



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 22ND OCTOBER 2023

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Saturday 21st

6.30pm Joseph & Irene Coll RIP

Sunday 22nd 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9am Vicki Forbes Birthday Thanksgiving

10.30am Keith & Alan Fraser RIP

6.30pm Beccy Morrow

Monday 23rd

9.30am Holy Souls

Tuesday 24th

9.30am Mr Desmond Pearl RIP
Mrs Teresa Pearl

Wednesday 25th

9.30am Intentions for Teresa Dooley

Thursday 26th

9.30am Christopher Byrne RIP

Friday 27th

9.30am Dave Creton

Saturday 28th Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles, Feast

9.30am Margaret Afig Agyemang RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Monday to Friday: 09:30
Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass)
Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30
Mass Times: Saturday 10-10.30am or at call.
Confessions: Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.
Baptisms: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule
Marriages: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 08/10/2023

Collection Gift Aid £166.50 Loose £446.89

TOTAL £613.39

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 'Give A Little' web donation page.



BRITISH SUMMER TIME ENDS - CLOCKS GO BACK!

Please remember that the clocks go back one hour in the early hours of Sunday, 29th October 2023



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

'Hearts on fire, feet on the move'- cf. Luke 24:13-35

World Mission Sunday is a globally celebrated moment of grace. It's a chance to pray and give to support our sisters and brothers in Christ who live in areas of poverty, conflict and oppression. Everyone is invited to join this special event. And every penny, pound and prayer you give to Missio helps missionaries everywhere continue their work.

This Sunday is World Mission Sunday and there will be the annual collection in aid of MISSIO, the churches' official organ for support of foreign missions. The collection goes entirely to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. They work with local bishops to ensure all the monies are distributed equitably and justly on a basis of need.

MISSIO Donation envelopes are available in the church porch, or please use the red bucket.

Further details are at https://missio.org.uk

EVENING OF PRAYER FOR MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST, READERS, MUSICIANS & CATECHISTS OF THE PARISH Tuesday 31st October 2023

There will be an evening of prayer for Ministers of the Eucharist, Readers, Musicians and Catechists on Tuesday 31st October between 7pm and 8pm in the church to which everyone is invited. Tea, coffee and wine will be served in the Cloister afterwards.

ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING

All Altar Servers are asked to come along to a brief training session on Saturday 11th November 20223 at 5pm. 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; we especially welcome those who earlier this year completed their First Holy Communion.

PARISH OFFICE

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave for part of the half-term break, therefore, the Parish Office will only be from 10am – 4pm on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th October 2023. Please only call the presbytery in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry during this week. For non-urgent enquiries please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk. For any other matters please wait until the parish office fully re-opens on Monday 30th October 2023. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Please note that Father will NOT be available to sign school forms during the half term week



Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A
Sunday, October 22, 2023

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 96:1,3-10
Sing praise to the Lord.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 22:15-21

The Pharisees send their disciples to test Jesus with a question about taxes.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

FAMILY REFLECTION

Payment of taxes is unlikely to be a disputed issue in your family. Yet families can still learn something from this Gospel reading. Jesus' answer to the Herodians and Pharisees redirects their question to focus on the issue of greatest importance: loving and honouring God. Taking this perspective can help us make good judgments about the competing issues of importance in our lives.

As your family gathers, make a list of the activities that your family spends time doing together, such as household tasks, jobs, academics, and recreational activities. Talk about the importance of each of these activities. Ask what would happen if there were an imbalance in our attention to these activities and we spent too much time on one activity at the expense of another.

In today's Gospel Jesus reminds us of the necessity of giving things their proper importance. Read Matthew 22:15-21. The Herodians and Pharisees were giving too much importance to the issue of the payment of taxes. Jesus reminds them that loving and honouring God is of greater importance. In family life we do many important things, but we remember that God is of the greatest importance in our lives. Pray together that your family will learn to keep things in proper perspective, remembering to keep God first in your lives. Pray together today's psalm, Psalm 96.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

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

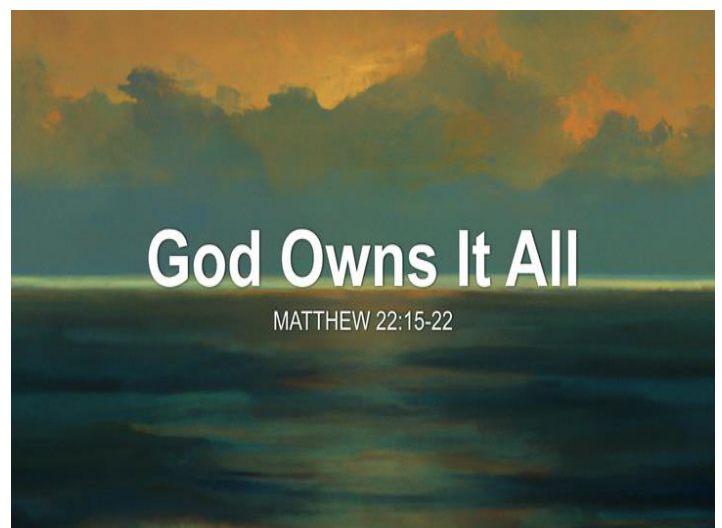
Let us remember those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all their families, with love and affection during this time of grief. May the Christ grant eternal rest to all who have died.

ANNIVERSARIES

Patric Treacy, Robert Flynn, Ian Wilson, John Walsh, Belinda McDonagh, Ted McMahon, Antonio Marshall, Agnes Rose Young, Mabel Gibbs, Sylvia Morling, Mary Cecilia Pope, James Carmody, Gerald Gaskin, Margaret Moore, Marion Josephine Laidler, Ethel Masters, Castilla Heaton Harris, Alexander Duncan, Helen Parker, Patrick Cremin(Jr), Hilda Lynch, Florence Healey, Harriet Taylor, John Williams, Michael Conway, Giacanta Berre, Joseph Reilly, John James Smith, Henry Robert Stimson, Eugenie Marie Connolly, Josef Andruskeiwicz, Margaret Solomon, Maria Josephine McCarthy, Thomas John Metcalf, Dr. Christopher Petit, James Flood, Maurice Marshall, Bridget Mary Flagg, Raymond Childs, Edgar Oliveira, Mohan Loyala Perera 'Monty'. **+++May They Rest In Peace+++**

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 Secretary.



SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022/23

There will be a parent meeting on Thursday 9th November 2023 at 7.30pm.

The Inscriptio Mass is on Sunday 12th November 2023 at the 10.30am Mass. All children MUST attend the Mass. Session 1 for Children AND Parents will be immediately after Mass.



CONFIRMATION 2022/23

Registration for our next Confirmation programme is now closed. The Catechists have now finalised the schedule and this will be sent in an email update very shortly.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class on Sunday 26th November 2023.

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



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

MARRIAGES IN 2024

2024 may be the year that you plan to get married; many *Congratulations* if that is so. ***Please remember that there is a lot of preparation that needs to take place and you are required to inform the church at least six months before the intended date.***



If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparations for our parishioners must take place here at St. Agatha's. Please contact the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS COURSE

R.C.I.A (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a set of rites, or ceremonies, designed to introduce and prepare non baptised adults into becoming full members of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Initiation, namely, Baptism, (or Reception if already Baptised), Confirmation and Holy Eucharist (The Body and Blood of Christ). It is also for baptised Christians of other churches who take a similar, but unique path through the rites where they will be Received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church.



Baptised Adult Catholics seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation, and possibly the Holy Eucharist if not already received, can also join this programme. It can also be a good experience for full members of the Catholic Church who may not have practised their faith for a number of years, or for those who wish to more fully understand and deepen their faith.

The course will begin on Wednesday 8th November 2023, please contact the Parish Office to sign up to the programme.

OCTOBER DEVOTION: THE HOLY ROSARY

Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. Pope Leo XIII personally started the practice of devoting October to the Rosary devotion. In a letter of September 1, 1883, mindful of the Rosary's power to strengthen faith and foster a life of virtue, he outlined the triumphs of the Rosary in past times and admonished the faithful to dedicate the month of October to the Blessed Virgin through the daily recitation of the Rosary, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, in order to obtain through her intercession, the grace that God would console and defend His Church in her sufferings. During October, we invite everyone to pray your rosary. We especially encourage families to pray the rosary together. We are all encouraged to make this a date with Mary.

THE ROSARY

We pray the Rosary in the church every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday morning after Mass. Everyone is welcome to join in.



PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

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.



PARISH MEN'S GROUP

The next meeting of the Men's Group will be on Wednesday 1st November 2023. 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.



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 inside the envelope. Please hand it to Father or place it in the basket at the altar throughout the month of November. *+++Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen. +++*

ANNUAL BLESSING OF GRAVES

The annual blessing of graves will take place on Sunday 5th November 2023. There will be a short service in the chapel at Surbiton cemetery at 2.00pm, followed by blessing of graves. Also, a short service in the chapel at Kingston cemetery at 3.00pm followed by blessing of graves. (Please assemble at the cemetery chapels.)

ANNUAL REQUIEM MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF KINGSTON DEANERY

A Requiem Mass for the deceased clergy of Kingston Deanery will be held at St. Ann's on Friday 17th November 2023, 12pm. Everyone is welcome. Please note that the 85 bus stop is very near St Anne's, also there is a large car park available.

'Love that is divine, merciful and overwhelming is the perennial newness of the Gospel. It invites us to show God, in the same manner as the Saints: not with words but with our lives.' ~ Pope Francis

DIOCESAN INFORMATION

SOUTHWARK, ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON BRETHERN CIO

Charity number: 1203417

Previously you will have known this charity as 'The Southwark Brethren', however this summer we became an incorporated Charity known as the Southwark and Arundel & Brighton Brethren CIO. Our aims have grown and we now support all priests working or retired. In the last eighteen months we have been able to help several with emergency treatment in hospital, followed by rehabilitation and convalescence. In addition, we have helped with emergency dental treatment. This is just the tip of the iceberg and medical needs present themselves which are varied and complex and which cannot always be supplied by the diocese or be the priest himself, and so today we ask for your generous support to continue our work for priests in whichever way is needed.

If you can help, please send a donation in one of the following ways: Cheques: payable to Southwark Arundel & Brighton Brethren CIO may be sent to 3 Birch Way, Warlingham, CR6 9DA, or by standing order by contacting either Frederika or Fr Paul Hough on 07939654522 and we will send you the account details. If you pay tax and wish to support with Gift Aid, or maybe you would like to remember us in your will, please feel free to contact us regarding this and the appropriate form will be sent to you. Your support is vital and we once again ask you to make a difference!

COMMEMORATIVE PUBLICATION: ST JOHN'S SEMINARY – WONERSH

As you are aware, after 130 years of forming men for the priesthood, St John's Seminary, known to so many, closed in July 2021. Some two years later, a book has been launched entitled: *These Walls Have Spoken: in Celebration of St John's Seminary – Wonersh*.

Showcasing over 300 pages of elegant photography and text, the book records what made Wonersh unique. In words and images, it tells the story of the Seminary and keeps its memory alive. The book lists the Seminary's treasures, and chronicles the final commemorative liturgies and celebrations – showing how Wonersh lives on in the sacred objects, furnishings and books that have gone on to enrich many other Catholic churches and institutions. The book is available for purchase at a cost of £25 plus P&P at: www.wonersh.shop

CATHOLIC WOMEN PRAYING TOGETHER

The annual Mass organised by Catholic Women Praying Together will be held this year on Wednesday 15th November at St George's Cathedral, Southwark. For background info: CWPT is the successor group formed from the Catholic Women of the Year Luncheon (which finished with its Golden Jubilee in 2018), and brings together representatives of the main Catholic women's organisations in the UK.

<https://www.catholicwomenprayingtogether.com/>

CHRISTIANS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE: ETHICS AND PRACTICE

A day of reflection and professional development organised by St Mary's University and the Christian Medical Fellowship.

Are you looking for an opportunity to meet people motivated by their faith to care for others? Would you like to explore the unique contribution that faith makes to the health and social care sector? Are you interested in learning about the ethical challenges work in this sector may bring? Join in on a day of reflection and professional development in Nottingham or via Zoom, organised by St Mary's University and the Christian Medical Fellowship. Further details are available at:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/christians-in-health-and-social-care-ethics-and-practice/>

CATHOLIC YOUTH MINISTRY INTERNSHIPS

Castlerigg Manor (The Lancaster Diocese Retreat Centre) is looking for young Catholics aged 18-25 to join their internship programme. The scheme lasts for one or two years and gives participants wide ranging experience, skills, training, and qualifications as well as the opportunity to work with a fantastic team based in the English Lake District. For more information please contact: director@castleriggmanor.co.uk



RESEARCH AND POLICY ANALYST

The Bishops' Conference are looking for a Research and Policy Analyst to work across a diverse range of national and international policy areas. This role will suit someone with a committed interest in politics and social justice looking for the opportunity to apply their research capability.

Salary: £32,500. Location: London/Hybrid. Contract: Full Time. Closing date: 29 October 2023. Applications: HR@cbcew.org.uk

More details are available at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/research-and-policy-analyst/>

CATHOLIC UNION URGES PEOPLE TO HAVE THEIR SAY IN COVID INQUIRY

The Catholic Union has launched a new survey on people's thoughts, experiences and attitudes towards the closure of places of worship during the pandemic. The survey takes less than two minutes and will help us make the voices of Catholics heard and the survey results will shape the Catholic Union's submission to the UK Covid-19 public inquiry, which is currently considering the political decisions taken during the pandemic.

The QR code will link to the survey. Further details can be found at:

<https://catholicunion.org.uk/2023/10/catholic-union-urges-people-to-have-their-say-in-covid-inquiry>



SUPPORTING DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP

A very good response last week, thank you on behalf of the DLAG and keep up the good work! The plan is to deliver the next bundle of donations to the Dons at the end of the month. So, there is plenty of time. Our collection point remains in the church porch for you to donate any non-perishable items, please do not donate anything that is perishable such as fruit, vegetables, or bread items. Please also check the date on all items to ensure they have a good storage life. Thanking you in anticipation of your continuing support.

Thank you for your on-going generosity.



LAUDATO SI' MOVEMENT

Catholics for Our Common Home

You are invited to join a new online Laudato Si' circle based in Hampton and Tooting. We will study a chapter of Laudato Si' each month and we will begin on Friday October 27th 2023 at 7pm on zoom. For the link please contact:

johnwoodhousecat@gmail.com

Laudato Si' Circles are small groups that meet regularly to deepen their relationship with God as Creator and all members of creation. Together, they pray with and for creation, reflect on their ongoing ecological conversion, and take action.