

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

There are no feasts this week.

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£545.59	Loose	£641.16	
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£6.00	Loose	£71.68	
					TOTAL £1264.43

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Christina Ward, Marie Ann Xibberas, Clare Horgan, Grace Gibbs, Paul and June McMahon, Michael Boyle, Eileen Hurley, Elizabeth O'Daley, Ellen Basci, Joan Gallagher, Stephane Patten, John Sewter, Ryan Morison, Keith Fraser, Ronnie Xavier, Christopher Browne, Mary Wallace, Anna O'Brien and Brian Towler.

ANNIVERSARIES

Walter Frederic Welch, Nora Cutbill, Joan Miles, Reiner Kasolowsky, Kathleen Hatcher, Frederic White, Thomas Walsh, Gary Bellamy, Desmond Duggan, William Irvin Reed, Joseph Cassidy, Theodore Schlatter, Christina Josephine Pilgrim, Sydney George Alexander, Johanna Lombard, Theresa Dilliway, Catherine Henry, Bridget Battersby, Margaret Brigham, Mary Carraig, Leon Lorek, Mafalda Dilieto, Alan White, Johanna Norton, Carlo Marchese, Ruby May Fenton, Giovanni Grassi, James McArdle, Francis Brocking, Henry Wright, Sr. Stanislaus Holohan, Mario Bedoye, Maureen Swinbourne, Mary Lott, Alice Baker, Sarah Watson, John McKenna, James Patrick Kennedy.

+++ May they rest in peace +++

Parish Prayer Group

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

Parish Office

The parish office should be your first port of call for any enquiries including arrangements for all sacraments (e.g. baptisms, weddings, funerals). Please email the Parish Secretary at parishoffice@stagathaschurch.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.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Course

The RCIA course is intended for adults who are seeking to be baptised and for Christians baptised in another denomination who would like to become Catholics or explore their faith more. If you fall into either of these categories please contact Fr. Vitalis. The course will commence later in the year.

Universe Media Publications

We at St Agatha's have noticed the decline in uptake of the Universe Media Publications provided in the church (The Universe, Catholic Times, Ireland's Own, Pilgrim) and it is with regret that we will be cancelling our subscription **this week** for these publications. If anybody has any concerns, please contact the Parish Secretary to discuss.



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CLERGY

Fr. Vitalis Vaakwagh Kondo MSP — Parish Priest

Fr. Julius Otoaye MSP

Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 25th March 2018

Palm Sunday (B)

Saturday 24 th	9.30am	Bridie John and Dennis Crehan RIP
	6.30pm	John Davis RIP
Sunday 25 th	9.00am	Rosa Vitolo RIP
	10.30am	Tess Crowley RIP
	6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 26 th	9.30am	Peter Hopkins RIP
Tuesday 27 th	9.30am	Michael Boxall RIP
Wednesday 28 th	9.30am	NO MASS—PLEASE SEE EASTER PROGRAMME
Thursday 29 th		NO MORNING MASSES—PLEASE SEE EASTER PROGRAMME
Friday 30 th		FOR SERVICES BEING HELD ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY
Saturday 31 st	9.30am	NO MASS—PLEASE SEE EASTER PROGRAMME
	8pm	Easter Vigil

Confessions: Saturday 10.00–10.30am, 18.00–18.15pm and at call

Exposition: Saturday 10.00–10.30am

Baptisms: By previous arrangement

Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule

St Agatha's Church and Presbytery Repairs and Maintenance

We are seeking to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced contractor to provide a Responsive Repairs day to day service and occasionally an emergency out of hours service to the Church and Presbytery properties. This would be a varied requirement including but not limited to general maintenance and decorating, locksmith tasks, electrical and plumbing assistance to more extensive developments as they occur. If you have a business providing these services and would be interested in assisting us, please contact the Parish Secretary to discuss in further detail our requirements and the services you could provide.

Important Upcoming Dates

25th March	British Summer Time Starts
28th March	Choir Practice
30th March	Good Friday Children's Service—12pm
8th April	Baptism Preparation Class

Reflection:

We begin the 'Holy Week' during which we see Jesus reach the climax of his mission, each unfolding event highlighting the deepest meaning of his life, words and teaching. We are fickle human beings, often in search of entertainment. We are designed by ages of evolution to look toward the future rather than the past. This week we celebrate the most ancient and fundamental mysteries of faith. Palm Sunday is our conscious effort to root ourselves in our past, the very foundation of our faith, the paschal mystery. During this week Jesus' experience of the passion will speak of our human condition: our life with all its sorrow, pain, work, worry, anxiety, or their absence. Without this effort to reach our touchstone we would likely be fleeting from one moment to the next, seeking to fulfil various desires and cravings. Being in touch with the paschal mystery reminds us that this life has meaning beyond the here and now. We have a future that is eternal. The love, relationships, and bonds we create in this life will endure. The passion and death of Jesus necessarily result in his resurrection, which gives us a promise and foretaste of that eternal life. Rather than seek the next best thing, upon entering this Holy Week, we recall that our faith is rooted in the past, and our destiny is eternal.

Easter Services 2018

The Easter 2018 Programme of Masses and Activities is now available at the back of the church.

Walk with Me

The Easter booklet is available **free of charge** at the back of the church. There is one copy for each family. It contains daily Scripture readings and some brief reflections for Easter.

Good Friday

All children are welcome to join us at **12pm** on **Friday 30th March** as we observe Good Friday with a child-friendly service. During this hands-on service, children of all ages will walk together through the Stations of the Cross, learning as they go about the meaning of Good Friday. We will need children from year 5 and above, for readings, and actors from year 3 and above to take part in the performance; please sign up at the back of the church.

St Agatha's Church Choir

The next choir practice will be on **Wednesday 28th March from 7-8pm** in the church. If you are interested do come along and try it; if you feel you cannot commit to joining us regularly we will welcome people to join us for special services as long as you attend several rehearsals beforehand. There is no need to have sung in a church choir before and it doesn't matter if you haven't a wonderful voice it will improve with practice. You don't need to be able to read music. Much of what we sing can be learnt by listening carefully.

Preparation for First Holy Communion

The next class for our young people who are preparing for First Holy Communion will be on **Monday 23rd April at 3.30pm**.

The rehearsal for Group 1 will be on **Friday 27th April at 3.30pm**.

The First Holy Communion Mass will be on **Sunday 29th April at 12noon**.

The rehearsal for Group 2 will be on **Friday 5th May at 3.30pm**.

The First Holy Communion Mass will be on **Sunday 6th May at 12noon**.

Confirmation

The next two preparation Sessions, after Easter break, will be on **Tuesday 17th and Tuesday 24th April**. The Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Sunday 13th May**.

British Summer Time—Clocks Go Forward

Please remember that the clocks go forward one hour in the early hours of **25th March**; Masses on that Sunday will therefore be one hour earlier than they would otherwise have been.

Sacramental Preparation

There will be a baptism preparation meeting at **2pm** on **Sunday 8th April** in the cloister. Please book your place by email parishoffice@stagathaschurch.org.uk. Only one parent need attend.

If you are considering your child's baptism within the next few months, please complete an application form and consider joining us for this class.

The Passion of Jesus

On **Good Friday, 30th March**, 20,000 people will gather to watch the Easter story in **Trafalgar Square, Central London**. Supported by the Mayor of London, one hundred Wintershall players bring their electric and moving portrayal of the final days of Jesus to this iconic location in the capital. The 90-minute production is completely free of charge – a gift to Londoners and visitors. No tickets are required. There is a performance at **12noon and 3.15 pm**. The production is open air with visibility maximised using large screens. There is a realistic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. British sign language interpretation is provided. The designated Disabled Seating Area will be on the North Terrace at the top of the stairs in front of the National Gallery. Level access is available from East and West of the Square. All stewards in the Square will be able to assist and direct.

Altar Servers' Rally 2018

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on **Monday 7th May** at **The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent**. **Bishop Paul Mason** is the principal celebrant. The annual rally gives servers in Southwark a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge and celebrate their special Ministry of Service in the church. Furthermore, the event encourages servers to socialise with other servers and share and renew their faith. If you have not attended before please take the time to 'come and see'. All servers and their families and friends are welcome. A poster with more details is on the church noticeboard.

Altar Servers perform a very important role in liturgical services. After approx. 2 years regular serving, servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St. Stephen for Altar Servers and receive the Guild bronze medal. If you or your child are interested in joining the ministry or if you have questions about the ministry, please speak to Fr. Vitalis.

Accommodation Needed—Can you Help?

On **Saturday 16th June** Sister Yudith Anu, from the Missionary Sisters Servant of the Holy Spirit, Birmingham, will be visiting the parish for their annual appeal. Would you be able to provide 2 nights of serene accommodation on the **Saturday and Sunday**? Please contact the Parish Secretary to discuss details further.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress

The Bishops of England and Wales are holding a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress. scheduled to take place in Liverpool from **7th to 9th September 2018**. 10,000 people have been invited, including 570 delegates from Southwark Archdiocese, two per parish. We are still seeking representatives from St Agatha's parish; if you are interested in representing us, please speak with Fr. Vitalis.