suddenly broken down, leaving the Church without heating, or help a Church repair potentially dangerous falling walls. Please use your gift aid envelopes or the red bucket in the church porch. Thank You.

EASTER SPRING CLEAN

This year our dedicated Easter Spring Cleaning morning will be on Saturday 23rd March 2024, from 10am.

There are a variety of tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us.



"Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."

A sign-up sheet is available in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) Refreshments and all cleaning products will be provided. Everyone is welcome, teens especially, those aged 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult please. *We would also like to ensure the church grounds are looking their best too and we would welcome anyone who can bring a few spring plants or flowers along for the front gardens and help to plant them; please get in touch with the Parish Secretary if you would like to help out. Please bring your favourite garden tools and gardening gloves!*

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

We have been advised that the delivery for the new weekly envelopes has been delayed and may not be delivered before the current ones run out! Please use any envelope you have remaining, just amend the date. We will keep you informed as we know more. Apologies for any inconvenience caused. If you are not part of the Parish Gift Aid scheme and would like to join, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 10/03/2024

Gift Aid	£96.50	Loose	£373.27
TOTAL	£469.77		



This weekend there is a retiring collection for the Poor Parishes of the Diocese. 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 above will take you to our parish's 'Give A Little' web donation page.

EASTER OFFERINGS

Easter offering envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to use them for an Easter Offering for our Clergy. If you normally Gift Aid your weekly offerings, would you please print your name/number clearly on the Easter Offering Envelope. Please leave the envelopes in the box in the porch. Thank you.

Lent & Easter 2024

St Agatha's Church
Kingston upon Thames

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For a complete guide of our services over the Triduum, please pick up a copy of our Leant and Easter Programme, available in the church porch. Thank you.

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Throughout Lent the church will be open every Wednesday Evening for either Stations of the Cross or Exposition and Adoration, please see below for the full details.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS:

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Stations of the Cross will be led on Wednesday Evening, at 7pm (20<sup>th</sup> March). Friday morning after the Morning Mass (22<sup>nd</sup> March). This devotion provides an opportunity for us to walk the road to Calvary with Our Blessed Lord. *Everyone is welcome.*

## EXPOSITION AND ADORATION

### DURING LENT AND LENTEN RECONCILIATION:

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The church will be open on Wednesday 27th March, from 7pm – 8pm for Exposition and Adoration. This is a beautiful opportunity for Quiet Prayer and Adoration. Please come for as long you can, be it 5 or 10 minutes or the whole hour, everyone is welcome. Reconciliation will also be available on these dates during this hour.

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S CELEBRATIONS

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All children are welcome to join us at 12pm on Good Friday as we observe this day with a child-friendly service. During this hands-on service, children of all ages will walk together through the Stations of the Cross, learning as they go, which will be read and acted by our young people. We will need children from year 5 and above for readings, but all children will be able to take part as we will need actors for a variety of roles. Please sign up in the church entrance, or email: [kingston@kingston.org.uk](mailto:kingston@kingston.org.uk). No rehearsals but please come to the church at 11.30 to collect readings and have a quick practice. Everyone is welcome to come along!

## LENT & EASTER READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY'

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Copies of the Lent and Easter editions of 'My Day by Day', for adults and juniors, are available at the back of the Church – they cost £1.00 each. Please put money in the box marked 'My Day by Day'. This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Lent and is an excellent way to prepare for Easter.

EASTER, CONFIRMATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS

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A small selection of Easter, Confirmation and First holy Communion cards are available to purchase in the Cloister after all Masses or alternatively contact the parish office during opening hours. Cards are just £1 each! Please leave money in box available. Thank you.



## 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

Mary Chisholm, Virginio Anghileri, Anne Lally, Frederic Leo Strawson, John McSorley, Robert Thomas Amon Kotei, Patricia Scott, Maria Winifred Taylor, Alfred Shoppee, Charles Kaufman, Mary Letitia Lally, William Kitchen, Joseph William Kilkenny, Valentine Percival Hafner, Patrick Cremin, Bernadette Teresa Clarke, Edith Conlon, Stantey Cook, Peggy McManus, Norman Owen, Bridget (Bridie) Crehan, Mary McGhee, Ann Rosemary Parker, Corina Gomes, Mary Jennings, John Fennell, Marie Teresa Finnegan, Elisabeth Thyrsa Quinn, Ethel Myall, Joe Walsh, Joan Heelan, Oscar Verhoven.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++

## St Agatha's Catholic Primary School Spend-A-Penny Fundraising Campaign



## ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL

### 'SPEND A PENNY' FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

Together with the Parent Staff Association (PSA), St Agatha's Catholic Primary School have recently launched a fundraising campaign to raise funds for a much-needed refurbishment of the children's bathroom facilities.

Any donations towards this project would be greatly appreciated, so if you are 'feeling flush' please visit our Go Fund Me campaign at:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/st-agathas-spend-a-penny-fundraising-campaign>

or alternatively you can just scan the QR code to make a donation!

Thank you in advance for your support!



**DONS Local**

**Action Group**

## SUPPORTING DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP

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. Please see the newsletter insert for an update on the support that the Dons Local Action Group have provided in 2023 and January 2024, which has seen a significant increase!

**Fifth Sunday of Lent, Cycle B**  
**Sunday, March 17, 2024**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Psalm 51:3-4,12-13,14-15*

*A prayer for God's mercy and forgiveness*

**GOSPEL READING**

*John 12:20-33*

*Jesus teaches his disciples about the way in which he will be glorified by God, and a voice from heaven is heard to affirm this teaching.*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

Today's Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John's Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John's Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John's Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus' conflict with the Jewish authorities. John's Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus.

Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John's account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as an example of how they must serve one another.

The final section of today's Gospel might be read as John's parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus' anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today's reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus' prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus' baptism and at Jesus' Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John's Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him.

In today's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

**FAMILY REFLECTION**

Family life is often a balancing act in which we prioritize and attend to a variety of competing needs. We learn the value of putting others' needs ahead of our own. In family life we also learn that when we make personal sacrifices to serve others, we gain so much more than we may have lost.

As you gather as a family, talk about how important it is to your family life to gladly serve one another. Ask each person to consider the last time that another family member asked for help. What was your response? Did you cheerfully try to honour the request, or did you ask "Why me?" Read today's Gospel, John 12:20-33. How do you think Jesus would want us to respond when someone in our family asks for help? Invite each family member to make a commitment for the next week to try to respond cheerfully to requests for help. Pray together, asking God's help with this commitment. Pray the Prayer of Saint Ignatius of Loyola.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**RESPONSE:**

**YOU LOVE US WITH AN EVERLASTING LOVE**



### 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.



### MARRIAGES IN 2024/25

2024 or 2025 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 Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

### CONFIRMATION 2024

The next candidate session will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.15pm.



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

An important email update has been sent to all parents with regards to session due to be held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March (Session 5). The next session will be held on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024. The children's books will be returned at this session.



### BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please attend our next class being held on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm. Please complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.



Our subsequent class will be held in June 2024. Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is recommended that Godparents also attend.

"Some people cannot overcome the

embarrassment of going to confession.

Feeling ashamed means you are not happy

about what you have done. This is a good

sign, but never allow shame to imprison

you, because God is not ashamed of you. He

always loves you."

~ Pope Francis - Lent Reflections

### MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE SOUTHWARK

#### FOR THE BEREAVED

*Grief In Loss: Hope In Christ* is a weekend for those who have been bereaved. This weekend, from March 22-24, will take place away from the pressures of day-to-day life and can help one begin to come to terms with bereavement. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance.

Due to the special nature of this weekend retreat, held at Aylesford Priory in Kent, places are ordinarily limited and subject to a telephone call to determine if it is right for you. Please call: 01622 717 272 to discuss.

#### MAKING A NEW START

Beginning Experience is a residential weekend programme for widowed, separated and divorced people which helps participants with natural feelings of grief and loss. The weekend is led by trained volunteers who have experienced having to adjust to life as single people again. The next programme will be on April 12-14. For details phone 0208 647 4760 or email [besouthofengland@gmail.com](mailto:besouthofengland@gmail.com)

#### THE ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS

The date is July 13, 3pm at St George's Cathedral. Couples celebrating a special anniversary – one, 10, 25, 40, 50 or 60 or more years – and wishing to receive a personal invitation from Archbishop John, should email [mflsw@rcao.s.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcao.s.org.uk)

#### 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!*

#### THE ROSARY

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



#### DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

We 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

