



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.

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

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST & SUNDAY 25TH AUGUST(C)**

Saturday 17th	
9.30am	No Intentions
6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 18th Twentieth Sunday	
9.00am	No Intentions
10.30am	Wellbeing of Fr. Gerry O'Brien
6.30pm	Michael Monk RIP
Monday 19th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 20th St Bernard, Abbot, Memorial	
9.30am	Andrew De Quidt RIP
Wednesday 21st St Pius X, Pope, Memorial	
9.30am	No Intentions
Thursday 22nd Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial	
7.30am	No Intentions
Friday 23rd	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Saturday 24th St Bartholomew, Apostle, Feast	
9.30am	No Intentions
6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano RIP
Sunday 25th Twenty-First Sunday	
9.00am	Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am	People of the Parish
6.30pm	TBA
Monday 26th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 27th St Monica, Memorial	
9.30am	Private Intention for Birthday
Wednesday 28th St Augustine, Bishop, Memorial	
9.30am	TBA
Thursday 29th The Passion of St John the Baptist, Memorial	
7.30am	TBA
Friday 30th Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, Martyrs, Memorial	
9.30am	TBA
Saturday 31st	
9.30am	TBA
6.30pm	People of the Parish

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions: Saturday 10.00-10.30am, 18.00-18.15pm & at call.
Baptisms: By previous arrangement on Sundays at 12.30pm.
Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.
ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (7th September) WE WILL HAVE ONE HOUR OF EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT. BETWEEN 10AM AND 11AM.

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C
Gospel Reading**

Luke 12:49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished!

'Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

Reflection

Jesus says, 'I have come to bring fire on earth, and how I wish it were blazing already.' Further he says, 'Do you suppose I have come to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, rather division.' There is no neutral position when it comes to Jesus Christ, our Lord. It is either you love him or you hate him, accept him or reject him. There will always be a division when it comes to the issue of Jesus Christ and his teaching.

Therefore, the Gospel of today urges us to not be afraid by the division caused by the Word of God. It is inevitable because it comes from the reactions of the "old world" that does not want to disappear and tries to find ways to survive.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel. But it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

God's Word 2019 Daily Reflections, St Pauls Publishing

PARISH OFFICE

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from Thursday 15th to Tuesday 27th August. Fr. Anthony will still be available in case of emergency or a pressing enquiry. For non-urgent enquiries please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk

SUMMER HOLIDAYS: For all those on holiday over the remaining weeks we hope that you have a refreshing and relaxing time, for those travelling, we pray that you will have a safe journey. For those visiting families, may it be moments to cherish and for those going on pilgrimage over the summer period, please keep the parish in your prayers. May God be with you all over this period. Pray for God's protection and safety for all families wherever they may be. God Bless you all.

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:49-53 – Jesus has come not only to bring peace but also division.

Family Reflection

Families strive for unity and togetherness. Nobody enjoys occasions when divisions in family life become all too evident. Yet, in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus says that he has come to bring division and that members of households will be divided.

Talk as a family about the things that you do together to bring about family unity (togetherness), such as sharing meals, going to church together, celebrating special occasions, or sharing family traditions. Explain that all of these things are important and that Jesus wants families to show this kind of love for one another. Point out that this Sunday's Gospel sounds as though Jesus is saying something very different. Tell your children to listen closely as you read aloud Luke 12:49-53.

Explain that sometimes as parents, you have to make decisions that are unpopular with your children. You don't do it to divide the family but because it is the right thing to do. In the short run, such decisions may "divide" children from their parents. In the long run, however, doing the right thing will bring about a deeper unity.

Talk to your children about decisions that they have to make that might be unpopular with their friends and how these decisions may divide them from others. Encourage them to pray to the Holy Spirit for the gift of courage (fortitude) so that they may do the right thing even if unpopular. Conclude by praying a spontaneous prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking for the gift of courage (fortitude).

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

The annual day of recollection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers

The annual day of recollection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers for South West Area will take place at St. Boniface, Tooting SW17 9PG, on **Saturday 26th October 2019**. As we are preparing to keep "Year of the Word" from 1st



December, the reflections of the day will be based on the Gospel of Matthew and the day itself will be given by Fr. Adrian Graffy.



Please collect an invitation and programme form from the back of the church; please return the reply slip to the the parish office by 30th September 2019. All the ministers of word and extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist are requested to attend the day. Thank you.

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£445.40	Loose	£453.21
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£10.00	Loose	£511.61

TOTAL £1420.22

MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL, MSP, APPEAL

Last weekend we welcomed Fr. Franklin Achionye, MSP, who did a Mission appeal for the MSP; thank you for your continued support.

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. *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

Dorothy Mercer, Alfred Godfrey, Mary Lewendon, William Walsh, Bridie Mapstone, Roger Edward Cubitt, David Brayshaw, Henry McArdle, Tessa Pitts, Thomas Flaherty, Wilfrid William Hayward, Josephine Carroll, Ann Power, Giuseppe Sammarco, Libera Ricci Strafino, Marie Louise Crunelle, William Fry, Marion Sim, Eileen Porter, Bridget Barlow, Bill Marsh, Andrew de Quidt, Brendan Cornelius Lucy, Marco Vincenzo Straccialano, Rose Cusiack, Hilda Wells, Helen O'Leary, Marie Louise Fox, Christopher Doyle, Bridget Costello, Peggy Doreen Spong, Sabina Rocca, Charles Williams, Ada Maria Browne, James Shanahan, Edward Thomas Burton, Mabel Patrick, Matthew O'Connor, Maria Capaldi, Margaret Humberstone. Ronald Darnell, Laura Mary Gryspeerdt, William Robert Fewings, Fr. Denis Callan, Constance Mary Brewster, Mary Ellen O'Connor, Marguerite Guest, Mary Metochis, Ernest Woodhams, Thomas Turnbull, Zofia Jaroszynska, Margaret Boyden, John Fenton, Barry Hodges, Stephen O'Dwyer, Clara Dracas, Herbert Duckett, Charles Cutmore, Louisa Strong.

++++ **May they rest in Peace** +++++

LET US REMEMBER ALL WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Let us remember those who have died and their families with love and affection during this time of grief.

MARRIAGE



Our congratulations and best wishes to Christina and Steven who were married here on Saturday 17th August 2019. May the Lord bless them as they begin their married lives together.

SECONDARY SCHOOL 2019 APPLICATION FORMS

The time of year has come when many parents are thinking about places in a Catholic 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 secondary school application forms on **Friday 27th September between 2pm and 4pm**. No appointment is necessary, please call at the Presbytery. Please complete as much of the forms as possible and if you have any reference letters, please bring these along with you. Please bring all relating documents with you at this time, especially Baptism Certificates.

May the power of Christ, which brings freedom and service, be felt in so many hearts afflicted by war, persecution and slavery. ~ Pope Francis

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Sunday 25th August 2019

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:22-30 – People will come from north and south, east and west, and take their place in the Kingdom of God.

Reflection

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God.

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendants back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Sunday 25th August 2019

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:22-30 – People will come from north and south, east and west, and take their place in the Kingdom of God.

Family Reflection

Families take advantage of certain days throughout the year to celebrate individuals in the family and to make sure that they know that they are not taken for granted. As a family, recall all of the days that someone in the family was celebrated in the past year—birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, anniversaries, graduations, and so on. Next, challenge each individual to recall what gifts were received on the day(s) on which he or she was celebrated.

Emphasize that these days are intended to express appreciation in a special way but are not meant to replace the appreciation that we should always show. Point out how, at times, families can take one another for granted. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about some people who took something for granted and paid a price. Read aloud Luke 13:22-30. Explain that, in this story, some people took it for granted that they could enter the house whenever they wanted, but the master locked the gate and would not let them in after hours. Point out that Jesus was warning his listeners not to assume that they will have eternal life in heaven and not to take this invitation for granted.

As a family, commit to showing appreciation for one another in the days ahead, striving to not take for granted any of the many things that family members do in their roles as parents and children.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

'GOD WHO SPEAKS'

2020 A Year of The Word

Celebrating, living and sharing God's Word

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word to celebrate the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini - Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord', and the 1600th anniversary of death of St Jerome, who translated the Bible into Latin.

Therefore, 2020 will be a year of celebrating, living and sharing God's word, through a range of events, activities and resources, available across the Diocese of Southwark.

Where does the Bible fit into your daily life?

Ahead of 2020 Year of the Word, our Bishops would like to hear how people currently make use of Holy Scripture. The information, which is submitted anonymously, will help to plan events and resources that will help you and those you meet to hear more effectively The God Who Speaks.

Please take part in the 'The God who Speaks' survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LDGRCYM>

Thank you

Truth and justice must stand above my comfort and physical well-being, or else my life itself becomes a lie. ~ Pope Benedict XVI

St Agatha's Church Youth Club

We would also like to thank the parishioners who have already come forward to help, however, **we urgently need more volunteers**, of all ages, to help behind the scenes with the various tasks involved with running the club, such as setting up and clearing away equipment, to ensure the club can continue. No experience of youth work is necessary. Could you spare just a few hours a month? Please speak with Frs. Anthony or Pius or contact the parish office for further details.



Music at Masses

During the summer holidays traditionally, our musicians take a well-earned break for the month of August. This means that our songs during Mass may not be accompanied by musical instruments. However, if you would like to play any musical instrument at any Mass during this summertime, please let the priests know. We are still in need of more musicians to join when the musicians resume in September! A big thankyou to our musicians for all that they do for the parish!

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish meet together once a month at the Wych Elm. The group will meet on the following dates in 2019, please note changes to some previously announced dates: **28th August**, 11th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Please come along and join them from 8pm.

Michael Monk RIP

It is with great sadness that we let you know that Michael Monk died peacefully on Saturday 20th July. Michael was the son of former St Agatha's headteacher Mr Paddy Monk, from 1990 until 2013 and who is known to so many of the St Agatha's Church and school family.

All are warmly invited to a Mass for the Monk Family's intentions on **Saturday 14th September at 11am**. This will be followed by light refreshments in the cloister and church grounds. This Mass replaces the "Team Monk" tea party which was to be held in the grounds of the school on the same day and Mr Monk is planning to join us. For further information please contact Josie Bate directly:

goldenjosie@googlemail.com

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next baptism preparation class will be held on **Sunday 22nd September 2019**. If you are considering your child's baptism, please complete an application form, available from the back of the church and return to the Parish Office and register for this class. Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for a child's baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday 28 th August	Parish Men's Group
Monday 2 nd September	St Agatha's School INSET Day
Tuesday 3 rd September	St Agatha's School INSET Day
Saturday 7 th September	Monthly Adoration

A Time for Mourning: A Retreat/Workshop for those suffering from the pain of loss

Anger, resentment, depression... Those are some of the feelings often experienced in grief. When will they end? How to cope? Such questions are common among those who have been bereaved. Perhaps you need to take a look at, "where and who I am since I lost my loved one." This workshop, away from the pressures of day to day life, can help. It is a time for quiet, prayer, talking and acceptance. A SPACE JUST FOR YOU. Led by Elizabeth Partridge M.A.(pms) BSc. Dip. Couns. Cert. Relationship Couns and Fr Francis Kemsley O.Carm.

Friday 11th – Sunday 13th October. It takes place at Aylesford Priory and is residential. For more details telephone Elizabeth Partridge on 01303 670880 or email earpartridge@gmail.com or pick a up a leaflet at the back of the church.

An Introduction to Liturgy

The Centre for Catholic Formation (CCF) will host their annual introductory course to Liturgy and Worship which is held each autumn over two Saturdays at CCF, 21 Tooting Bec Road, SW17 8BS. **Saturdays 9th November and 23rd November 2019**, 10.30am – 4pm. £25 per person. If you want to find out more or wish to register for the course please contact ccrs@ccftootingbec.org.uk or call 020 8672 7684.

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

- **The Mustard Seed**
- **St John's Seminary Chapel Appeal**
- **Conquest Art Group at St Pius**
- **London SW Catholic Social Group**
- **Job Vacancy at Holy Cross Prep**

