

The parish office should be your first port of call for all 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 10am to 3pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday (closed Wednesdays). Could you please limit telephone calls outside these hours to emergencies only. Thank You.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES SUNDAY 27 TH AUGUST 2023 TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)	
Saturday 26th	
6.30pm	Kate Chalmer RIP
Sunday 27th 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time	
9am	Vincent Arendse RIP
10.30am	Ann Reilly RIP
6.30pm	Private Intentions
Monday 28th St Augustine, Bishop, Memorial	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Mark Aungier
Tuesday 29th The Passion of St John the Baptist, Memorial	
9.30am	Vincent Arendse RIP
Wednesday 30th Ss Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line & Margaret Ward, Memorial	
9.30am	Luz Gade Homa RIP
Thursday 31st	
9.30am	Constance Euphrasine Eling
Friday 1st World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation	
9.30am	Edwin Gorczynski RIP
Saturday 2nd	
9.30am	Baby Aerith Sky Zafaralla RIP
Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.	
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.	
Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am or at call.	
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 09:00	
Mass Times: Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass) Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30	
Baptisms: Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.	
Marriages: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule	

PARISH OFFERINGS Sunday Collection 20/08/2023

Collection	Gift Aid	£75.40	Loose	£375.75
Retiring	Gift Aid	£20.00	Loose	£550.46

TOTAL £1021.61

Last Sundays retiring collection was for Society of African Missions. Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO DONATE TO YOUR PARISH

MAKE A DONATION ONLINE:

Another way to donate to St Agatha's Church is online by Bank Transfer using the following details:
Account Name: RCAS Kingston Account number: 10317821 Sort code: 60-60-02

(NB. The details may come up as RCAOS or Southwark – this is also correct)

VIA OUR QR CODE:

A new online donation system has been set up so that parishioners and visitors are now able to donate

HOUSEKEEPER/CLEANER ST AGATHA'S PARISH

Applications are invited for the post of Housekeeper/Cleaner. Would you like to join the parish team as our Housekeeper? If so, please apply! The post holder will be required to provide confidential and efficient housekeeping and cleaning duties to a high standard, to the Parish Priests, whilst ensuring a pleasant, safe, welcoming and clean Presbytery is provided to other presbytery workers and visitors. The position requires 8-10 hours each week – work pattern to be agreed with the successful applicant. Previous experience of housekeeping and cleaning are essential, references will be required.

Essential Skills Required: Knowledge of safe working practices; Confidentiality in all matters; Good organisational ability and attention to detail; Self-motivated; solution focussed and reliable; Courteous and polite manner; good communication skills and good time management, Flexible, adaptable and able to respond to changes in routine. If you would like to know more about this position, please contact Karin, the Parish Secretary, on 020 8546 4633 during parish office hours or email kingston@rcaos.org.uk.

SOCIETY OF AFRICAN MISSIONS (SMA) APPEAL

Last Sunday, 20th August 2023, we were joined by Fr. Henry Somah, who did a mission appeal for the SMA at all masses; A total of £570.46 was raised. A huge thank you to everyone for supporting them. For more information about the SMA please visit: www.sma-gb.org

PARISH OFFICE

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave on the dates below during the summer break, therefore the parish office will be closed. Fr Peter will be available in case of an emergency or urgent matters only. For non-urgent enquiries please email kingston@rcaos.org.uk. For any other matters please wait until the parish office re-opens.

Many thanks for your co-operation.

Parish Office will be closed on the following dates:

Monday 28th & Tuesday 29th August

Monday 4th until Friday 8th September

The Parish Office will fully reopen on Monday 11th September 2023

directly to the Parish by scanning a QR code; donations can be made either with or without Gift Aid, just follow the instructions on the screen. You will be able to make a one-off donation or even set up a monthly donation. Use your smart phone camera to scan the QR code and you will be taken to our parish 'Give A Little' web donation page. The QR code will appear in the weekly newsletter



SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

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FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023/24

FHC application forms are now available from the church porch or the Parish Office. Children must be in Year Four or above in September 2023.

Application forms must be completed and returned in person only at one of the following sessions:

- Friday 29th September 2023
between 2pm and 5pm, at the Presbytery.
- Saturday 30th September 2023
between 5.45pm and 6.15pm, in the Cloister.
- Sunday 1st October 2023
after the 10.30am Mass, in the Cloister.

You must attach a PHOTOCOPY of your child's baptism certificate; we cannot accept any application forms without the certificate. If your child has not yet been baptised, please contact the Parish Office to discuss the procedure for enrolling on this programme.

Late applications will not be accepted; Reminders will be posted in the newsletter nearer the time.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS COURSE

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Or wanting to explore your Catholic faith further?

Our Evangelium course will start in October/November 2023. The programme will consist of weekly sessions running until Easter, including vital dates during Lent.

Evangelium is for adults who have not been Baptised and for Christians of other denominations who want to be Received into the Catholic Church.

Please email the Parish Office with your details (name, contact details and current denomination or religion) to register for this next programme: kingston@rcaos.org.uk and we will email you back.

It can also be a good experience for full members of the Catholic Church who may not have practised their faith for a number of years, or for those who wish to more fully understand and deepen their faith. Everyone is welcome along!



CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2023/24

Confirmation application forms are now available from the church porch or the Parish Office.

Candidates must be in Year Nine or above in September 2023.

Application forms must be returned to the parish office no later than Friday 29th September 2023, so that we can identify how many candidates will be enrolling.

Late applications will not be accepted; Reminders will be posted in the newsletter nearer the time.



MARRIAGES IN 2024

2024 may be the year that you plan to get married; many *Congratulations* if that is so. ***Please remember that there is a lot of preparation that needs to take place and you are required to inform the church at least six months before the intended date.***

If you plan to celebrate your wedding at another church all preparation for our parishioners must take place here at St. Agatha's. Please contact the Parish Office and we will happily guide you.



BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, our next class is being held on Sunday 17th September 2023. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm. Please ensure you complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office before you attend a class.

Parents must attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism, and it is encouraged that Godparents also attend.



NEW TO THE PARISH?

A very warm welcome to our Parish; we hope that you are settling down in your new home and will soon feel part of our community. If you are new to the parish, please do introduce yourself to a member of the clergy, and please complete a family registration form which can be found in the church porch and is also on the parish website. If you have any questions or enquiries, please contact the Parish Secretary.



"As I have loved you, so you must love one another" (Jn 13:34).

This is the legacy Christ bequeathed to us, the fundamental

criterion for discerning whether or not we are truly his disciples: the

commandment of love.' ~ Pope Francis

**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle A
Sunday, August 27, 2023**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*Psalm 138:1-3,6,8
God's kindness is forever.*

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:13-20

Simon Peter acknowledges Jesus as the Christ and is given the key to the Kingdom of Heaven.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

It is important to read today's Gospel and next week's Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew's Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church. Next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus' prediction about his passion and death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter's response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

In today's Gospel, Peter's recognition of Jesus' identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus' rebuke of Peter in next week's Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus' prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do.

The use of the term church in today's Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew's Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus' identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.



FAMILY REFLECTION

Today's Gospel reminds us that the Church is built on the foundation of faith in Jesus Christ. Peter announces the core of our faith, that Jesus is God's only Son. The family, as the domestic church, has this same faith as its foundation.

As you gather together as a family, talk about people whose faith has helped you to be a member of the Church and talk about what you have learned from leaders in our Church today. Read together today's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20. Talk about what you know about Peter and his importance to the early Christian community. Talk about what we can learn from Peter and his profession of faith about Jesus. Conclude in prayer together by praying today's Psalm or an Act of Faith.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle.

Please let the Parish Office know, in writing, if either you or your relatives would like to be mentioned on our sick list.

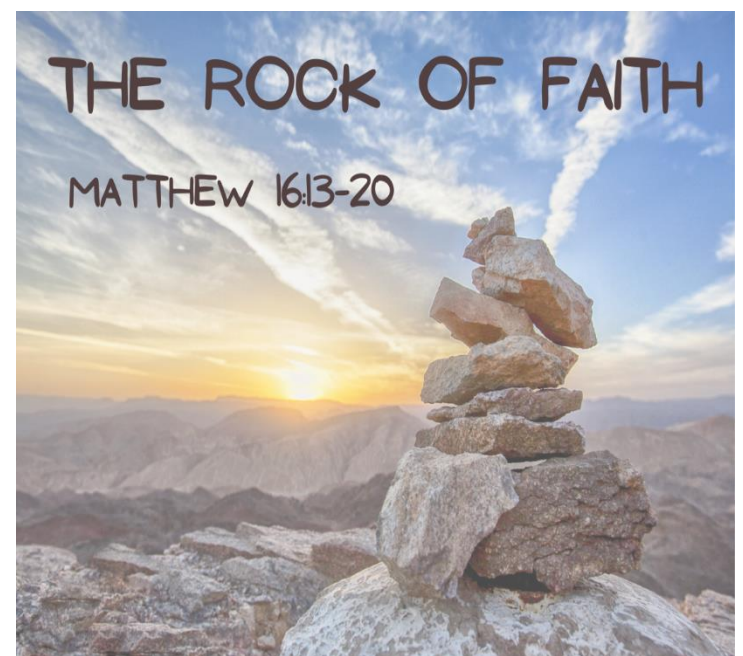
LET US REMEMBER

Let us remember those who have died recently or those whose anniversaries occur at this time, and all their families, with love and affection during this time of grief. May the Christ grant eternal rest to all who have died.

ANNIVERSARIES

Laura Mary Gryspeerdt, William Robert Fewings, Fr. Denis Callan, Constance Mary Brewster, Mary Ellen O'Connor, Marguerite Guest, Mary Metochis, Ernest Woodhams, Thomas Turnbull, Zofia Jaroszynska, Vincent Arendse, Margaret Boyden, John Fenton, Barry Hodges, Stephen O'Dwyer, Clara Dracas, Herbert Duckett, Charles Cutmore, Louisa Strong, Montague Davis-Brown, Mary Ann Keenan, Marie Louise Rogerson, Rachel Liddy, Antonio Amor, Cesare Orindi.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++



ST AGATHA'S GIFT AID SCHEME

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making donations go further

WHAT IS GIFT AID?

Gift Aid was set up by the Government as a way of helping people to give more to UK charities by giving back to the charities the basic rate tax paid on donations by UK taxpayers. It is a scheme designed to encourage donors to sign a declaration form so that all their donations to the Parish, within a tax year, can be treated as Gift Aid donations. The donations can be of any amount, there is no lower or upper limit and they do not have to be of a fixed amount or frequency. By signing the forms, donors can ensure that their parishes get a substantial refund from the Inland Revenue without having to increase their level of giving. For every pound you give, your parish will get back an additional 25 pence from the Inland Revenue. If you pay higher rate tax you can claim extra relief on your donations. If you claim age-related allowances or Tax Credits, Gift Aid donations can sometimes increase your entitlement.

If you do not pay UK tax, Gift Aid is not available for your donations, but this doesn't prevent you making normal, non-Gift Aid, donations so don't worry!

EVERY £1 YOU GIVE IS WORTH £1.25 TO THE PARISH

In order for the parish to benefit from your donations:

- You must be a UK Taxpayer
- You must complete a Gift Aid Declaration
- Your contributions must be easily identified as coming from you.

IT'S SO SIMPLE AND IT HELPS THE PARISH SO MUCH

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How does it work?

The parish needs to be able to prove to the Inland Revenue that they have kept proper records of your gifts. If you prefer to give by cash or cheque, then you must use the numbered envelope system (supplied by the parish) or by standing order. In other words, if you put your gift in the plate 'loose' i.e., without using a numbered envelope (unique to you), then regrettably the parish would be unable to identify the cash as coming from you and would not benefit from your generosity.

I am already giving to my parish in the Offertory Collection. Will it cost me more to join the Gift Aid Scheme? Is this something extra?

No. It will cost you nothing extra. You are not being asked to give more money, simply to sign a declaration so that the parish can reclaim the tax refund on your giving. The Inland Revenue is only handing back to the parish the income tax you have already paid, so it will not affect you in any way.

Do I have to make a Binding Commitment?

No. Gift Aid is not a binding commitment and the parish will only claim back a tax refund on the actual amount you have given. You will not be asked to make up any missed payments, unless you choose to do so.

What happens if I change my address?

Just inform the Parish Gift Aid Secretary. You do not have to complete a new form.

Do you pay Tax?

Then please join the Gift Aid Scheme

If you have an income (wage, salary, pension or investment income) on which you pay UK Income Tax you can boost the donations you are currently making to the parish by 25% without giving any extra!

It works like this.....

For example, if you give £260 each year (£5.00 per week) to the church, you would have paid Income Tax of £65.00 on that amount. By completing a Gift Aid declaration, you give the church authority to reclaim this amount of Tax from the Inland Revenue.

If you give each week	This amounts to each year	Income Tax reclaimed	Real amount of your gift
£5	£260	£65	£325
£10	£520	£130	£650
£20	£1040	£260	£1300
£40	£2080	£520	£2600

What if I stop paying Income Tax or wish to cancel?

Inform the Parish Gift Aid Secretary and we will cancel your Declaration.

Can I change the amount I give?

Yes. You can increase or decrease the amount you give at any time.

Is Gift Aid Confidential?

Yes. You do not have to disclose details of your income, savings, pensions or any other personal details.

What if I move to another parish?

If you have already signed a Gift Aid Declaration, all you have to do is to advise your new Parish Gift Aid Secretary of this fact and continue to use a method of payment that is easily recordable by the new parish.

How do I join the Gift Aid Scheme?

Forms can be found at the back of the church or contact our Parish Secretary. It simply asks you to give your name and address and your consent so that all your donations can be treated as Gift Aid donations. You should sign and date the form and return to the parish office. If you wish to donate by standing order, please also complete, sign and return the attached standing order mandate form.

A FEW MINUTES IS ALL IT TAKES.



If you require further information about the Gift Aid scheme, please contact the Parish Secretary.

