

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

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|-----------|---------------------------|
| Tuesday | St Francis de Sales |
| Wednesday | The Conversion of St Paul |
| Thursday | Saints Timothy & Titus |
| Friday | St Angela Merici |
| Saturday | St Thomas Aquinas |

PARISH DIARY

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| Monday 3.30pm: | First Holy Communion Preparation Class |
| Monday 7.15pm: | Confirmation Preparation Class |
| Tuesday 8.00pm: | Parish Prayer Group |
| Friday 7.30pm: | Burns Night Supper |
| Saturday 10.30am | Confirmation candidates retreat day at Kairos Centre |
| Saturday 7.45pm: | Mustard Seed, St Margaret's East Twickenham |

OFFERINGS

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|---------------------|----------|---------|-------|---------|
| First collection | Gift Aid | £651.26 | Loose | £434.90 |
| Retiring collection | Gift Aid | £16.50 | Loose | £67.32 |

This weekend's retiring collection is for CAFOD .

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Grace Gibbs, Simon Leo, Paul & June McMahon, Michael Boyle, Maureen Allen, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan Gallagher, Kay Kennedy, Stephane Patten, John Sewter, Ryan Morison, Keith Fraser, Ronnie Xavier, Marie Elsey, Christopher Browne, Mary Wallace, Rosa Vitolo, Elsie Malone & Colette Patten.

ANNIVERSARIES

Robert Francis Colclough, Agneta Hill, Mary Shanks, Mary Frances McDonnell, Winifred Gertrude Maton, William Little, Mary Abraham, Michael Gray, Thyrza Colclough, Michael Cullen, Alfred Hall, Agnes Rimmer, Mary Johnson, James Norman, Margaret Heighton, John McParlane, Patric Emerson, John Henry Cowen, 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, Mary Dann, Margaret Murphy, Dinah North, Eleanor Weldon, Edward Smith, Evelyn Bidwell

+++ May they rest in peace +++

St. Agatha's Catholic Church

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Kingston Upon Thames

Surrey KT2 5JR

Tel: 020-8546 4633

www.stagathaschurch.org.uk



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien

Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

Please visit our website regularly to keep abreast of important current issues.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 22nd January 2017

Third Sunday of the Year (A) – Peace Sunday

| | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------------|
| Saturday | 9.30am | Mary Frances McDonald RIP |
| | 6.30pm | Tina Piccirillo RIP |
| Sunday | 9.00am | Arthur & Robin O'Connor |
| | 10.30am | Finn & Heard families |
| | 6.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday | 9.30am | Patric Emerson RIP |
| Tuesday | 9.30am | Tim Malone RIP |
| Wednesday | 9.30am | Fr Allan Collins RIP |
| Thursday | 9.30am | Gerry Quigley RIP |
| Friday | 9.30am | Desmond Pearl RIP |
| Saturday | 9.30am | Dorothy Hall RIP |
| | 6.30pm | Edith Knight RIP |
| Confessions: | Saturday 10.00-11.00am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call | |
| Baptisms: | By previous arrangement | |
| Marriages: | Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule | |

FR GERRY

Please continue to pray for the health and welfare of Fr Gerry. He will be living for some weeks at Coloma Court, West Wickham for a period of rest and recuperation. We will provide a telephone number on which he can be contacted in due course.

Hospital chaplain

If you, or a member of your family are admitted to Kingston Hospital you need to inform the ward staff that you are a Roman Catholic and would like to be visited by the Catholic Chaplain Fr. Julius. His phone number is 8942 2178.

PARISH NOTICES

Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity

The annual octave of prayer for Christian Unity runs from **Wednesday 18th** to **Wednesday 25th January**. No joint services are planned in the immediate local area. However, St Agatha's is an active participant in the Joel Kingston Night Shelter. We are all asked to pray for this and our other joint initiatives.

Burns Night Supper

The annual Burns Night supper will be held in the cloister on **Friday 27th January at 7.30pm**. Tickets cost £10.00 per head. The menu will comprise smoked salmon pate, haggis or sausages, neeps and tatties, Scottish raspberry cheesecake and cheese and biscuits. There will be a cash bar and the inevitable raffle. Please sign up on the list in the church porch.

Mustard Seed

The next evening of renewal with an opportunity to grow in faith in the power of the Holy Spirit will be on **Saturday 28th January** at St Margaret's RC Church, East Twickenham, TW1 1RL, at **7.45 pm** for **8.00pm** until **10.00pm**. The evening will include praise, reflection, teaching plus individual prayer ministry for those wishing for it. The church is just by St Margarets railway station (with direct trains from Kingston). All are welcome.

Crib Offerings

Our crib offerings this year are being donated to the Friends of the Holy Land which supports Christians in the Holy Land and especially Gaza. The amount raised comes to £157.98.

Sacramental Preparation Programme

The next First Holy Communion preparation class will be on **Monday 23rd January at 3.30pm**.

The next class for the candidates preparing for confirmation will be on **Monday 23rd January at 7.15pm**. The retreat day will be **Saturday 28th January**.

Parish Prayer Group

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

Southwark Catholic Directory 2017

Copies of the Diocesan directory for 2017 are available at the back of the church at a cost of three pounds. It contains full details of the parishes and organizations in the diocese, the clergy and the liturgical calendar and is a valuable reference book.

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTIONS

First Reading: Isaiah 8: 23 – 9: 3

His faith in God prompts him to optimism about the future: the people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Shadows are dispelled, joy and gladness shine out. Good will triumph over evil in the end.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 10–13, 17

The Church at Corinth has lost its way. The cult of personality and sectional rivalries threaten to tear the community apart. Paul steers them back to their unity in Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 4: 12–23

Jesus leaves Nazareth and settles in Capernaum, a lakeside town. With his uncompromising call to repentance, perhaps he already senses the early tide of opposition and the wave of hostility that will finally nail him to the cross.

COMMUNION REFLECTION

Healing the wounds of the heart

All of us are wounded by sin. The part of us that is most deeply damaged by sin is the heart. The heart is so beautiful, so innocent, but it can be betrayed, scorned and broken. Darkness of heart is the blackest night of all. Emptiness of heart is the greatest poverty of all. A heavy heart is the most wearisome burden of all. A broken heart is the most painful wound of all. Only love can heal the wounds of the heart. Lord, send your Holy Spirit to us, to heal the wounds of our hearts so that we may produce the fruits of love.

Flor McCarthy S.D.B.

THE MERCY OF LOVE

The story of the Jesus' meeting with the woman taken in adultery (John 8: 1–11) could easily serve as an icon of what we have celebrated during the Holy Year, a time rich in mercy, which must continue to be celebrated and lived out in our communities. Mercy cannot become a mere parenthesis in the life of the Church; it constitutes her very existence, through which the profound truths of the Gospel are made manifest and tangible. Everything is revealed in mercy; everything is resolved in the merciful love of the Father.

The Gospel account is not an encounter of sin and judgement in the abstract, but of a sinner and her saviour. Jesus looked the woman in the eye and read in her heart a desire to be understood, forgiven and set free. Jesus helps the woman to look to the future with hope and to make a new start in life.

Henceforward, if she so desires, she can "walk in charity" (Ephesians 5: 2). Once clothed in mercy, even if the inclination to sin remains, it is overcome by the love that makes it possible for her to look ahead and live her life differently.

Pope Francis – Misericordia et Misera part 1