

CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Pius Duke, MSP — Assistant Priest Rev. Robert Beresford — Deacon St. Agatha's Catholic Church 1 Wyndham Road Kingston upon Thames Surrey, KT2 5JR Tel: 020 8546 4633 www.stagathaschurch.org.uk kingston@rcaos.org.uk

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.

SUNDAY 28^{TH} APRIL $2019-2^{\text{ND}}$ SUNDAY OF EASTER (C) FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

Saturday 27th

9.30am Eugene Moriarty RIP

6.30pm Bridie, Dennis & John Crehan & Crehan Family RIP

Sunday 28th 2nd Sunday of Easter, Sunday of Divine Mercy

9.00am Tina Piccirillo RIP 10.30am Tony Spooner RIP 6.30pm People of the Parish

Monday 29th St Catherine of Siena, Patron of Europe, Feast

9.30am Holy Souls

Tuesday 30th St George, Patron of England, Solemnity (transferred)

9.30am For the Victims in Sri Lanka and their Families

Wednesday 1st St Joseph the Worker
9.30am Wellbeing of Keith Fraser

Thursday 2nd St Athanasius, Bishop, Memorial

9.30am Marie-Anne Xiberras RIP

Friday 3rd Ss Philip and James, Apostles, Feast

9.30am For the People of St Anthony's Parish Sri Lanka

Saturday 4th The English Martyrs, Feast
9.30am Linda Susn Kuster-Kennedy RIP
6.30pm Brian William Preston RIP

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 (4th May) 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. Due to the new data protection rules we are unable to have names on the sick list unless we have written permission from the person to publicise their names. 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

Walter Rolls Pearce, Bernard Brennan, Patrick Walsh, Guiglielmo Dnorato, Angelina King, Patrick Edgecombe, William Rutter, Alexander Wilson, Christina Brennan, Claire Paterson, Marry Bruce, William Vivian, William Purton, Margaret Mary Garvey, Victor Derrington, Angela Miles, Henry Sweeny, Helen McGowan, Tina Piccirillo, Thomas Jude Horgan, Edward Statham Rimmer, Bridget Hickey, Teresa (Tess) White, Anne Rogerson, George Frederick Worley, Alice Power, Denis McCartie, Isabel Sherlock, Charles Leite...

OFFERINGS

Holy Places Gift Aid £8.00 Loose £300.59
First collection Gift Aid £837.50 Loose £1225.97
Retiring Collection Gift Aid £0 Loose £18.17

TOTAL £2081.64

This weekend's retiring collection will be for the maintenance of St. Georges Cathedral, Southwark; this collection helps meet the cost of the upkeep of the cathedral.

Lately Dead

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margaret Bradley who died recently. Funeral arrangements will be announced in due course. 'Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.'

LOVE HAS NO END. A REFLECTION OF PSALM 117:2-4, 22-27.

The sons of Israel were the whole nation of believers. The sons of Aaron were the clergy of the day. Those who fear the Lord were those from outside the Jewish nation who had come to share their faith in God. All are called to proclaim that his love has no end. St. Paul told the Corinthians that there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

It seemed, in the darkness of Calvary, that evil had silenced the good news, that hatred had choked the life out of love, and that death had claimed the ultimate prize. All of us have experienced moments of Calvary darkness and feelings of rejection. Then, through closed doors, into the room of fear, come the Risen Lord, our Saviour. He shows the wounds of rejection but his greeting is full of peace and his very breath bestows the Spirit of forgiveness and divine love.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. The disciples are bonded into a living community of praying, caring and sharing. The power of the Lord is seen in miracles of healing. The Holy Spirit becomes the breath of energy in the mission of the church. Thomas, who had refused to believe, makes the highest act of faith or anybody in the New Testament. Love goes beyond death, for love has no end.

Forgiveness goes beyond sin, for love has no end.

Give thanks to the Lord, for his love has no end.

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

Flower Arrangers!

Thank you everyone who showed an interest in becoming part of a team of flower arrangers; we will be holding an initial meeting on **Saturday 11th May 2019 at 10am**. We are currently looking for individuals who would like to volunteer to help prepare the flower arrangements for the church. No experience necessary – we are looking for anyone with an interest in flower arranging to get involved – from complete beginner to seasoned professional! Many hands make light work. We will have a flower budget from church funds so individual flower arrangers will not be required to take on any financial outlay. If you are interested, please speak with the Parish Secretary for more details.

Special Visit to the Cardinal Hume Centre Wednesday 15th May 2019

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the death of Cardinal Basil Hume who was deeply affected by the plight of the poor, particularly the homeless. This led him to open the Cardinal Hume centre, Westminster, for young people at risk and others in need. Our friends from St Thomas Aquinas Church in Ham are organising a visit and very much welcome members of our parish to join them. The visit will include a tour of the centre with frontline staff explaining the work of their specialist service teams aimed at turning lives around (1,200 last year). A simple lunch will be provided. Please contact Brendon Gately for further details and if you would like to book a place on 020 8546 8083.

"God does not want to control you, or stifle you, or manipulate you, or force you to do anything you don't want to do. Quite the opposite. God will let you do whatever you want to do, whenever you want to do it, with whomever you want to do it, and as often as you want to do it. When was the last time God stopped you from doing anything?" ~ Matthew Kelly, The Rhythm of Life: Living Every Day with Passion and Purpose



THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who have given so generously of their time and skill and helped to organise, prepare or present and made the Holy Week services and Easter Triduum such a success:

To everyone who helped prepare the Church for Easter – to all the church cleaners, gardeners, flower arrangers, to our musicians, singers, readers, sacristans, eucharistic ministers and altar servers for their contributions during Holy Week and Easter and to everyone who took part in the ceremonies, we thank you.

A BIG thanks to everyone for the tremendous response to the Easter Spring cleaning day. The church looked magnificent. A very special thank you to the children and young adults of the parish who also generously gave their time to help on this day; we look forward to seeing you again at further events through the year.

We are so proud of our young parishioners who presented the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and "Living Stations of the Cross" as part of the Good Friday Service; they did an absolutely amazing job!

And lastly, a specific thank you to our Priests; Fr. Anthony and Fr. Pius for the countless hours hearing Confessions at the church, and also at schools across the borough, and celebrating the Sacraments to prepare the parish for the Easter Season, and for our beautiful Holy Week liturgies! A special thank you to Rev. Bob Beresford, our Deacon, for his continued assistance with these sacraments.

There are dozens and dozens of people involved in making everything run smoothly at St. Agatha's during the festive periods; we thank you one and all.

2nd Sunday of Easter – Divine Mercy ~Sunday Gospel Reading Luke 9:28b-36 Jesus is transfigured in the presence of Peter, John, and James. Reflection

In today's Gospel, the voice from heaven speaks to the disciples saying, "Listen to him." The Transfiguration was a focused moment for the disciples when they heard God speaking to them and experienced Jesus in glory. They most certainly left this focused moment with a new appreciation for the importance of Jesus' words even if they did not yet understand everything that he had taught them. During Lent, we are invited to consider our attentiveness to Jesus and to one another. In the pace and noise that often characterizes family life, how well do we listen to one another? What opportunities do we have for quiet prayer?

As you gather as a family, count the number of pieces of equipment in your home that produce sound: televisions, radios, CD players, computers, video games, etc. Observe if sometimes more than one piece of equipment is playing simultaneously and how this might affect communication. Discuss the question: What is it like to try to talk with one another when this equipment is on?

Read aloud today's Gospel, Luke 9:28-36. Consider whether the noise and pace of your family life allows family members opportunities for quiet prayer. During Lent, it may be appropriate for your family to choose a time for quiet in the household by turning off televisions, radios, and CD players. Consider whether your family would like to establish such a time during this Season of Lent and suggest that it might allow you the opportunity to listen more attentively to one another and to find time for quiet prayer. Spend a few such moments as a family, asking God to help you listen well to one another and to Jesus.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

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

- ➢ Job Vacancy at Holy Cross Preparatory School
- Divine Mercy Sunday Service at St Raphael
- Divine Mercy Sunday Service at St Joseph
- 'The Gift' at St Joseph's Parish, New Malden
- Archdiocese of Southwark 2019 Spring Assembly
- St George's Cathedral Chorister Recruitment Day
- A Day with Mary
- Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2019

Important Upcoming Dates:

Sunday 28th April Baptism Preparation Class

Sunday 28th April FHC Session 8

Friday 3rd May FHC Group 1 Rehearsal
Sunday 5th May FHC Group 1 Sacrament
Saturday 11th May Flower Arrangers 1st Meeting

The Apostleship of the Sea

We are seeking a parish representative for this worthy Catholic charity. The Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) provides practical and pastoral care to all seafarers, regardless of nationality, belief or race. AoS port chaplains and volunteer ship visitors' welcome seafarers, offer welfare services and advice, practical help, care and friendship. The Apostleship of the Sea in Great Britain is part of an international network known to the maritime world as Stella Maris, working in more than 250 ports around the world. 90% of world trade is transported by ship. However, the life of a modern seafarer can be dangerous and lonely. They may spend up to a year at a time away from home, separated from their family and loved ones and often working in harsh conditions. So, The Apostleship of the Sea provides important support to these seafarers, and relies wholly on voluntary contributions. If you have an association with the world of seafarers or the navy, this may particularly appeal to you. It will not be a very time-consuming role. If interested, please contact Karin in the parish office.

First Holy Communion 2019

Please note the following dates for upcoming sessions:

Children's Session 8 Sunday 28th April 4 – 5pm Group 1 Rehearsal Friday 3rd May 4 – 5pm Group 1 Sacrament of Eucharist Sunday 5th May 12 noon Group 2 Rehearsal Friday 10th May 4 – 5pm Group 2 Sacrament of Eucharist Sunday 12th May 12noon

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish usually meet together on the third Wednesday of each month but due to a clash with another event at the Wych Elm this has now been set for the fourth Wednesday of each month. Therefore, the group will meet on the following dates in 2019: **22nd May**, 26th June, 24th July, 28th August, 25th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Please come along and join them from 8pm.

London SW Catholic Social Group

London SW Catholic Social Group is a social group for younger Catholics who meet every month. For further details visit their Facebook page or contact Dominic on 07779447676. Their next social evening is on **Saturday May 4th at 7.30pm at GBK in Waterloo.**

Altar Servers' Rally 2019

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on Monday 6th 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.. If you or your children are interested in joining the ministry or if you have questions about the ministry, please speak to Frs. Anthony or Pius. Further details are available on the Parish Noticeboard. Please let us know if you are intending to attend.

THEOLOGY N TAP

MONTHLY TALKS AT ST. RAPHAEL'S ON TOPICS RELATED TO OUR CATHOLIC FAITH

St Raphael's Church in Kingston/Surbiton holds a monthly event: "Theology on Tap. Talks on topics related to the Catholic faith will be delivered by a range of speakers from within and outside the Parish. Quench your spiritual thirst with friends in the church hall (Alexander House) over a glass of wine or other refreshment.

Sunday 28th April 2019

Joanna Bogle, Catholic historian and writer Visiting Research Fellow, St Mary's University

All are welcome to attend and enjoy a glass of wine with nibbles from 6pm to 8pm.

Donations will be invited each month to cover costs.

There is nothing more man needs than Divine Mercythat love which is benevolent, which is compassionate, which raises man above his weakness to the infinite heights to the holiness of God. ~ Pope John Paul II.