

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday 21st — Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
Thursday 24th — Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£510.05	Loose	£545.95	TOTAL	£1138.86
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£7.50	Loose	£75.36		

The retiring collection for last weekend was for **World Communications Day**.
This weekend's retiring collection will be for **Aid to the Church in Need**

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

David Rattray, Christina Ward, Marie Ann Xibberas, Clare Horgan, Grace Gibbs, Paul and June McMahon, Michael Boyle, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan Gallagher, Stephane Patten, John Sewter, Ryan Morison, Keith Fraser, Ronnie Xavier, Christopher Browne, Mary Wallace, Anna O'Brien and Brian Towler.

ANNIVERSARIES

Elisabeth Lamb, Leslie Wiseman, Amelia Neve, Ann Sewell-Knight, John Kissane, Eleanor Condron, Elizabeth Brannelly, Eleanor McLeod, Kathleen Mary Little, Rosina Jane Brown, James Cullen, Edward Mulcahy, Patrick Gallagher, Maire Dutralle, Delia Marsella, Mary Smith, John Danzey, John Carrig, Michael Peluso, Mathew Hickey, Anthony Friend, Edna Ward, Bridget Dunne, Dr. Cecil De Lisle Shortt, Nancy Coates, Antonetta Raymond, Maisie Lee, Hylda Watkins, Judith Robinson, Cpl. Thomas Farry, Edith Turnham.

+++ **May they rest in peace** +++

Parish Prayer Group

The **Parish Prayer Group** meets on Tuesdays at **8.00pm** in the church for rosary, prayer and intercession. All parishioners are most welcome to join us.

Parish Office

The parish office should be your first port of call for any enquiries including arrangements for all sacraments (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals). Please email the Parish Secretary at parishoffice@stagathaschurch.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.

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 contact Fr. Vitalis. The course will commence later in the year.

THEOLOGY & TAP

NEW MONTHLY FAITH TALKS

St Raphael's Church in Kingston/Surbiton is launching a new monthly event: "Theology on Tap".

Talks on topics related to the Catholic faith will be delivered by a range of speakers from within and outside the Parish. Quench your spiritual thirst with friends in the church hall (Alexander House) over a glass of wine or other refreshment.

The first event will be from 6pm-8pm on Sunday 27 May when Deacon Peter Sebastian will speak about "The role of the Permanent Deacon in the life of the Parish."

All are welcome to attend. Donations will be invited each month to cover costs. Details of future events will be announced in due course and will aim to be scheduled for the last Sunday in each month. Please save the dates!



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CLERGY

Fr. Vitalis Vaakwagh Kondo MSP—Parish Priest
Fr. Julius Otoaye MSP
Rev. Robert Beresford—Deacon

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 20th May 2018
Pentecost Sunday (B)

Saturday 19 th	9.30am	Wellbeing of Eileen Caveeley
	6.30pm	Eileen De Silva & Rita Raymond RIP
Sunday 20 th	9.00am	Special Intention
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Special Intention for Patricia White
Monday 21 st	9.30am	Private Intention (Anon)
Tuesday 22 nd	9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 23 rd	9.30am	Private Intention (Anon)
Thursday 24 th	9.30am	Year 3 School Mass
Friday 25 th	9.30am	Millicant Mary Laing RIP
Saturday 26 th	9.30am	-
	6.30pm	People of the Parish

Confessions: Saturday 10.00-10.30am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call
Exposition: Saturday 10.00-10.30am
Baptisms: By previous arrangement
Marriages: Six months' notice required - Diocesan rule

First Holy Communion

A big thank you to the following for helping in the preparation of the children for this year's First Holy Communion Masses: Fr Vitalis, Fr Julius, Deacon Bob, Alison, Eileen, Barbara, Pat, Tracy, Judy, Nadia, Jennie, Sebastian and Martha. Both Masses were very special and happy occasions. Congratulations to all the children and to their parents and families who supported them.

Confirmation

We offer our congratulations to our 25 young people who were confirmed by Bishop Paul Hendricks on Sunday 13th May 2018. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and inspire them as they make their way through life as active members of the Church and help them in discerning their charism and how to put them to use in building up the parish community.

Important Upcoming Dates

Saturday 19th May	Gift Aid Scheme Envelopes
Wednesday 23rd May	Choir Practice
Sunday 3rd June	Baptism Preparation Class

Pentecost Sunday – The Spirit of Life. A reflection on Psalm 103:1, 24, 29-31, 34

The writers of the old testament attributed the secret of life to the breath or spirit of God. According to the simple cosmology of Genesis, all was emptiness and darkness until the spirit of God breathed over the waters of chaos. The poetic imagery offers more meaning to life than a haphazard big bang theory can do. In the famous vision which Ezekiel had of the valley of dry bones, there was no life in these clattering skeletons until the breath entered them. The writer of today's psalm, a beautiful hymn of creation, expresses this simple belief that life is the gift of God's breath on loan for a while. *'You send forth your spirit, they are created'*. Then, when the term of mortal life is complete, the breath of life is returned to God. *'You take back your spirit, they die, returning to the dust from which they came.'* John's gospel describes Jesus at the last moment of his mortal life giving up his spirit as he breathed his last. His mission in the flesh was accomplished. But then, on the evening of the first day of the risen life, appearing to the disciples he announced the start of the second mission: *'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you'*. The mission of the church would be in the same power of the Spirit who had descended on Jesus at the Jordan. So, he breathed on the disciples and said to them: *'Receive the Holy Spirit'*. Come, Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the earth.

Gift Aid scheme

The new gift aid envelopes will be available from this **Saturday, 19th May**. If you are part of the scheme, please do ensure you come and collect your envelopes from the back of the church. *Gift Aid is an important source of income for the Parish and we can claim a considerable sum from the government on all donations by UK taxpayers. If you would like to join the scheme, please speak with our Parish Secretary on 020 8546 4633. A big thank you to all involved as the tax we can reclaim is a great help to the parish.*

APF Red Boxes

It is time for the red APF money boxes to come in for the spring counting. If you have an APF box, please bring it to Mass next weekend and leave it on top of the bookcase where the hymn books are kept at the right hand side (as you look at the altar). Boxes that have been emptied are placed on the left hand bookcase ready for collection. **PLEASE ENSURE YOUR NAME IS WRITTEN ON THE LABEL AT THE BASE OF THE BOX.** In the past, some boxes have been handed in with no names on the base, so we don't know who to return it to! Please let **Francesca Gilbert** know on phone no. **07813 777408** if you have delivered a box back to the church, but have not received it back.

Sale of Books

A number of books are still available in the Cloister. Parishioners are most welcome to take any of them. Any donations will be gratefully received; there is a small box for donations on the table. Thank you to everyone who has already donated.

**'Anybody can become angry - that is easy, but to be angry with the right person and to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose, and in the right way - that is not within everybody's power and is not easy'.
— Aristotle.**

Aid to the Church in Need

The **Aid to the Church in Need appeal takes place this weekend**. Aid to the Church in Need supports important projects which are undertaken by the local Church – bishops, priests, Sisters and lay people – in the 140-plus countries where they give aid. From rebuilding churches destroyed by acts of violence, training seminarians, to providing copies of their Child's Bible. The projects range from big to small and cover a whole range of ideas – including some very unusual ones – to help (rebuild and) nurture the faith of persecuted and suffering Christians. **There will be a cake sale after the 10.30am Family Mass on Sunday with all proceeds going to this worthy charity.**

St Agatha's Church Choir

The next choir practice will be on **Wednesday 23rd May from 8 - 9 m** in the church. We are still looking for new members! If you are interested please do come along and try it; if you feel you cannot commit to joining us regularly we will welcome people to join us for special services as long as you attend several rehearsals beforehand. There is no need to have sung in a church choir before and it doesn't matter if you haven't a wonderful voice it will improve with practice.

London SW Catholic Young Adults

London SW Catholic Young Adults is a social group for young Catholics which meets every month. For further details visit their Facebook page or contact **Miles on 07790 441242**. Their next social evening is on **Saturday, 2nd June at 7.00pm** at **Noor Jahan, Sutton SM2 5BQ**.

Sacramental Preparation

There will be a baptism preparation meeting at **3pm on Sunday 3rd June 2018** in the cloister. Please book your place by email parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk or call **020 8546 4633**. Only one parent need attend. If you are considering your child's baptism within the next few months, please complete an application form and consider joining us for this class. Parents **must** 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.

Sean and Doreen Claffey RIP

We will be holding a memorial Mass for **Sean and Doreen Claffey** on **Wednesday 6th June at 11.30am**. Everyone is welcome but please RSVP to the Parish Secretary on 020 8546 4633 or parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk

Celebrate Twickenham! 2018

Theme: "See I am doing new things" Isaiah 43:19

A Charismatic Catholic Conference. **16 – 17th June 2018** at St Mary's University - Waldegrave Road, Twickenham, United Kingdom. For ALL - singles, couples, and families. Tickets for both days. One day tickets not available. **YOU HAVE TO PRE BOOK!** Unfortunately, you can't just turn up as many weekends are full to capacity. *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#book>*