



Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever

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

CLERGY

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

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FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2019

CHRIST THE KING

THIRTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

Saturday 23rd

9.30am Keane Barlow RIP
6.30pm Teresa & Luigi & Pascuale Pozella RIP

Sunday 24th

Christ the King
National Youth Sunday

9.00am Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am Alan Humberstone RIP
6.30pm Michael Heelan RIP

Monday 25th

9.30am Gerry Quigley RIP

Tuesday 26th

9.30am William Shea RIP

Wednesday 27th

9.30am Holy Souls

Thursday 28th

9.30am Patrizia Fiorellino RIP

Friday 29th

9.30am Micahel Loughran RIP

Saturday 30th St Andrew, Apostle, Feast

9.30am Wellbeing of David Rattray
6.30pm Michelo & Gisselfina Americo Straccialano RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am, 6-6.15pm & at call.
Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12.30pm.
Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

ON THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH (7th December) 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, 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.

ANNIVERSARIES

Beatrice Margaret Walter, Percy Lamb, Margaret Wiseman, Catherine Cullen, Edward Arendse, James Wiseman, Annie Varney, Frank Staffieri, Bernard Connellan, Lauren Eve O'Connor, Marie Avery, Madeleine Plantin, Margaret Kelly, Sarah Cronin, Edith Stimson, Ellen Metcalf, Mary Braby, William Howson, William McBride, Derrick Wright, Kitty Shier, Fr. Eugene O'Sullivan, Fr. Donagh O'Brien, Josephine Heaney, Edgar Thomas, Cynthia Marsh, Elizabeth Ryan, Mary Sheehy, Walter Joseph O'Sullivan, Bridget Ryan, Anita Galiano, Anne Slaughter, Brian Talbot, Marco Saiz, Sister Ambrosine, Honora Browne, Robert Dean, Margaret Prosser, Alice Bays, John Curtin, Baby Felix James Olney,

++ May they rest in Peace ++

LET US REMEMBER ALL WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY

Let us remember those who have died and their families with love and affection during this time of grief.

Christ the King

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Sunday 24th November 2019

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

Reflection

Today as a Church, we conclude our liturgical year and celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. The Gospel we proclaim shows the great mystery of our faith: In the moment of his crucifixion, Jesus is shown to be King and Saviour of all.

Luke's Gospel has been loaded with surprises: the poor are rich, sinners find salvation, the Kingdom of God is found in our midst. Here we see the greatest surprise of all. We are confronted with the crucified Jesus, whom faith tells us is King and Saviour of all. The irony is that the inscription placed on the cross, perhaps in mockery, contains the profoundest of truth. As the leaders' jeer, the thief crucified by his side recognizes Jesus as Messiah and King, and finds salvation.

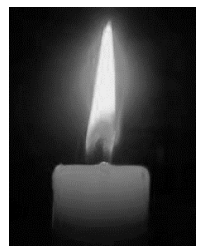
Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we might have imagined or expected. His kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries, but those who had the eyes of faith were able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we, too, struggle at times to recognize Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to make our own judgment. With eyes of faith, we, too, recognize that Jesus, the crucified One, is indeed King and Saviour of all.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Advent Study and Reflection

During Advent we shall study and reflect upon the four beautiful passages from the Prophet Isaiah that form the first reading at our Advent Sunday masses. The passages are:

- Isaiah 11: 1-10 – Peace and Repentance
- Isaiah 40: 1-11 – Good News
- Isaiah 35: 1-10 – Joyful Hope
- Isaiah 9: 2-7 – Saviour



The group will meet at the church on **Thursday** evenings at **8pm on 28th November and 5th, 12th and 19th December**. Reading the passages before the meetings would also be a good idea

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Gospel Reading

Luke 23:35-43

Jesus is crucified under the title King of the Jews.

Family Reflection

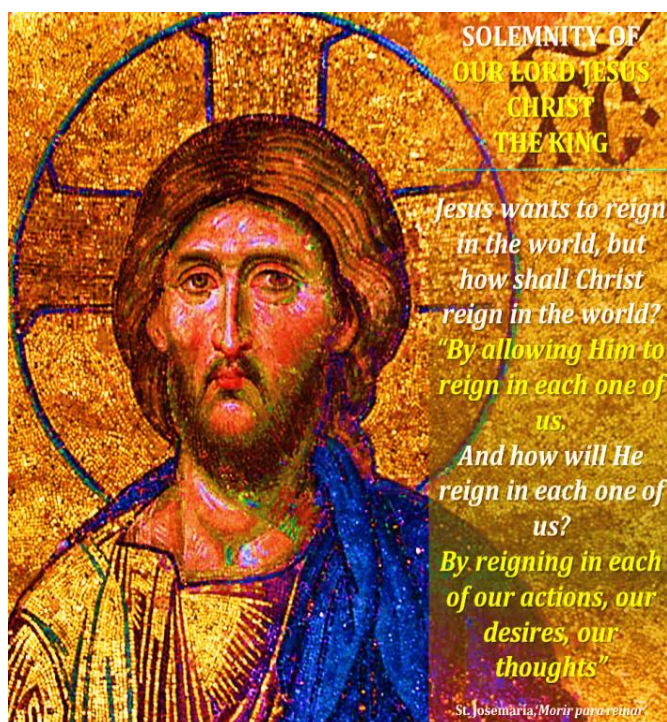
Understanding today's Feast of Christ the King may be particularly challenging. While we may not have a direct experience of kings or royalty, we have some sense of what these mean. We know that royalty have sovereignty over their kingdom. We know that those who are subjects to royalty offer them allegiance and honour. Christ is King in a way that is different from traditional understandings of royalty. Christ's kingship extends to all places, all people, and all times. Christ manifests his kingship through his death on the Cross, in which he offers salvation to all.

Recall with your children stories that you may have read about royalty. Talk with your children about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a king. Talk about what they have learned from these stories about what it means to be a subject.

Tell your children that this Sunday is the last Sunday in the Church Year, and on this Sunday, we celebrate a special feast called the Feast of Christ the King. Read today's Gospel, Luke 23:35-43. Reflect together on how the various people in this Gospel respond to Jesus on the Cross. Who in this Gospel recognizes Jesus as King? (the thief) What does Jesus promise the thief as a result? (The thief will be with Jesus in paradise.)

Talk about how your family will recognize and honour Christ the King. Pray together the Lord's Prayer and ask God to help your family to act in ways that show you recognize and honour Christ as King.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



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 still 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 for the Masses inside the envelope. Please hand it to Fr. Anthony or Fr. Pius, or leave it in the basket in front of the Altar.

Altar Servers Training

All Altar Servers are asked to come along to a brief training session on **Sunday 24th November at 11.30am**. 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.

Primary School 2020 Application Forms

The time of year has come when many parents are thinking about places in a Catholic Primary 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 Primary school application forms from **4-6pm on Thursday 28th November 2019**. No appointment is necessary, please call at the Presbytery. Please ensure that you complete as much of the forms as possible and if you have any reference letters, please also bring these along with you. Please bring all relating documents with you at this time, **especially Baptism Certificates**. The closing date for the application is 15th January 2020.

Flower Arrangers

Attention flowers arrangers! Please join the flower arranging team on Saturday 30th November after morning mass at 10am, for a brief discussion, diary planning and flower arranging. New arrangers are welcome to join us.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next Baptism preparation class is on **Sunday 1st December 2019**. Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. If you are considering your child's baptism in the next few months, please complete an application form and join us for this class. *Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for a baptism*. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for the adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

**CHAPTER ONE
MAN'S CAPACITY FOR GOD**

IV. How Can We Speak about God?

In defending the ability of human reason to know God, the Church is expressing her confidence in the possibility of speaking about him to all men and with all men, and therefore of dialogue with other religions, with philosophy and science, as well as with unbelievers and atheists.

Since our knowledge of God is limited, our language about him is equally so. We can name God only by taking creatures as our starting point, and in accordance with our limited human ways of knowing and thinking.

All creatures bear a certain resemblance to God, most especially man, created in the image and likeness of God. The manifold perfections of creatures - their truth, their goodness, their beauty all reflect the infinite perfection of God. Consequently, we can name God by taking his creatures' perfections as our starting point, "for from the greatness and beauty of created things comes a corresponding perception of their Creator".

God transcends all creatures. We must therefore continually purify our language of everything in it that is limited, image bound or imperfect, if we are not to confuse our image of God --"the inexpressible, the incomprehensible, the invisible, the ungraspable"-- with our human representations. Our human words always fall short of the mystery of God.

Admittedly, in speaking about God like this, our language is using human modes of expression; nevertheless, it really does attain to God himself, though unable to express him in his infinite simplicity. Likewise, we must recall that "between Creator and creature no similitude can be expressed without implying an even greater dissimilitude";¹⁷ and that "concerning God, we cannot grasp what he is, but only what he is not, and how other beings stand in relation to him."

Libreria Editrice Vaticana

CAFOD World Gifts

As we progress toward the season of Advent, CAFOD direct us to what they term "The true spirit of Christmas giving". Their World Gifts Catalogue is full of 'goodies' designed to help those in need. So how does it work: These are 'virtual gifts' that will hopefully delight the people you give them to, yet help transform the lives of those families in need in developing countries. Watch this space for more details. CAFOD thank you for your continued support.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Sunday 24 th Nov	Altar Servers Training
Wed 27 th Nov	Parish Men's Group
Thurs 28 th Nov	Primary School Application Signing
Thurs 28 th Nov	Advent Study and Reflection Group
Friday 29 th Nov	St Agatha's Church Youth Group
Saturday 30 th Nov	Flower Arrangers Meeting
Sunday 1 st Dec	Baptism Preparation Class

Offerings

First collection	Gift Aid	£593.99	Loose	£574.10
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£5.60	Loose	£77.58

TOTAL £1251.27

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

The Spiritan's Mission Appeal

This weekend we will be joined by Fr. Patrice Anyanwu, who will be doing a mission appeal for the Spiritan's at all masses. We know that you will make him feel very welcome

The retiring collection next weekend will be for Catholic Youth Services to support Youth Work in the Diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service (SCYS).

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish meet together once a month at the Wych Elm. The group will meet on **Wednesday 27th November** for the final time in 2019. Please come along and join them from 8pm.

Tea and Coffee

Tea, coffee and cakes will be served in the Cloister after the Sunday 9am Mass on the **last Sunday of each month**: do come and join us to meet and greet others, and our clergy, especially if you are new to the parish. If you attend this Mass and would like to help once a month, please email the parish office.

Please see the Parish noticeboard for more details of the following:

- **The Mustard Seed** (Please note a change of Date in Nov)
- **Conquest Art Group at St Pius**
- **London SW Catholic Social Group**
- **A Day with Mary**

The church would betray its own love for God and its fidelity to the gospel if it stopped being a defender of the rights of the poor.... a humanizer of every legitimate struggle to achieve a more just society.... that prepares the way for the true reign of God in history. ~ Saint Óscar Romero

Christmas Raffle

Each year, a small but dedicated team of volunteers run the senior's lunch, and a raffle which plays a big part in helping raise funds. This year we would like to expand the raffle and therefore any donations, big or small, would be very much appreciated and will help make a big difference to the funds raised. Thank you to those who have already given, please do keep the donations coming! Suggestions include: Bottles of wine/spirits, chocolates, biscuits, vouchers, toys/children's gifts. A basket is available in the church porch for your donations, alternatively please contact the Parish Office to discuss further.

Seniors Christmas Lunch

Our Seniors Christmas lunch will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 12.30pm in the Cloister. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the list in the church porch.

Christmas Eve Christingle Service

Christmas is coming.... which means that we are getting closer to our Christingle Service. This is a very special way of celebrating the real meaning of Christmas with all our friends, family and the whole St Agatha's community.

EVERYONE is welcome! CHRISTMAS EVE in the Church at 4 p.m. Actors – Years 3-6 only Readers – Year 6 and secondary school children. All the younger children are invited to dress up as a shepherd, king, angel, donkey etc..

IF YOUR CHILD WANTS TO TAKE PART AND ACT, OR DO A READING PLEASE SIGN THE POSTER AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH from Sunday 24th November. The deadline is Sunday 8th December, so please sign up asap. (NB Please leave a mobile number and email address and we will notify you of your child's part the following week). Please make sure you are available on the rehearsal dates below before you sign up. **Parent volunteers** - If there are any parents who would like to help with dressing the children, make-up, lighting or rehearsing with the actors or readers we are very keen to hear from you too. Please sign up at the church or email Helen Mennis helenmennis@gmail.com or Louisa Collyer-Hamlin louisacollyerhamlin@yahoo.co.uk

Rehearsal dates and Christingle making

Sunday 15th December Costume fitting and giving out readings - 11.30 – 12.30pm (after 10.30 mass)

Monday 23rd December Practice in church 10am – 12.30pm Full dress rehearsal and Christingle making in the Cloisters.

Tuesday 24th December Christingle Service 4pm (costumes & make-up from 3pm)

CHRISTINGLE MAKING: Monday 23rd December

All ages are welcome to join us in the Cloisters to make our 250 Christingles and have a drink and biscuit (Mums and Dads especially welcome! We'll even give you a cuppa!). This is a tradition that the whole parish gets involved in and the more the merrier.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you there!

Pre-Christmas Spruce Up

We have a tremendous team of helpers in this church who work very hard to keep our Church and Grounds beautiful all year round for which we are very blessed and grateful!! Can we please ask for 'EXTRAS' (volunteers to come and help with our twice yearly spruce up both inside and outside, within the church grounds, to boost the efforts of our regular team by tackling jobs like brass cleaning and ironing of altar cloths etc... in time for our special Christmas celebrations!..) This year our dedicated morning will be on **Saturday 14th December**. There are a variety of indoor and outdoor tasks that need to be taken care of and we hope that both male and female parishioners will be willing to give up a few hours of their time to help us. A sign-up sheet will be in the church porch for volunteers to sign up please. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Frs. Anthony and Pius will be delighted!) All teenagers will be made especially welcome, together with those aged 11 – 13 (accompanied by an adult please) but for safety purposes, sadly, no smaller children.



Christmas Decorations

We would like to ask if anyone has any spare Red, Gold or silver Christmas decorations or indoor/outdoor lights that they could donate? Or that when you go shopping you buy an extra decoration. No matter how big or small the decoration we would love the donations. If you do find that you have any additional festive trimmings that are no longer required then please pop into the parish office. If you can donate just one Christmas decoration this year you can help make our church more beautiful for this joyous time of year.

Also, this year we are inviting the children to bring in a homemade decoration to add to our Christmas Trees. There are no rules to what it must look like, only that it must be homemade! We would ask that you bring these in by Friday 13th December as we will be decorating the trees that weekend. We are looking forward to seeing what you all create!



Centre for Catholic Formation Christmas Card Competition 2019

Children aged between 6 and 11 years old are invited to take part in the CCF competition to design a Nativity themed Christmas card based on one of the Gospel accounts for example; The Angel Gabriel announcing the Good News to Mary; The Birth of Jesus in Bethlehem, the Visit of the Shepherds or Wise Men. For more details please see the Parish noticeboard. All entries directly to the CCF by Monday 9th December.