



**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  
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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](mailto: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 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2024**

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	
6.30pm	Birthday Intentions for Alice
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	
9am	Alfred & Edith Knight RIP
10.30am	Maria McCarthy RIP
6.30pm	Keith Fraser RIP
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Wellbeing of George
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	
9.30am	Deceased Members Of The Perera Family
7pm	STATIONS OF THE CROSS
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St Peter, Apostle, Feast</b>	
9.30am	Mary Theresa Caverley RIP
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> CAFOD Family Fast Day</b>	
9.30am	Thanksgiving Intentions for Irin
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Wellbeing of George

- 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

**PARISH OFFERINGS**

**SUNDAY COLLECTION: 11/02/2024**

Collection	Gift Aid	£181.5	Loose	£562.73
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£744.23</b>		

This Sunday we have a collection for the annual collection for the Clergy Support Fund. 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.



**Divine Mercy  
Apostolate**

This weekend we will be joined by Father Lukasz Mazurek, of the Marian Fathers, and the Director of the Divine Mercy Apostolate, at every Mass, to tell us about the Divine Mercy Devotion.

We know that you will make him feel very welcome.

**CLERGY SUPPORT FUND COLLECTION**

This weekend there will be the annual collection for the Clergy Support Fund. The clergy in our Archdiocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have one for parishes.

You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at [www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF](http://www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF) or scan QR code.

You can also donate via telephone office hours Mon-Fri **020 7960 2504**.

In church, please use the envelopes available, your gift aid envelopes, or please pop any loose change in the red bucket in the church porch.



Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers.



**CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024.**

You are invited to join us on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024, between 12 and 1pm, for a simple soup lunch and raise money to help our catholic family, wherever they live. A bowl of soup and bread roll will cost just £1.50. All proceeds will be go towards the work of CAFOD. Thank you.

**CRIB OFFERINGS 2023**

Thank you for your generosity to the crib offerings during Advent and Christmas. We are very pleased to let you know that the parish raised £340.40.

At the request of Archbishop John Wilson, the crib offerings are to 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/>



**MARY'S MEALS  
FOREIGN CURRENCY CAMPAIGN**

We are very pleased to let you know that the parish raised a total of £557.68 during last year's Foreign Currency Campaign. Thank you to everyone that contributed. The envelopes remain in the church porch, and we will hold another campaign in the summer, so please keep collecting those coins!



*Mary's Meals have sent the following message: "Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their wonderful generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. It raised a terrific £557.68 which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 29 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all."*

**ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING**

All Altar Servers are asked to come along to a brief training session on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2024 at 5pm. The session will last approximately an hour and parents of under 16s 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; we especially welcome those who completed their First Holy Communion last year.



**HOST OUR LADY OF LOURDES STATUE  
IN YOUR HOME FOR MAY DEVOTIONS**

Our Lady's Statue will now begin her home visitations again.

If you would like to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue in your home, please fill out the form available in the church porch and return it to the Parish Office.

Please note, this is only a request which will be confirmed via a phone call to you. A date cannot be guaranteed and is subject to demand.



"Confession is the Sacrament that lifts us up again. We are not left on the ground, weeping on the hard floor of our falls. It is the Sacrament of resurrection; it is pure mercy. Priests who hear confessions must convey the sweetness of mercy." ~  
Pope Francis – Lent Reflections



**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	Exposition and Adoration
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> February	Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:**

Throughout Lent, Stations of the Cross will be led every Friday morning, after the Morning Mass (16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March). In addition, on alternating Wednesday Evenings, at 7pm (21<sup>st</sup> February, 6<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</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:**

The church will be open on alternating Wednesday evenings during Lent from 7pm – 8pm for Exposition and Adoration. (28<sup>th</sup> February, 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March). 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.

**LENT READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY'**

Copies of the Lent edition 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.

**SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION LENTEN REFLECTIONS 2024**

*Sign up to the Southwark Spirituality Commission's Lenten Reflections*

Lent is always a time of prayer and reflection.

A chance for us to renew ourselves and build a closer connection with the Lord Jesus.

To help you on your Lenten journey, the Southwark Spirituality Commission will be once again publishing daily reflections which can be sent straight into your inbox.

They're a great tool to use to reflect on your life and help you draw closer to Christ.

To sign up and for more information on the Spirituality Commission, please visit: <https://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

The Spirituality Commission is part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark.





**First Sunday of Lent, Cycle B**  
**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

*Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9*

*A prayer praising God for his covenant*

**GOSPEL READING**

*Mark 1:12-15*

*Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.*

**GOSPEL REFLECTION**

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfilment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.

**PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL**

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent, Cycle B

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**RESPONSE: BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL**

**FAMILY REFLECTION**

The announcement that Jesus makes as he begins his preaching in today's Gospel is recalled on Ash Wednesday at the signing with ashes: "Repent and believe in the gospel." This is our challenge for Lent; indeed, it is the challenge of our entire life. During Lent, we are invited to strengthen and to renew the promises that we made at our Baptism, to reject Satan and sin so as to live as children of God. Through the grace of God that we received at Baptism, we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and know that with Jesus' help, we will be victorious over sin.

As you gather as a family, talk about the importance of Baptism. At our Baptism, our sins were forgiven, and we promised to live as children of God. As part of the Rite of Baptism, we rejected sin and Satan. Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:12-15. During Lent, we renew the promises of our Baptism, turning again from sin and promising to follow God. Light a candle, perhaps a candle used at one of your family member's Baptisms, and pray together the Act of Contrition.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

**LATELY DEAD**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Gavan Edward Kelly**, of Kings Road, Kingston upon Thames, who died at Kingston Hospital on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024 aged 95 years. His funeral will take place here at St Agatha's on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

'Eternal rest grant to him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

**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**

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, John Connell, Susan Thomas.

**+++May They Rest In Peace +++**



## CONFIRMATION 2024

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS YEARS PROGRAMME IS FULL. WE CANNOT ACCEPT ANY LATE APPLICATIONS.**

There will be an Introduction and Family Meeting for Candidates and their families on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Candidates to arrive for a 7.15pm start and parents to arrive at 8.15pm.

The first candidate session will be on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at 7.15pm.

The Confirmation Inscripton Mass will be on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6.30pm**: Candidates MUST arrive by 6pm



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

The next session is being held on: Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024. 11.45am to 1pm (Session 4).

Please note there will NOT be a Parents session held as previously scheduled.



## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please attend our next class being held this Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> February 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 on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is recommended that Godparents also attend.



## PARISH MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be on **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2024**. Please note that they will be meeting at The Albert on Kingston Hill, instead of the usual location, The Wych Elm. Please come along and join them from 8pm. Everyone is welcome.



## 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



### 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!**

## KINGSTON STREET PASTORS ARE RECRUITING FOR A NEW DEPUTY COORDINATOR

An exciting opportunity to play a major role in the leadership and development of Street Pastors in Kingston. Part time role: Up to 20hrs per week. Salary range: Up to £15k - £16k. Closing date for applications: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 11.30pm.



Full job specification and how to apply can be found at: [Deputy Coordinator - CharityJob.co.uk](https://www.charityjob.co.uk)

## HEADTEACHER VACANCY – ST MARY MAGDALEN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, MORTLAKE

An exciting opportunity has arisen at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School in Mortlake for a highly skilled and inspirational Headteacher to play a critical part in supporting young people to achieve their very best. An application form, further details and a job description can be downloaded from our website, our e-teach home page, TES or directly from the school office. For more information please contact the school office on 020 8876 6679.



<https://www.eteach.com/job/headteacher-1400612>

## ST JOSEPH'S MEDJUGORJE PILGRIMAGE 2024

Parishioners of St Agatha's have been invited to join the St Josephs Medjugorje Pilgrimage with Fr Uche. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May to Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May 2024 approx £829, including flights from Luton, luggage, airport transfer, accommodation, breakfast and one main meal a day plus full pilgrimage programme. SPACES ARE STILL AVAILABLE. Please contact Anne D'Silva at St Joseph's – details available on the parish notice board.

## SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICE

The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has several activities in 2024 for youth and young adults. For regular updates on forthcoming events, please sign up to our network at:

[www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork](http://www.tinyurl.com/scysnetwork)

For a full list of of events please visit:

<https://rcsouthwark.co.uk/mission/southwark-catholic-youth-service/events-2024/>

## 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.

The residential cost is £230 for a single, £210 for a shared room. 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.

## 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 Abp John, should email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk)