



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 26TH MAY 2019 – 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

SUNDAY 2ND JUNE 2019 – 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

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| Saturday 25th | St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Memorial |
| 9.30am | Father Albert Jenner RIP |
| 6.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday 26th | 6th Sunday of Easter |
| 9.00am | Fanny Margaret Cook RIP |
| 10.30am | Peter Bradley RIP |
| 6.30pm | Sheila McCormick RIP |
| Monday 27th | St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop, Feast |
| 9.30am | Holy Souls |
| Tuesday 28th | |
| 9.30am | Father Caspar Lutz RIP |
| Wednesday 29th | |
| 9.30am | Thomas Gerard Luson RIP |
| Thursday 30th | Ascension of the Lord, Solemnity |
| 7.30am | Wellbeing of Keith Fraser |
| 9.30am | Private intention for Judy, Ottorino & Brian |
| 7.30pm | Holy Souls |
| Friday 31st | Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast |
| 9.30am | Caroline Baskell RIP |
| Saturday 1st | St Justin, Martyr, Memorial |
| 9.30am | Caroline Hopkins RIP |
| 6.30pm | Father Richard Fawsett |
| Sunday 2nd | 7th Sunday of Easter |
| 9.00am | Arthur & Robin O'Connor RIP |
| 10.30am | Catherine Baillie RIP |
| 6.30pm | People of the Parish |
| Monday 3rd | Ss Charles Lwanga & Companions, Martyrs, Memorial |
| 9.30am | Anne Hall RIP |
| Tuesday 4th | |
| 9.30am | Caroline & Bertram Woodhouse-Currie |
| Wednesday 5th | St Boniface, Bishop, Martyr, Memorial |
| 9.30am | Mary Murphy RIP |
| Thursday 6th | |
| 9.30am | Holy Souls |
| Friday 7th | |
| 9.30am | Beatrice Joseph RIP |
| Saturday 8th | |
| 9.30am | Father Thomas McElbone RIP |
| 6.30pm | People of the Parish |

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.
Confessions: Saturday 10.00-10.30am, 18.00-18.15pm and 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 (1st June & 6th July) 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.

ANNIVERSARIES

Hylde Watkins, Judith Robinson, Cpl. Thomas Farry, Edith Turnham, John Conway, Frederic Neve, Harry Fugner, Mary Golden, Cherubina Fe', Father Thomas McElhone, Martin Connell, Anne Brooks, Maria Wright, Clare Cox, Mary Woods, Charles Hewson, Bernard Emerson, Margaret Dunne, John Elliott, James Wiseman, Elizabeth Roberts, Charles Rogerson, Alice Webb, Emma Frazer, Barry Copaldas, John Kennedy, Mary Eileen Moden, Thomas Price, Father John Cremin, Francis Culligan, Francis Lamb, Amy Florence Webb, Thomas Muldoon, Sheila Margaret Atkinson, Mary Roath, Elenora Alexander, Donald Bird, Stephen Carrig, Kay Williams.

+++ May they rest in Peace +++

FACES OF LIGHT

A REFLECTION OF PSALM 66.

*O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.*

Surely one of the loveliest petitions ever composed! This psalm was originally used to praise God in anticipation of a good harvest. Rich fields and bountiful crops would reflect the smile of God on the people. As a psalm in Eastertide, we apply it to the abundant fruits of the resurrection. The opening prayer today asks God to help us celebrate our joy in the resurrection of the Lord and to express in our lives the love we celebrate.

Today's gospel sparkles with reasons for joy in our believing: being loved by the Father, God dwelling within us, the Holy Spirit teaching us, the gift of Christ's peace, the anticipation of the Lord returning to take us with him into glory. On the eve of the passion, Jesus could speak of peace. His peace is an inner strength drawn from union with the Father.

The wonder of the divine indwelling must be one of the world's best kept secrets. It is good news for all people. The repeated refrain is a prayer for all nations.

*Let the people praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

Nice words are empty unless they are backed up by the witness of life. If the smile of God's love is reflected in the lives of Christians, then *will your names be known upon earth, and all nations learn your saving help.*

*O God, be gracious and bless us
and let your face shed its light upon us.*

The Responsorial Psalms of Sunday – Silvester O'Flynn, The Columba Press

May Devotions

It is a centuries-old custom of Catholics to dedicate the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is always part of the Easter season, the fifty days we celebrate in the liturgy the Resurrection of Our Lord, a time also of awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The celebration of May as a Marian month fits well with the liturgical celebrations of Easter and Pentecost as we recall Mary's great joy in her Son's victory over death as well as her presence with the apostles in the upper room prayerfully awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. During May it has long been the tradition of the Catholic Church to highlight our devotion to Mary and seek her intercession in our lives. This is the last Sunday in May and we will have Rosary and Benediction. Prayer life is essential in these changing times.

Ascension of the Lord – Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday 30th May is The Ascension of the Lord and is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be three masses at **7.30am, 9.30am** and **7.30pm**.

OFFERINGS

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|----------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------|---------|
| First collection | Gift Aid | £585.58 | Loose | £473.94 |
| Retiring Collection | Gift Aid | £5.00 | Loose | £40.50 |
| TOTAL | | £1105.02 | | |

The collection for this Sunday, 2nd June, is for World Communications Day. The collection for Sunday 9th June is for the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW).

Gift Aid scheme

As the 2018/19 tax year has now ended, please let us know if, in the last year, you have changed your address or if you no longer pay tax so that we may update your details. The new gift aid envelopes are now available; if you are part of the scheme, please do ensure you come and collect your envelopes from the old sacristy after any mass or call or pop in to the parish office during office hours. Gift Aid is an important source of income for the Parish and we can claim a considerable sum from the government on all donations by UK taxpayers. If you would like to join the scheme, please speak with our Parish Secretary on 020 8546 4633. A big thank you to all involved as the tax we can reclaim is a great help to the parish.

Parish Office

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave this week returning on Monday 3rd June. Fr. Anthony and Fr Pius will still be available in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry.

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

6th Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading *John 14:23-29 – Jesus promises his disciples that the Father will send the Advocate, the Holy Spirit.*

Family Reflection

Parents are always helping their children prepare for something, whether that consists of getting ready for school, preparing for an exam, or making preparations to go on vacation. In today's Gospel, Jesus prepares his disciples for his Passion, death, and Resurrection. He promises his Holy Spirit, gives them the gift of his peace, and tells them not to be troubled.

As a family, talk about the kinds of events that you have prepared for together; surgeries, funerals, vacations, and first days of school are some examples. Talk about why it is important to prepare for important events in our lives. Then read aloud this Sunday's Gospel: John 14:23-29. Talk about how Jesus prepared his disciples for his Death and Resurrection and how he wanted them to be prepared for what would happen so that they would be able to believe.

Talk about how, as a family, you can prepare for Pentecost (only 2 weeks away), when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit, our Advocate.

7th Sunday of Easter

Gospel Reading *John 17:20-26 – Jesus prays for his disciples.*

Family Reflection

One of the greatest gifts that we are given in our family life is protection from harm. Families work together to keep one another safe in a physical sense. Think of the effort a family makes to "child-proof" their home for infants and toddlers. Families also work to protect each other from emotional harm. For example, we attend to the ways in which family members talk to one another so that we do not hurt one another's feelings by our words. Most importantly, families work together to protect each other from those things that might harm us spiritually. We shield our children from those things in our culture that tempt us away from God. When families work together to strengthen their sense of God and community, we build the spiritual strength to turn from those things that would lead us away from God and the Church. Jesus' prayer for his disciples can also be a prayer for our family life.

Gather as a family and talk about the things that you want most for each other. Talk about the fact that as we work toward these things, we also work to protect one another from other things, especially harmful things. What do you want to protect each other from? Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus shows these same two tendencies as he prays for something he wants for his disciples and prays for their protection as well. Read together this Sunday's Gospel, John 17:20-26. Consider what Jesus wants for his disciples (union with the Father as Jesus is united with the Father). We know that when Jesus prayed for his disciples, he was praying for us as well. We pray for these things as well—for example, when we pray the Lord's Prayer. Conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer together.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Thank You

As our Confirmation and First Holy Communion programmes come to an end for this year, we would like to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to all who make our programme of Catechesis such a successful and fruitful ministry for our children in it and for our parish-at-large. Our Catechists (religious education teachers and assistants) spend untold hours in preparation and teaching time each weekend in order to pass on the Catholic faith to a new generation of believers — our children — and we join all of our parents in offering our collective appreciation. The time, energy and love that comprises those who take on this ministry is not only a powerful sign of Christian Discipleship but it is also the bedrock of each Catholic parish: to pass on Christ's teachings and faith to others as we continue that "chain-link" fence of faith which was begun by Christ and His Apostles and carries on today through our families and neighbours, especially those involved in our religious education programs.

Music at Masses

As we now have hymns at all Masses, we are making an appeal for more musicians to lead the music. If you can play piano or organ and would like to take a turn at playing at one of the Masses, please contact one of the priests. Thank you!

Parish Website

Work is currently being undertaken to establish a new parish website. Please bear with us as this is a work in progress. All the events of the parish and any news will be included on this site and, hopefully, will be accessible in due course. If you are unable to find what you are looking for please contact the Parish Secretary.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Sunday 26th May

May Devotion

Thursday 30th May

Ascension of the Lord; Solemnity

World Communications Day – 3rd June 2019 (Collection 2nd June)

This collection supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN) the media office of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. The CCN seeks to be of service both to the Church and the world in offering professional channels of communication, and provides support for the Bishops of England and Wales and the wider Church in promoting the Gospel through the media on current issues. Its office is the focus for media enquiries on National matters, and seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching. The CCN provides up to date news releases, features and podcasts, information from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and trains spokesmen and women.

Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW) – 9th June 2019

formerly National Catholic Fund

The Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW) (formerly the National Catholic Fund) supports the legal, financial and charitable activities of the Bishops' Conference, its departments, agencies and offices. This collection helps supply the Bishops of England and Wales with the revenue necessary for the central administration of the Church in this country.

First Holy Communion 2019

We would like to offer our congratulations to our 54 young people who received their First Holy Communion here at St Agatha's this year. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and inspire them as they make their way through life as active members of the Church.



Flower Arranging Workshop

Are you interested in learning how to arrange flowers or wish to develop your skills further? You could be a complete beginner or already experienced. We will be holding 4 flower arranging classes in June on Mondays (3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th) at 7pm for one hour. These will be free of charge. If you are interested please contact the parish secretary at kingston@rcaos.org.uk or sign up in the church porch.

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next baptism preparation class will be on **Sunday 23rd June 2019**, at 2pm, in the cloister. Please contact the parish secretary to book your place. If you are considering your child's baptism, please complete an application form and join us for this class. *Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for your child's 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.

CELEBRATING A SPECIAL WEDDING ANNIVERSARY?

If so, you are invited to St George's Cathedral at 3pm on Saturday 13th July for a special Mass celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony, with refreshments afterwards. Places are limited so make sure of your personal invitation from Archbishop Peter Smith by contacting your parish priest or parish office and giving them your full names, address, phone number and the special anniversary you are celebrating this year: anyone celebrating their 1st, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or 60+ qualifies. Close family are welcome to come with you.

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

- Request for Student Exchange placements
- 'The Gift' at St Joseph's Parish, New Malden.
- A Day with Mary
- Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019
- FREE Flower Arranging Workshop
- Job Vacancy at Holy Cross School

The kingdom of God is not far from us, but is near and often hidden in the holiness of daily life. ~ Pope Francis