

Tuesday 8.00pm:
Wednesday 8.00pm:
Sunday 31 st:

PARISH DIARY

Parish Prayer Group
Parish Men's Group
London-Surrey festival of cycling

OFFERINGS

First collection Gift Aid £565.41 Loose £405.23
Retiring collection (CAFOD) Gift Aid £4.00 Loose £66.44

This weekend's retiring collection is for CAFOD.

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: St James the Apostle
Tuesday: Saints Joachim & Anne
Friday: St Martha

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

Mary Mackey, Mary Smith, Teresa Konrath, Agnes Egan, Elsie Doris Dowling, Colin James Hughes, Louisa Evans, Michael Halloran, Leonard Matthews, Christopher Robin O'Connor, William Goddard, Lucy Jane Chandler, Joseph Henry Wright, David McSorley, John Carr, Vidamantas Kavaliauskas, Lilian Gardner, Margaret Finn, Janet Nolan, Margaret Marley, Maureen McArde, Maria Theresia Atkinson, Tom Farrelly, Baby Milo Patrick O'Reilly, Marcella Massey Hill, Mary Kate Walsh, Thomas Stapleton, Matthew Power, Kathleen Harmsworth, Bridget Anderson.

+++ May they rest in peace +++

Healing Signs and Wonders

On **Saturday 3rd / Sunday 4th September** The Cor et Lumen Christi Community are holding a Healing Signs and Wonders gathering at the City of London School for Girls, St Giles Terrace, Barbican, London, EC2Y 8BB. The event will comprise teaching from international speakers, praise and worship, adoration, reconciliation, prayer for healing, empowerment and consolation and holy mass. Booking is compulsory because only 600 places are available. The booking fee is £15.00. To book or for further information on this and other Cor et Lumen Christi events please go to www.coretlumenchristi.org or call 01932 565747.



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien

Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

St. Agatha's Catholic Church

1 Wyndham Road

Kingston Upon Thames

Surrey KT2 5JR

Tel: 020-8546 4633

www.stagathaschurch.org.uk

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 24th July 2016

Seventeenth Sunday of the Year

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| Saturday | 9.30am | Holy Souls |
| | 6.30pm | John Chandler |
| Sunday | 9.00am | Robin O'Connor |
| | 10.30am | Joseph & Mafalda Dilieto |
| | 6.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday | 9.30am | Special Intention |
| Tuesday | 9.30am | In Thanksgiving |
| Wednesday | 9.30am | Janet Nolan |
| Thursday | 9.30am | Private Intention |
| Friday | 9.30am | Matthew Power |
| Saturday | 9.30am | Holy Souls |
| | 6.30pm | Peace in Our World |
| Confessions: | Saturday 10.00-11.00am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call | |
| Baptisms: | By previous arrangement | |
| Marriages: | Six months notice required - Diocesan rule | |

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. Please enter via the presbytery.

Parish Men's Group

The Parish Men's Group will meet this week on **Wednesday 27th July** at the Wych Elm from **8.00pm**. All men of the parish are invited to join us for an evening of relaxed discussion, lubricated by the odd drink.

PARISH NOTICES

Prudential Ride London / Surrey

This world class festival of cycling will once again pass through Kingston on **Sunday 31st July**. It will affect all those coming to morning mass by car from East of Park Road or South of Canbury Park Road. Queens Road and the lower part of Kingston Hill will be closed from 5.00am until about 11.00am. London Road and roads to Kingston Bridge will be closed from 5.00am until about 2.45pm. The route from the Portsmouth Road to Coombe Lane West, via the High Street, Clarence Street, Wood Street, Fairfield North, London Road and Coombe Road will be closed from 7.00am until about 7.00pm. Some bus routes will be affected. There will be pedestrian crossing places along the route and the town centre will remain open as normal. For further details see the map on the church noticeboard or go to <https://tfl.gov.uk/status-updates/major-works-and-events/travel-impact-sunday-31-july>.

Volunteers needed—10.30am family mass

Those who attend the 10.30 family mass at St Agatha's will know it's a lively service intended to be very welcoming to families; it's great to see so many children attending. Children play an active role in the service, whether reading and saying prayers on the altar or attending children's liturgy, and they are always enthusiastic and keen to participate. We have a long list of children keen to be involved.

As always, these activities happen because a group of parents spend a little time preparing each week. We are looking for some more volunteers to help to spread the (small) load more evenly. It might feel daunting at first but we have lots of resources ready prepared and at the start of next term will have a social get together where we will go through the resources, explain what needs to be done and answer any questions you may have. All with the help of some liquid refreshment. To volunteer or for more information please email Helen Mennis (helenmennis@blueyonder.co.uk) or put your name on the sign up sheet in the church porch. If you are unsure let Helen know and you can pair up with one of the existing volunteers who has done it before and see whether you feel you could help out.

Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

This nationally accredited certificate provides an introduction to Catholic theology for teachers, catechists, chaplains and school governors. To find out more, come to the introductory evening on **Thursday 15th September** at the Centre for Catholic Formation, 21 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS from **7.30pm—8.30pm**. For enquiries ring 020 8672 7684 9 or go to www.ccftootingbec.org.uk. Further information may be found on the noticeboard and at the back of the church.

REFLECTIONS

Prayer forms the subject of the First Reading and the Gospel. Prayer is a favourite theme of Luke. In the First Reading we see Abraham interceding with God on behalf of Sodom, a city full of evil. Troubled by the idea of the innocent being punished along with the guilty, he begins to bargain with God. The story highlights the importance of intercessory prayer, and reveals a lot about the mercy of God.

This prepares us for the Gospel which shows Jesus at prayer and contains the Lord's Prayer. Luke's version is shorter than Matthew's, which is believed to be closer to the original version. Jesus urges the disciples to go on asking for what they need with persistence and confidence.

Jesus urges us to ask, seek, and knock.

This means our faith has to be an active one.

However, sometimes we are too proud to ask, so we don't receive;

we are too lazy to seek, so we don't find;

and we are too timid to knock, so the door doesn't open to us.

We mustn't wait for things to happen, or to fall into our hands.

We must be humble and trustful, yet bold and energetic.

If we are to receive good things from our Father in Heaven.

Flor McCarthy S.D.B.

First Reading: Genesis 18: 20–32

The betrayal of trust and hospitality of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah leads to a threat of divine punishment which is mitigated through the intercession of Abraham and God's willingness to spare the penitent.

Second Reading: Colossians 2: 12–14

The joy of forgiveness and the new life and power given through baptism is explained by Paul as a consequence of the sacrifice willingly given by Jesus on the cross.

Gospel Reading: Luke 11: 1–13

The pattern of all prayer is given by Jesus as he teaches his disciples to pray for the essentials and also to persevere in prayer in the sure hope that God listens and responds.

St Agatha's School leavers

Congratulations and best wishes to all the leavers from St Agatha's School this summer along with their parents and carers who attended the lovely leavers' mass last Monday. May you all be blessed as you move on in the next stage of your lives