

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 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 27TH NOVEMBER 2022

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 26th

9.30am Sarah Cronin RIP
6.30pm Teresa & Luigi & Pascuale Pozella RIP

Sunday 27th 1st Sunday of Advent

9am Clara DeSouza RIP
10.30am Armando & Delfina Di Bermanolini RIP
6.30pm Natasha Popovic

Monday 28th

9.30am Elpidina Francisco RIP

Tuesday 29th

9.30am Carl & bertha Booth

Wednesday 30th St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland, Feast

9.30am David Rattray RIP

Thursday 1st

9.30am Andres Francisco RIP

Friday 2nd St Francis Xavier, Priest, Memorial

9.30am Sameer Polus RIP

Saturday 3rd

9.30am Marcella Family RIP
6.30pm Mrs Molina Sandoval 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 AM

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



!!IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!

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**PRE-CHRISTMAS 'SPRUCE UP'**

This year our dedicated Pre-Christmas 'Spruce Up' morning will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, after morning Mass. There are a variety of 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 is available in the church porch for volunteers to sign up or please call or email the parish office. (Even if you can only spare an hour or two, Fathers would really appreciate!) Tea, coffee and soup and all the cleaning products will be provided.

**CHURCH DECORATING**

This year we will have a dedicated day for decorating and preparing our church for our Christmas services on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Our Christmas trees will need erecting and decorating, the church decorating, and our crib will be constructed at this time. The more helpers the quicker the process! Please contact or email the parish office if you are able to help for a couple of hours between 2pm and 6pm and we will confirm the times nearer to the day. Thank you.

**CHRISTINGLE 2022!!**

We are very pleased to announce that this year we will be returning to our full advent and Christmas schedule, including our amazing Christingle Service on Christmas Eve.

Christingle sign is now available!! Please sign up by Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Dates and times for your diary:

- Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christingle Dress and Lines Allocation, after 10.30am Mass.
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 – Dress Rehearsal in the church, 10am – 1pm.
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2022 – Christingle Making, 10am in the church hall.
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Christingle Service at 4pm.



**FAREWELL AND THANKSGIVING COLLECTION**

Fr. Eugene Lugh, MSP, will be leaving us within the next couple of weeks and we thank him immensely for his ministry during his time here at St. Agatha's. We are having a Thanksgiving collection for Fr. Eugene to thank him personally and some envelopes are available at the back of the church to make your gift; please hand in your envelopes by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

We will be having a Farewell Celebration on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7pm in the Cloister, please join us for drinks and nibbles, so that we may take the opportunity to say thank you and wish him well. Everyone is welcome.

May the Lord reward him and bless his future ministry.



## SCHOOL STREETS SCHEMES IN KINGSTON

We have been notified of a proposal to expand the current School Street scheme at St Agatha's Primary School which would affect our church and a proposal to expand the permit parking area to the north of Latchmere and St Agatha's Primary School. Both proposals require engagement with local residents and businesses and would only go forward if the schemes are supported.

### School Street expansion

The existing School Street scheme which covers sections of Latchmere Road and Dinton Road were initially installed as a trial scheme. They became permanent highway changes in October following a Neighbourhood Committee meeting in September. Ward Councillors also requested that the Council engage with local residents of Bockhampton Road, Wyndham Road and Dinton Road to see whether they would like the scheme to expand to those roads too.

The school street scheme operates during 08.15 - 09.30 and 14.30-16.00 Monday to Friday, only those with permits are permitted to access these roads during these times.

Two options are being considered for expanding the School Street on Dinton Road. Option 1 would permit access to our car park and Wyndham Road during these times. Option 2 would NOT permit access during these times. Maps of these options are available on our website:

<https://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk/>

Have your say and find out more details at:

<https://kingstonletstalk.co.uk/school-street-ss1>

### PPA expansion

The PPA expansion may not affect us at the church but may affect some of you, our parishioners. A letter and plan are being sent out to residents and businesses within the affected areas this week. They would like as much feedback as possible on the proposals via the Kingston Lets Talk pages.

Have your say and find out more details at:

<https://kingstonletstalk.co.uk/ppa-northkingston>

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY HAS RESTARTED!

Please join us at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022, when we will have a children's liturgy session.

Children's Liturgy is held every other Sunday during term time at the 10.30am Family Mass. The

children are asked to come forward after the opening prayer of the Mass and then they proceed to the where the Liturgy takes place. They return to join the full congregation at the offertory. Any work they have done is brought up during the offertory as their gift to God and the Community.

Children's Liturgy is run by the parents/adults in the parish who are keen to pass on their faith to the children. They use a variety of resources and each session is based on the readings of the day. If you would like to join the team, please contact the parish office for further information.

Children's Liturgy  
of the **Word**

## ADVENT READING – 'MY DAY BY DAY'

This Sunday is the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent and copies of the Advent edition of 'My Day by Day' are available at the back of the Church, they cost £1 each (Please put money in the box marked Newspapers or the small donations box available.) This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during advent and is an excellent way to prepare for Christmas. A junior version is also available.

## MASS INTENTIONS

It is again a very busy time for Mass requests and Masses can be booked weeks in advance, so, if you have a particular date or time on which you want a Mass said, **it is very important that you let the parish office know ahead of time and as soon as possible.** You are very welcome to book your Mass intentions in advance. We are sorry but we cannot guarantee a requested date when submitting late Mass Intentions; if no date is specified or a date requested is not available, the Mass Intention will be assigned to the next open Mass.

Mass intentions envelopes are available at the back of the church. When requesting a Mass, please clearly indicate the intention and whether the Mass is for the deceased, the sick or for another intention.

If you require confirmation of a Mass date and time, please ensure you provide your contact details. Thank you.

## BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised, please attend our next class being held on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2023. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm.

Please complete and return a baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office.

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



## MARRIAGES IN 2023

2023 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.**

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.



## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022/23

The next session is being held on: Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023. 11.45am-1pm (Session 2)



"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man." Pope Francis

First Sunday of Advent, Cycle A  
Sunday, November 27, 2022

**Gospel Reading**  
*Matthew 24:37-44*

*Jesus tells his disciples that the coming of the Son of Man will catch many people unprepared. Jesus tells his disciples that they are to always be ready for the day of the Lord.*

**Gospel Reflection**

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season includes the four Sundays that precede Christmas. It is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed (Lectionary Cycle A). In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man.

Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after 70 A.D. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centred on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

The passage from Matthew we read today is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will the Lord's coming in glory be.

The question for us as members of the Christian community, then, is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know that our Lord is coming even if we cannot know the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner. If we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

**Family Reflection**

Many of us feel the pressure early in the holiday season to be ready for Christmas. But today's Gospel challenges us to be ready for something other than the gift-giving of Christmas.

Read together today's Gospel reading. As a family, talk about what it means to be ready for the day of the Lord. One of the roles of the family, the domestic church, is to be a school of faith leading one another to salvation. Reflect together as a family on how your family helps one another to be better Christians. Commit to one thing that your family will do this Advent season to help one another be better Christians. You might choose to write this commitment down and post it in a prominent place in your home, perhaps near your family's Advent wreath.

Pray together that God will help you in this Advent commitment. Pray together the Lord's Prayer or today's Psalm.

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, Melba De Silva and Marie Chlebeckova.

*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 Lord grant eternal rest to all who have died.

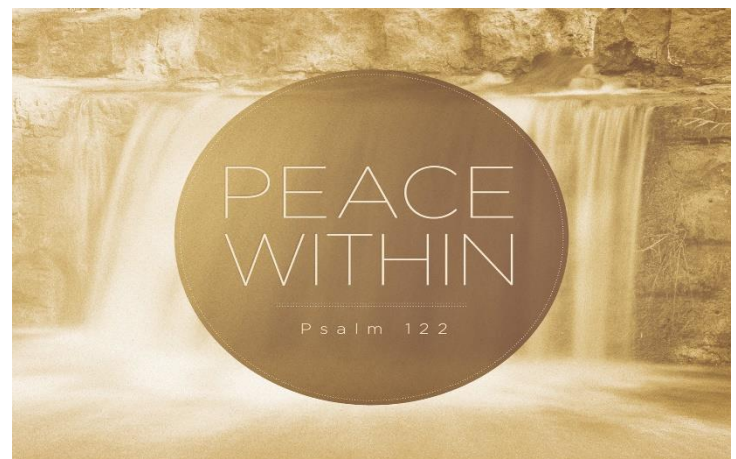
**ANNIVERSARIES**

*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, Vincent Thomas McCall, Daniel Liddy, Annie Conway, Elizabeth Dorsett, Francis Mahony, Mary Anne Hubble, Frances Farr, Edna Johnson, James Jones, Anne Teresa Carbury, Ernestine Hannah Emerson, Vanda Cocco, Charles Selwood, Nellie Scaplehorn, General Jaeme Arrospide, John Fabriek, Philippa Armstrong, John Whelan, Isabel White, George Terence Dove, Mary Vivian, Lenord McIlbalton, Hugh McFaul.*

**+++May They Rest In Peace+++**

**“Keep awake therefore,  
for you do not know on what  
day your Lord is coming.”**

- Matthew 24:37-44



**LAST CHANCE TO DONATE COATS THIS WEEKEND!!**

Now 12 years old, Wrap Up London has become one of the largest winter volunteering events in the city and illustrates what can be achieved when people come together as a community to help those most in need. Coats donated to Wrap Up London are distributed via homeless shelters, refuge centres, organisations supplying the elderly, women's refuges, children's centres and other charities helping people in crisis.

Are you able to donate any clean coats in good condition, for men, women children or babies?

**The nearest drop off points for your donations are:**

**Surbiton Fire Station, 31/33 Ewell Road, KT6 6AF.**

**Richmond Fire Station, 323 Lower Richmond Road, TW9 4PN.**

**Both locations are open 24/7.**

For more information on this and other volunteering opportunities visit:

[www.wrapupuk.org.uk](http://www.wrapupuk.org.uk) or email:

[wulvolunteers@handsonlondon.org.uk](mailto:wulvolunteers@handsonlondon.org.uk)



**OUR VISION:** To build a resourceful community tackling the effects of poverty.

*Keeping our community fed, connected & supported.*

Dons Local Action Group (DLAG) are a local network of volunteers Originally formed by fans of AFC Wimbledon during the Covid-19 pandemic, and are now permanent across Merton, Wandsworth and Kingston.

Their aim is to help those in our local community to fight poverty and offer support. They provide food parcels, household goods, furniture and appliances. They also offer laptops through their 'Keep Kids Connected' initiative for children who do not have access to online learning. They are made up entirely of volunteers and provide over 2,500 weekly food parcels to those in need in the London boroughs of Wandsworth, Merton, Kingston and Richmond.

They operate by setting up daily stalls outside over 20 local supermarkets where they ask shoppers to donate certain items each day. These donations then go to sorting hubs where they are packaged into weekly food parcels for vulnerable and isolated people in the borough, as well as being taken to chefs who make meals for the homeless. They support other organisations (such as foodbanks and homeless charities) with bulk donations, and also provide laptops to local schools and children. So far, they have given out over 17,000 weekly food parcels and over 400 devices.

Families and people in need are often referred by charities, food banks, the police, refuges, GPs, schools and other local services. They collaborate with social services, GPs, housing associations, schools and many other local organisations so they can help individuals or families. They deliver food parcels or furniture directly to the doorstep. Laptops and tablets are given to schools who redistribute them to their pupils most in need.

*We have joined up with DLAG and we have a collection point in the church porch for you to donate any non-perishable items, such as pasta, rice, cereals, tea and coffee UHT milk, tins of vegetable, fruit, soup and also pet food and toiletry items such as toothpaste, shampoo and deodorant. Please do not donate anything that is perishable such as fruit, vegetables, eggs or bread items. Please also check the date on all items to ensure they have a good storage life. Thank you.*

**Supporting the Wimbledon Dons this Christmas.**

Following consultation with the Dons, it has been agreed that we will push back our collection date for two weeks. In response to our questions, the Dons have stated that they need tinned foodstuffs from us. To quote them "There is little point in giving a family mince pies, if there is no food in the house". So, the challenge to us all at St Agatha's is to provide tinned food. To emphasise again, *"tinned meat, tinned fish, tinned vegetables and tinned fruit."*

The Dons are operating within our KT2 Postcode. Deliveries to individual families are carried out sensitively. But two examples they are willing to share being The Kingston Church Housing Association and Voices of Hope - Kingston.

For more information on the work of the Dons, please refer to the last two Newsletters on our website or visit [www.donslocalaction.org](http://www.donslocalaction.org)

Please support the Dons, and our neighbours, by leaving your contributions in the church porch in the provided box.

Thanking you in anticipation of your continuing support.



**St Agatha's School  
CHRISTMAS FAIR**

**Saturday 3rd December, 1-4pm**

**Trampolines - Tea Cup Ride - Swing Chairs**

**Santa's Grotto - Hot Food - Bar - Lucky Dip**

**Chocolate Tombola - Raffle - Secret Santa**



ENTRY ON GATE: Child (4+) £1, Adult £2

Two adults & two children: £5

Buy Unlimited Ride Wristbands at:

[www.jumblebee.co.uk/stagschristmasfair2022](http://www.jumblebee.co.uk/stagschristmasfair2022)

