



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

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
1 Wyndham Road
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey, KT2 5JR
Tel: 020 8546 4633
www.stagathaschurch.org.uk
kingston@rcaos.org.uk

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 21ST JANUARY 2024

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Saturday 20th

6.30pm Thanksgiving Intentions of Eugenia

Sunday 21st

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday of the Word of God

9am Cyril & Frances Jarvis RIP

10.30am Narrie Curtin RIP

6.30pm Wellbeing of Andy Huang

Monday 22nd

9.30am Breda & Seamus Madden RIP

Tuesday 23rd

9.30am Thanksgiving to the Triune God

Wednesday 24th St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Memorial

9.30am Birthday intentions for Elizabeth Galligan

Thursday 25th The Conversion of St Paul, Apostle, Feast

9.30am John Beresford RIP

Friday 26th Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops, Memorial

9.30am Gerald Quigley RIP

Saturday 27th

9.30am Matthew Jeremy Norton Crocker 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

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 14/01/2024

Collection Gift Aid £168.50 Loose £484.52

TOTAL £653.02

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.



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!

- Sunday 21st January 2024
FHC Session 3 at 11.45am
Wednesday 24th January
RCIA Class 7pm
Friday 26th January 2024
Annual MSP Celebration (St George's Cathedral)
Saturday 27th January 2024
FHC Reconciliation Service 11am
Saturday 27th January 2024
Parish Novena Begins
Sunday 28th January 2024
Baptism Preparation Class 2-4pm
Monday 29th January to Friday 2nd February 2024
Daily Novena Adoration and talks 7pm
Monday 5th February 2024 - St Agatha's Day

MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL
CELEBRATION DAY - Friday 26th January 2024

St Paul's Day Celebration: The Missionaries of St Paul (MSP) invite all parishioners to the Annual St Paul's Day on Friday 26th January 2024 at St George's Cathedral SE1 7HY. Mass begins at 6:30pm, followed by reception in the Parish Hall. Everyone is welcome.



ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY & PARISH NOVENA
Starts Saturday 27th January 2024

In recognition of our Parish's Feast Day of Saint Agatha on 5th February, we will observe a nine-day Novena before the Feast Day itself. The Novena will commence on Saturday 27th January 2024 continuing daily through to Sunday 4th February 2024, concluding with a Parish Thanksgiving on Monday 5th February 2024. We are hoping that this Patronal Feast and the nine days of reflection and prayer proceeding it will be a wonderful celebration and give us all an opportunity to come together to share and celebrate our faith and the great Catholic heritage of our Parish and also offer a chance to reconnect with your faith in a sacred space. The programme will include guest speakers to help enrich and enliven your faith. We invite everyone to participate in this spiritual devotion programme; please enter into the occasion as fully as possible.

The Novena will be observed on Saturday and Sundays during the evening Masses. Monday to Friday please join us each day at 7pm. Details of the guest speakers will be announced next weekend....

'She teaches by her example, to hasten to the true Good - God alone.' ~ St Methodius of Sicily (c 788-c 847) from a homily on St Agatha.

ST AGATHA'S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION
Monday 5th February 2024

We would like to invite everyone along to celebrate with us our Feast Day for a special Thanksgiving Mass at 7pm. Mass will be followed by drinks and nibbles in the Cloister. Please do come along and join us.

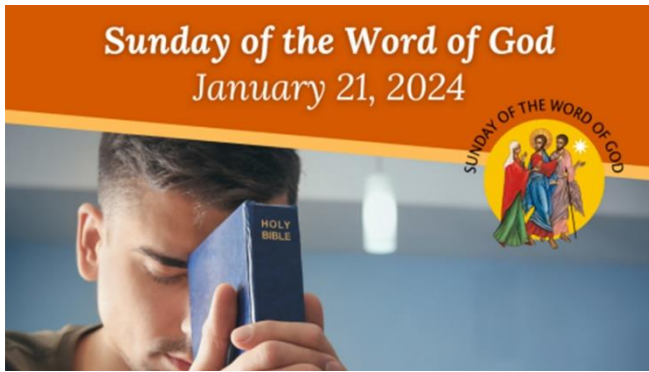


CRIB OFFERINGS

At the request of Archbishop John Wilson, this year's crib offerings will 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/>



SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD



The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time is the 'Sunday of the Word of God' - a day, instituted by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saint Jerome in 2019, devoted to the celebration and study of Sacred Scripture.

This year the Sunday of the Word of God falls on 21st January. It is devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God.

For further details, please visit:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/sunday-of-the-word-of-god/>

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY 2023

5th February 2023

Racial Justice Sunday is the day the church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour.

The theme this year is 'Seeing one another in the life of the Church'. The Image and Likeness of God resources spoke of recognising one another as children of God regardless of our race. This year's theme was identified to address this again with a different spotlight, the saints of every race and culture who reveal Christ to us. It is important to recognise that we are all children of God, regardless of our race and background. This year's theme seeks to promote reflection, discussion and action on our theme and to encourage us to carry this through in the weeks and months after Racial Justice Sunday.

We will have a retiring collection, please use your giftaid envelopes or the red bucket will be available.

The annual **Racial Justice Mass** will be celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson, along with Canon Victor Darlington, Episcopal Vicar for Racial and Cultural Inclusion. Sunday 28th January 2024 at 10 am in St George's Cathedral, Southwark. they will be joined by members of the Southwark Commission for Promoting Racial and Cultural Inclusion, and they will be celebrating the theme 'Seeing one another in the life of the Church'. Cultural dress is encouraged, early arrival is advised for this popular and lively Mass. Stay with us after Mass for light refreshments in Amigo Hall.

If you cannot join us in person, you are most welcome to participate online:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwnra7P7Ufl>

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.

HOLY COMMUNION FOR SICK AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you are sick and/or housebound, our Priests would be happy to visit you, to pray with you, and to bring you Holy Communion in your home, please do let the Parish Office know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests or the Parish Secretary.

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 Brice, Joseph Absalom, Eileen Ryan, James Milburn, James Gerald Torrens, Robert Francis Colclough, Agneta Hill, Mary Shanks, Mary Frances McDonnell, Winifred Gertrude Maton, William Little, Mary Abraham, Micheal Gray, William George Hedger, Thyrsa Colclough, Michael Cullen, Alfred Hall, Agnes Rimmer, Mary Johnson, James Norman, Margaret Heighton, John McParlane, Patric Emerson, John Henry Cowen, Matthew Holder, Elsie Lilian Boyden, Malcolm Leece, Edward Moore, Agnes Cullen, David Ryan, Frederick Warrington, William Westhead, Wilfrid McCabe, Peter Creely, Esgeir Jan Guest, Rose Burrows, Lilian Solomon, Joseph Ennis, Gerald Quigley, Thomas Joseph Byrne, Margaret Barry, Edmundo Marcantonio, Margaret Marks, Frances Mary O'Sullivan, William Dowling, Margaret Dunne, Frederick Scott, Fr Kevin O'Hanlon, William Kelly, Desmond Pearl, Matthew Jeremy Norton Crocker.

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

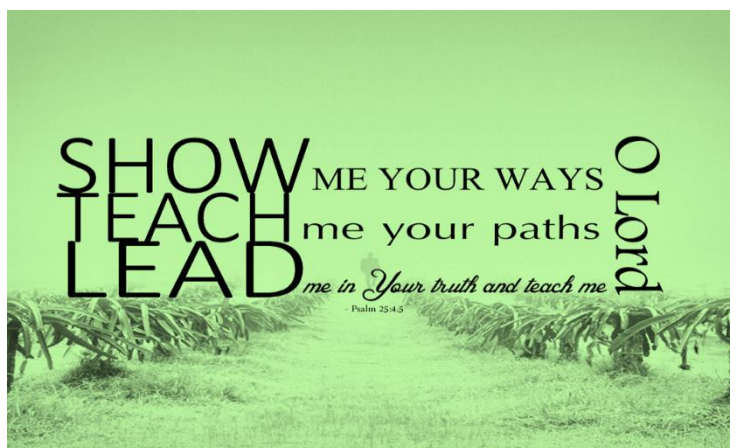
BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class on Sunday 28th January 2024.

Please ensure you complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office before you attend a class.

Our subsequent classes will be held on Sunday 25th February 2024 and Sunday 21st April 2023.

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



Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B
Sunday, January 21, 2024

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9
The Lord teaches us his ways.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:14-20

Jesus calls the fishermen, Simon and Andrew, James and John, to be his disciples.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

Today we begin a continuous reading of Mark's Gospel that will carry us through this segment of the liturgical season of Ordinary Time. Remember that in Cycle B of the Lectionary, most of the Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel according to Mark.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a narrative about Jesus' birth. Instead, Mark begins by reporting on the preaching of John the Baptist. John is described as the voice in the wilderness sent to prepare the way of the Lord. Immediately after describing the work of John the Baptist, Mark reports on Jesus' baptism and his temptation in the desert. Jesus' public ministry begins after the arrest of John the Baptist. Mark wants his readers to understand the important connection between the end of the ministry of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' own ministry.

As we learn at the beginning of today's Gospel reading, Jesus preaches the Kingdom of God in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist. Like John the Baptist, Jesus' pronouncement of the kingdom is a call to repentance. Yet Jesus' preaching is greater than John's. Jesus begins the time of fulfilment; the Kingdom of God is already here. This will be demonstrated again and again, both in Jesus' words and in the actions that follow. Jesus' healings and forgiveness of sins are signs of the Kingdom of God that he announces in his teaching.

In contrast to last week's Gospel, in Mark's Gospel Jesus takes the initiative in calling his first disciples. As mentioned last week, it was more typical of first-century rabbinical schools for students to seek out rabbis, asking to be their disciples. In Mark's Gospel, Jesus breaks with this tradition and invites his disciples to learn from him. Jesus is said to have first called four fishermen—Simon, Andrew, James, and John. Simon and Andrew are brothers. Jesus promises that he will make them "fishers of men." James and John are also brothers. Mark does not report Jesus' words of invitation to them, but he does report that they left their fishing immediately; their father, Zebedee, was left behind in the boat.

Mark's Gospel is told with a great sense of urgency and immediacy. Jesus is a person of action, and events occur in rapid succession. We see this in today's Gospel. Time is of the essence; the fishermen immediately put aside their livelihood to become Jesus' disciples. The Kingdom of God is here and now. The time of fulfilment is at hand. How might our lives be different if we more fully shared this sense of the immediacy of God's kingdom?

FAMILY REFLECTION

Today's Gospel describes how Jesus called his first disciples and the immediacy with which these men dropped everything to follow him. We can only begin to imagine what Jesus' presence must have been like to invoke such a response in these first disciples. While a few of us might relate to such a radical conversion, many of us would find such a sudden change in ourselves or in another person unsettling. There are few things for which we would willingly drop everything. And yet this is the immediacy with which these first disciples responded to Jesus. These first disciples were willing to drop everything in order to make Jesus and the Kingdom of God the most important things in their lives.

Gather as a family and talk about circumstances in which you have had to "drop everything." (the call to pick up a sick child from school, the cry of a hurt or angry child) How did you feel about having to change your plans in each of these situations? How do we feel when someone asks us to drop everything to help him or her? For many of us, it is not easy to drop everything to respond to the needs of another.

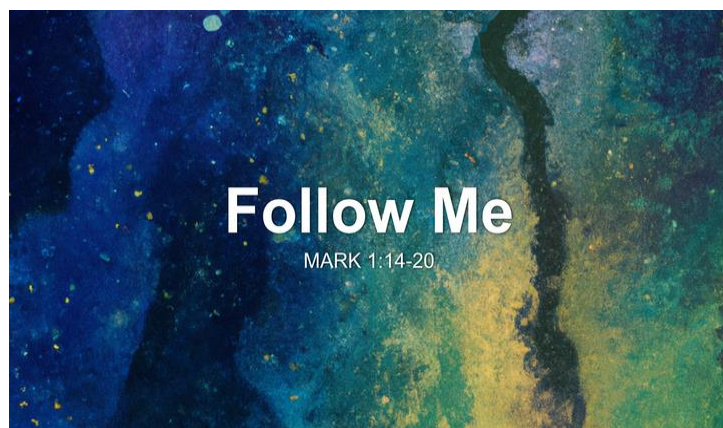
Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:14-20. Invite your family to imagine what Jesus' presence and invitation to these first followers must have been like that they responded by leaving their livelihood to become his disciples. How might our life change if we understood the Kingdom of God to be as important and immediate in our lives? Ask God to help you experience the Kingdom of God with such immediacy. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Third Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B
Sunday, January 21, 2024

RESPONSE: AND YOUR GOD SHALL BE MY GOD



'The word of God pierces our lives, enabling us to discern the feelings and thoughts of the heart. It helps us see where to give space to the light of goodness, and also where the darkness of vice and sin needs to be resisted.'

~ Pope Francis

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.



DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP

We are now planning our next delivery to the Dons. The final few days of January are provisionally pencilled in for the delivery. So please try and support this by contributing tinned and non-perishable foods into the box provided at the back of church. There has also been a request for sauces, but not pasta sauces please.

Our friends at the Dons, advise us that since Christmas, amongst other new referrals, there have been two in the KT2 Postcode.

Thanking you in anticipation. We thank you all for your continued generosity and support.



CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY
Friday 23rd February 2024.

With all these homeless Christmas Trees littering our streets, it is only natural for our thoughts to turn to Easter and the preceding lent. A gentle reminder and note for your diary from CAFOD.

You are invited to join us on Friday 23rd February 2024, between 12pm 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

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL OF NIGERIA- UK REGION

CORDIALLY INVITE YOU TO THEIR ANNUAL MSP CELEBRATION DAY

HOLY MASS | 26 JANUARY
6:30PM PROMPT | 2024

St George's Cathedral,
Westminster Bridge Road,
London SE1 7HY

Reception in Amigo Hall immediately following the Mass of Thanksgiving

"Some give to the mission by going; others go, by giving."

Principal Celebrant: Rt Rev Bishop Philip Egan
Catholic Bishop of Portsmouth Diocese

Regional Superior: Fr Mark Ehichioya Odion, MSP
region.superior@mspfathers.co.uk

RSVP: Fr Francis Ayogu, MSP - 07534 050125



SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School is looking to appoint a Foundation Governor to join their dedicated Governing body.

The core responsibilities include:

- Ensuring accountability
- Monitoring and evaluating the school's progress
- Budgetary allocation and control
- Shaping plans for school improvement and overseeing their implementation
- Setting the school's aims and values
- Appointing senior members of staff including the Head Teacher



Please contact office@stagathas.school for further details.



"Learning together in God's love"

We look forward to hearing from you.

St Agatha's School vision is to nurture children's holistic development, guided by catholic values in partnership with parents and the community.

Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of children. All appointments are subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS check and other Safe Recruitment employment checks. We are an equal opportunities employer.

St Agatha's Catholic Primary School, St Agatha's Drive,
Kingston Upon Thames, KT2 5TY

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.

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*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!*

## LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT VACANCY

St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary School in Mortlake is currently looking for an enthusiastic individual to join our dedicated staff team as a Learning Support Assistant. This is a term time only position.



Monday-Friday 8.30am-3.30pm, 32.5 hours. Part-time hours considered.

Salary: Grade 4, SCP 7-10 £27,855 (actual salary £21,989)  
An application form, further details and a job description can be downloaded from our website, our e-teach home page or directly from the school office. For more information, please contact the school office on 020 8876 6679. <https://www.st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk/>  
<https://www.eteach.com/job/learning-support-assistant-1395106>