



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

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

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CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest
Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest
Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER 2019
THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY (C)**

Saturday 16th

9.30am Mary & Bill Kerrigan RIP
6.30pm Ollie Murphy

Sunday 17th

9.00am **Thirty-Third Sunday**
Arthur & Robin O'Connor RIP
First Holy Communion Inscription Mass
10.30am William Curtin RIP
6.30pm Thanksgiving for the Lally Family

Monday 18th

9.30am **The Dedication of the Basilicas of the Ss Peter and Paul, Apostles**
William Beresford RIP

Tuesday 19th

9.30am Wellbeing of Philip Cockle

Wednesday 20th

10.00am Angelo Piccirillo RIP

Thursday 21st
Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial

9.30am Holy Souls

Friday 22nd
St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial

9.30am Michelle Caspersz RIP

Saturday 23rd

9.30am Keane Barlow RIP
6.30pm Teresa & Luigi & Pascuale Pozella RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am, 6-6.15pm & at call.
Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12.30pm.
Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (7th December) 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, Tess Bird, Clare Horgan, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor and Ryan Morrison. *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

Katherine Cutmore, Patricia Ruddy, William MacBride, Shirley Constable, Silvio Antonio De Bellis, Martha Bridget O'Kane, Dora Dombre, Denis Healy, Charles Little, Imelda Mary Filose, Paul Plantin, Felix Marks, Jean Nicoll, Madeline Plantin, Liam Mulvihill, Noel Heighton, Charles William Squires, Ronald Gordon Stone, James Heppel, Thomas McGarry, Rita Butler, Margaret Jennings, Charles Laing, Lucy Daubney, Michael Joseph Heelan, Kathleen Carter, Mary Thomas, William Yates, Beryl Hale, Margaret Donohoe, Alan Humberstone, Peter Harford, Kathleen Goddard, John Doyle, Joseph Marks, Charles Bergin, Lorna Mainwaring, Alice Wimbush, Monica Verhoven, Margaret Murphy, Beatrice Margaret Walter.
++ May they rest in Peace ++

LATELY DEAD

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Angelo Piccirillo, who died on Wednesday 13th November 2019. Funeral details will follow... 'Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C
Sunday 17th November 2019

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19 Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and warns his followers that persecution will come before the end time.

Reflection

In the context of Luke, today's Gospel appears near the end of Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem, just prior to the events that will lead to his crucifixion. His warnings and predictions are ominous but can be read in many ways.

To those who first heard Luke's Gospel, those may have been words of encouragement. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans was history (70 A.D.); Luke's Gospel, Catholic scholars propose, was written between 80 and 90 A.D. His audience was probably Gentile Christians. Luke here tries to interpret the fall of Jerusalem for them and to locate it in God's plans for humankind (salvation history). At the same time, Luke is suggesting to his audience that there will be a considerable elapse of time before Jesus' final coming. Luke's listeners have likely seen much upheaval and are anxious to know if these are the signs of Jesus' coming. Luke is urging greater patience.

In the second part of today's Gospel, Jesus warns that his followers will face persecution for their beliefs. Luke presents persecution as an opportunity for the followers of Jesus for "It will lead to your giving testimony" (Luke 21:13). In persecution God's wisdom and power will be shown in the example of followers of Jesus. Perseverance in the face of persecution will lead to their salvation.

Here Jesus is assuring his followers that God is present to all believers, even in times of trouble. Ultimately, Jesus will witness to this with his own death. As disciples of Jesus, we try to follow his example, trusting in God's mercy and protection, even when we are facing difficulties.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Change to Mass Schedule

Please note that on Wednesday 20th November the Mass will be at 10am; accordingly, exposition will be at 9am and morning prayer at 9.30am. On this day we will welcome many members of the Missionary of St Paul (MSP) to St Agatha for their annual meeting. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for the Mass.

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19 Jesus predicts the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and warns his followers that persecution will come before the end time.

Family Reflection

Children, while innocently naïve about most world events, are also profoundly sensitive to the concerns felt by adults. We can help children interpret adult concerns by sharing information about current events in appropriate ways. We can also put these concerns in the light of God's kingdom and the assurance of God's care for us.

Discuss with your children one or more current events or a situation in your family which shows difficulties that may challenge our trust in a God who cares for us. Then read together today's Gospel, Luke 21:5-19. Notice how Jesus said that even when his disciples are persecuted, God would be with them.

Together with your children, talk about ways in which God might bring good out of the difficult events you discussed. Talk together about some actions you might take as a family to make better the situations you discussed. Conclude by praying for the needs of the people involved in the events you named. In prayer, place each of these difficult situations into God's hands.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

First Holy Communion 2020

The Mass of Inscription is this **Sunday 17th November 2019, 10.30am.**

November – Month of All Souls

In the month of November, we remember all our loved ones whom God has called from this life and pray for them at our daily Masses. Envelopes are available at back of church for you to put in the list of all loved ones in your family and friends whom have died. You can place a donation for the Masses inside the envelope. Please hand it to Fr. Anthony or Fr. Pius, or leave it in the basket in front of the Altar.

Altar Servers Training

All Altar Servers are asked to come along to a brief training session on **Sunday 24th November at 11.30am.** The session will last approximately an hour and parents of under 18s are asked to please remain in the church during the training. If you would like to join our brilliant team of Altar Servers at St Agatha's, please do come along and join them.

Prayer is the key of the morning and the bolt of the evening. ~ Mahatma Gandhi

Primary School 2020 Application Forms

The time of year has come when many parents are thinking about places in a Catholic Primary School. Regular Mass attendance is a requirement for a reference to be completed. If you have recently moved to the area you should seek a priest reference from your previous parish which we will then countersign.

A priest will be available to sign Primary school application forms from **4-6pm on Thursday 28th November 2019.** No appointment is necessary, please call at the Presbytery. Please ensure that you complete as much of the forms as possible and if you have any reference letters, please also bring these along with you. Please bring all relating documents with you at this time, **especially Baptism Certificates.** The closing date for the application is 15th January 2020.

Advent Study and Reflection

During Advent we shall study and reflect upon the four beautiful passages from the Prophet Isaiah that form the first reading at our Advent Sunday masses. The passages are:

Isaiah 11: 1-10 – Peace and Repentance

Isaiah 40: 1-11 – Good News

Isaiah 35: 1-10 – Joyful Hope

Isaiah 9: 2-7 – Saviour

The group will meet at the church on **Thursday evenings at 8pm on 28th November and 5th, 12th and 19th December.** There is no need to book places but it would help identify the most suitable venue if those intending to come could notify Fr Anthony, the Parish Office or John de Quidt in advance. Reading the passages before the meetings would also be a good idea.



Flower Arrangers

Attention flowers arrangers! Please join the flower arranging team on Saturday 30th November after morning mass at 10am, for a brief discussion, diary planning and flower arranging. New arrangers are welcome to join us.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next Baptism preparation class is on **Sunday 1st December 2019.** Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. If you are considering your child's baptism in the next few months, please complete an application form and join us for this class. *Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for a 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. .

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**CHAPTER ONE
MAN'S CAPACITY FOR GOD**

III. The Knowledge of God According to the Church

"Our holy mother, the Church, holds and teaches that God, the first principle and last end of all things, can be known with certainty from the created world by the natural light of human reason." Without this capacity, man would not be able to welcome God's revelation. Man has this capacity because he is created "in the image of God".

In the historical conditions in which he finds himself, however, man experiences many difficulties in coming to know God by the light of reason alone:

Though human reason is, strictly speaking, truly capable by its own natural power and light of attaining to a true and certain knowledge of the one personal God, who watches over and controls the world by his providence, and of the natural law written in our hearts by the Creator; yet there are many obstacles which prevent reason from the effective and fruitful use of this inborn faculty. For the truths that concern the relations between God and man wholly transcend the visible order of things, and, if they are translated into human action and influence it, they call for self-surrender and abnegation. The human mind, in its turn, is hampered in the attaining of such truths, not only by the impact of the senses and the imagination, but also by disordered appetites which are the consequences of original sin. So, it happens that men in such matters easily persuade themselves that what they would not like to be true is false or at least doubtful.

This is why man stands in need of being enlightened by God's revelation, not only about those things that exceed his understanding, but also "about those religious and moral truths which of themselves are not beyond the grasp of human reason, so that even in the present condition of the human race, they can be known by all men with ease, with firm certainty and with no admixture of error".

Libreria Editrice Vaticana

Our body is like armour, our souls like the warrior.
Take care of both, and you will be ready for what comes. ~ St. Amma Sycletice.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Sunday 17 th Nov	FHC Inscription Mass
Thurs 21 st Nov	Year 5 School Mass
Friday 22 nd Nov	St Agatha's Church Youth Group
Sunday 24 th Nov	Altar Servers Training
Wed 27 th Nov	Parish Men's Group
Thurs 28 th Nov	Primary School Application Signing
Thurs 28 th Nov	Advent Study and Reflection Group
Friday 29 th Nov	St Agatha's Church Youth Group
Saturday 30 th Nov	Flower Arrangers Meeting
Sunday 1 st Dec	Baptism Preparation Class

Offerings

First collection	Gift Aid	£572.91	Loose	£524.70
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£14.40	Loose	£64.00

TOTAL £1176.01

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

The retiring collection for last weekend was for the Archbishop's Administration Fund: this helps to meet the cost of the central administration of the Diocese.

The Spiritan's Mission Appeal

Next weekend we will be joined by Fr. Patrice Anyanwu, who will be doing a mission appeal for the Spiritan's at all masses. We know that you will make him feel very welcome

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish meet together once a month at the Wych Elm. The group will meet on **Wednesday 27th November** for the final time in 2019. Please come along and join them from 8pm.

Tea and Coffee

Tea, coffee and cakes will be served in the Cloister after the Sunday 9am Mass on the **last Sunday of each month**: do come and join us to meet and greet others, and our clergy, especially if you are new to the parish. If you attend this Mass and would like to help once a month, please email the parish office.

Please see the Parish noticeboard for more details of the following:

- **The Mustard Seed** (Please note a change of Date in Nov)
- **Conquest Art Group at St Pius**
- **London SW Catholic Social Group**
- **A Day with Mary**

Christmas Raffle

Each year, a small but dedicated team of volunteers run the senior's lunch, and a raffle which plays a big part in helping raise funds. This year we would like to expand the raffle and therefore any donations, big or small, would be very much appreciated and will help make a big difference to the funds raised. Thank you to those who have already given, please do keep the donations coming! Suggestions include: Bottles of wine/spirits, chocolates, biscuits, vouchers, toys/children's gifts. A basket is available in the church porch for your donations, alternatively please contact the Parish Office to discuss further.

Seniors Christmas Lunch

Our Seniors Christmas lunch will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 12.30pm in the Cloister. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the list in the church porch.

Christmas Eve Christingle Service

Christmas is coming.... which means that we are getting closer to our Christingle Service. This is a very special way of celebrating the real meaning of Christmas with all our friends, family and the whole St Agatha's community.

EVERYONE is welcome! CHRISTMAS EVE in the Church at 4 p.m. Actors – Years 3-6 only Readers – Year 6 and secondary school children. All the younger children are invited to dress up as a shepherd, king, angel, donkey etc..

IF YOUR CHILD WANTS TO TAKE PART AND ACT, OR DO A READING PLEASE SIGN THE POSTER AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH from Sunday 24th November. The deadline is Sunday 8th December, so please sign up asap. (NB Please leave a mobile number and email address and we will notify you of your child's part the following week). Please make sure you are available on the rehearsal dates below before you sign up. **Parent volunteers** - If there are any parents who would like to help with dressing the children, make-up, lighting or rehearsing with the actors or readers we are very keen to hear from you too. Please sign up at the church or email Helen Mennis helenmennis@gmail.com or Louisa Collyer-Hamlin louisacollyerhamlin@yahoo.co.uk

Rehearsal dates and Christingle making

Sunday 15th December Costume fitting and giving out readings - 11.30 – 12.30pm (after 10.30 mass)

Monday 23rd December Practice in church 10am – 12.30pm Full dress rehearsal and Christingle making in the Cloisters.

Monday 24th December Christingle Service 4pm (costumes & make-up from 3pm)

CHRISTINGLE MAKING: Monday 23rd December

All ages are welcome to join us in the Cloisters to make our 250 Christingles and have a drink and biscuit (Mums and Dads especially welcome! We'll even give you a cuppa!). This is a tradition that the whole parish gets involved in and the more the merrier.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there!

Pre-Christmas Spruce Up

We have a tremendous team of helpers in this church who work very hard to keep our Church and Grounds beautiful all year round for which we are very blessed and grateful!! Can we please ask for 'EXTRAS' (volunteers to come and help with our twice yearly spruce up both inside and outside, within the church grounds, to boost the efforts of our regular team by tackling jobs like brass cleaning and ironing of altar cloths etc... in time for our special Christmas celebrations!..) This year our dedicated morning will be on **Saturday 14th December**. There are a variety of indoor and outdoor 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. A sign-up sheet will be in the church porch for volunteers to sign up please. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Frs. Anthony and Pius will be delighted!) All teenagers will be made especially welcome, together with those aged 11 – 13 (accompanied by an adult please) but for safety purposes, sadly, no smaller children.



Christmas Decorations

We would like to ask if anyone has any spare Red, Gold or silver Christmas decorations or indoor/outdoor lights that they could donate? Or that when you go shopping you buy an extra decoration. No matter how big or small the decoration we would love the donations. If you do find that you have any additional festive trimmings that are no longer required then please pop into the parish office. If you can donate just one Christmas decoration this year you can help make our church more beautiful for this joyous time of year.

Also, this year we are inviting the children to bring in a homemade decoration to add to our Christmas Trees. There are no rules to what it must look like, only that it must be homemade! We would ask that you bring these in by Friday 13th December as we will be decorating the trees that weekend. We are looking forward to seeing what you all create!



Centre for Catholic Formation Christmas Card Competition 2019

Children aged between 6 and 11 years old are invited to take part in the CCF competition to design a Nativity themed Christmas card based on one of the Gospel accounts for example; The Angel Gabriel announcing the Good News to Mary; The Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the Visit of the Shepherds or Wise Men. For more details please see the Parish noticeboard. All entries directly to the CCF by Monday 9th December.