

PARISH DIARY

Tuesday 8.00pm: Parish Prayer Group

FEASTS FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday: St Irenaeus  
Wednesday: Saints Peter and Paul

Wednesday is a holyday of obligation. Masses will be at 7.30am, 9.30am and 7.30pm. St Agatha's School will attend the mass at 9.30am.

OFFERINGS (to be counted)

First collection Gift Aid £..... Loose £.....  
Retiring collection (CAFOD) Gift Aid £..... Loose £.....

This weekend's retiring collection is for Peter's Pence.

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

Margaret Creely, Ellen Williams, John Owens, Paul Canton, Edwin Charles Clarke, Fredrick James Ricks, Fr. John Coleman, Mary Francis Cherry, Sister Lucy Staunton, Mary Gentry, Thomas Egan, Margaret King, John McCarthy, Charles Rabbitts, Maureen Patricia McArdle, Mary Farrelly, Hugh Glenn, Amelia Van Den Bosch, Maud Medhurst, Joseph Rocca, Gerald Appleby, Eileen Barber, Joan & Sean O'Connor, Yvonne Thompson, Louis Boribond, Mary Ann Duckett, Adele Morganti, Mary Ellen Lewis, Mother Rita, Hannah Mclsaac, Horace Rice, Paul Cantoni.

+++ May they rest in peace +++

Parish Prayer Group

The Parish Prayer Group meets every **Tuesday at 8.00pm** in the church for rosary, prayer and intercession. All parishioners are most welcome to join us. Please enter via the presbytery.

Gift Aid

Please collect your gift aid envelopes from the back of the church.



*Christ Yesterday, Today & Forever*

Parish Priest: Rev. Gerard O'Brien

Deacon: Rev. Robert Beresford

*St. Agatha's Catholic Church*

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[www.stagathaschurch.org.uk](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)

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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday 26th June 2016

Thirteenth Sunday of the Year

Saturday	9.30am	Holy Souls
	6.30pm	Alfred Knight
Sunday	9.00am	Thomas Dwyer
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	6.30pm	Vincenzo Straccialano
Monday	9.30am	Thomas Kerrigan
Tuesday	9.30am	Perpetua Staples
Wednesday	7.30am	Gerald Appleby
	9.30am	People of the Parish
	7.30pm	Special Intention
Thursday	9.30am	Sheila McCormick
Friday	9.30am	Kay Williams
Saturday	9.30am	Holy Souls
	6.30pm	John Chandler
Confessions:	Saturday 10.00-11.00am, 18.00-18.15pm and at call	
Baptisms:	By previous arrangement	
Marriages:	Six months notice required - Diocesan rule	

In today's Gospel we see how Jesus headed resolutely for Jerusalem even though he knew that death awaited him there. In this we see how faithful Jesus was to the task that the Father had given him. Fidelity can be very costly at times. Let us bring our commitments to Jesus, asking pardon for our failings, and courage for the future.

## PARISH NOTICES

### Catholic Miracle Rally

The Catholic Miracle Rally celebrates that Jesus is alive and that the miracle healing loving power of his Spirit is moving in the Church today. The Rally will include talks, praise, worship, adoration, reconciliation, mass, a miracle healing service and a fire and light celebration. The Rally, at the Friends meeting House, in Euston Road, London NW1 2BJ, will take place on **Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd July**. For further information go to [www.corlumenchristi.org](http://www.corlumenchristi.org) or telephone 01932 565747.

### Education Commission – Archdiocese of Southwark

The Education Commission is currently recruiting for a Buildings Officer to work alongside its existing Principle Buildings officer. The successful applicant will:

- Be responsible for school buildings at 173 schools across the Archdiocese;
- Have a full and varied workload consisting of place planning, new builds and supervision of maintenance work, including some major developments.

The salary is between £28,000 and £35,000 depending on experience. The closing date for applications is **27th June**. Interviews will be on **7th & 8th July**. For an application form please contact [donna.gray@educationcommission.org.uk](mailto:donna.gray@educationcommission.org.uk). For further details, please see the poster on the church noticeboard.

### Helpers' Parish Social

St Agatha's Helpers' Parish Social will take place on **Friday 8th July at 7.30pm** – venue will be the space outside the Church at the back of the cloister (weather permitting) or, we can set up inside in case of rain. We would like to extend an invitation to everyone in our church community who kindly lends a hand 'in *any* and *every* capacity' – either to Father Gerry personally, or towards the smooth operation of our lovely church, grounds and facilities. Below the A4 poster advertising this social event on the noticeboard inside the front door, there is a list of helpers' groups, and if you are available to join us on 8<sup>th</sup>, please find your help group and write your name alongside suggesting something that you may like to make or buy re. food/drink for this occasion– (we have left a space for you to add your name and category in the space provided on the sheet if not listed). Fr Gerry is extremely appreciative to have so many 'willing souls' and wants this to be a wonderful opportunity for us all to get together, relax and enjoy each other's company! We hope you can come! Please watch this space for further news...

## REFLECTION

### **Not a straight path**

The Gospel text today begins a new section of Luke's Gospel, one where there are many ups and downs for Jesus and the disciples as he 'set his face towards Jerusalem'. This journey to Jerusalem will not be a straight path for them. It will be filled with many banquets and opportunities for teaching but also filled with moments of rejection and struggle; and so it is for the Christian journey, it is not a straight path.

Why do the Samaritans reject him? There was no love lost between Jews and Samaritans and the disciples want to punish them. But perhaps the Samaritans were fearful of the consequences of associating with 'heretics' who were on their way to Jerusalem to challenge a particular system that held power over them. It is interesting how Jesus deals with the disciples who want to rain down fire on the Samaritans, he rebukes them and not long after this he will tell the story of the Good Samaritan in which the Samaritan becomes the hero of the story. This has much to say to Christians today about the right kind of attitude towards those we consider to be 'heretics' or who differ in opinion from ourselves. Jesus respects their position and moves on to the next village.

The second part of the Gospel is new but reminds us that his call is one that radically uproots people and it is a difficult walk that should deeply challenge us if we are really living the message of the Gospel.

Jane Mellett

### First Reading: 1 Kings 19 : 16, 19–21

Elijah and Elisha were two very significant prophets in the Old Testament, Elisha succeeding Elijah in the prophetic ministry. To follow in God's way often demands huge sacrifice, as is indicated in the reading. Total self-giving is seen in its perfection in Christ's death on the Cross.

### Second Reading: Galatians 5: 1, 13–18

St Paul gives some straight advice; once free from sin, Christ intends us to remain free. The new life in Christ is not always lived by heroic gestures, rather in everyday circumstances, in the normal run of life. How can we say we love the God we cannot see if we refuse to love our brothers and sisters who we can?

### Gospel Reading: Luke 9: 51–62

Jesus resolutely takes the road for Jerusalem as his followers pledge to follow him wherever he goes.