



CLERGY
 Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest
 Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest
 Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

St. Agatha's Catholic Church
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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.

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

Saturday 24th	St Bartholomew, Apostle, Feast
9.30am	
6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano RIP
Sunday 25th	Twenty-First Sunday
9.00am	Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am	People of the Parish
6.30pm	Adam Mazela RIP
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	Tom Turnball
Thursday 29th	The Passion of St John the Baptist, Memorial
7.30am	Fr Gerry O'Brien RIP
Friday 30th	Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, Martyrs, Memorial
9.30am	
Saturday 31st	
9.30am	
6.30pm	John Davis RIP

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.

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.

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£391.17	Loose	£490.65
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£19.00	Loose	£87.14
TOTAL		£1207.96		

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

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

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.

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

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 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.

Commissioning Day for Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The next Commissioning Day for Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be in at the Metropolitan Cathedral Church of St George on **Saturday 12th October 2019**.

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
Sunday 22 nd September	Baptism Preparation Class
Saturday 7 th September	Monthly Adoration

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** +++++

+ **REV FR GERRY O'BRIEN, RIP** +

Please pray for the repose of the soul of our former parish priest here at St Agatha, Father Gerard (Gerry) O'Brien who died Thursday 22nd August 2019. May he rest in peace.

Funeral details to follow

MARRIAGE



Our congratulations and best wishes to Gerard and Grace who were married here on Friday 23rd 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.

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.

From my point of view, God is the light that illuminates the darkness, even if it does not dissolve it, and a spark of divine light is within each of us. ~ Pope Francis

