

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](mailto: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 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2023  
PENTECOST SUNDAY (A)**

**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>**

6.30pm John Howard RIP

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> Pentecost Sunday**

9am Vincent Arendse RIP

10.30am Keith & Alan Fraser RIP

6.30pm Wellbeing of Mavis Hatchman

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, Memorial**

9.30am Arthur Lawrence RIP

**Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup>**

9.30am Private Intentions

**Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast**

9.30am Thanksgiving to Mother Mary

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, Feast**

9.30am Catherine & Thomas Naughton RIP

**Friday 2<sup>nd</sup>**

9.30am Thanksgiving to the Triune God

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> Ss Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs, Memorial**

9.30am Dorothy Hall 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 21/05/2023**

1<sup>st</sup> Collection Gift Aid £187.00 Loose £702.37

Retiring Collection Gift Aid £40.00 Loose £85.63

**TOTAL £1015.00£**

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish. Last Sunday's retiring collection was for Communications Sunday.

**PARISH OFFICE**

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave for the Bank Holiday and will return on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2023, therefore the parish office will be closed. Please only call the presbytery in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry during this time. For all non-urgent enquiries, please email [kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk) and Karin will respond upon her return.



**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS!**

We would like to offer our congratulations to our 19 young people who received their First Holy Communion here at St Agatha's last Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> May 2023. We pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and inspire them as they make their way through life as active members of the Church. May you remember that God's love will always be there to comfort you, guide you, and bless you. We are also very grateful for our First Holy Communion Catechists that prepared the children for this most special Sacrament and made their big day possible.



**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

**CONFIRMATION 2023**

Remaining timetable for Confirmation 2023:

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
Session 8 - 7.15-8.30pm
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
Final Preparation/Rehearsal  
(Candidates to arrive at 7.15pm. Parents to arrive at 8.30pm)
- **Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
Confirmation Mass at 12.30pm
- **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
Evaluation and Reflection at 7.15-8.30pm



**ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING**

All Altar Servers are asked to come along to a brief training session on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 5pm. The session will last approximately an hour. Parents are asked to please remain in the church during the training.



If you would like to join our brilliant team of Altar Servers at St Agatha's, please do come along and join them; we especially welcome those who have just completed their First Holy Communion.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS**

**Due to demand, we have added an additional Baptism Preparation Class on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023.**

We also have several dates still available in August and September for Baptisms; if you would like to take advantage of one of these dates, please join us for this class. The class is held in the church hall from 2-4pm. Our subsequent class will be held on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023.



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 recommended that Godparents also attend.



**Pentecost Sunday, Cycle A**  
**Sunday, May 28, 2023**

**Gospel Reading**

*John 20:19-23 Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

**Gospel Reflection**

The Season of Easter concludes with today's celebration, the Feast of Pentecost. On Pentecost we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem; this event marks the beginning of the Church. The story of Pentecost is found in the Acts of the Apostles, today's first reading. The account in today's Gospel, John 20:19-23, also recounts how Jesus gave the gift of the Holy Spirit to his disciples. Yet the event in John's Gospel takes place on Easter Sunday. There is no need to try to reconcile these two accounts. It is enough that we know that after his death, Jesus fulfilled his promise to send to his disciples a helper, an advocate, who would enable them to be his witnesses throughout the world.

We already heard today's Gospel proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter this year (Lectionary Cycle A). That Gospel passage, however, also included the description of Jesus' appearance to Thomas. In that context, we were led reflect on belief and unbelief.

In the context of the Feast of Pentecost, John 20:19-23 reminds us about the integral connection between the gifts of peace and forgiveness and the action of the Holy Spirit. Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." He breathes the Holy Spirit upon the disciples and sends them to continue his work of reconciliation through the forgiveness of sins. Jesus' act of breathing the Holy Spirit mirrors God's act of breathing life into Adam at the time of Creation. In fact, both the Greek and Hebrew words for "spirit" can also be translated as "breath."

This Gospel reminds us that the Church is called to be a reconciling presence in the world. The reconciling presence of Christ is celebrated in the Church's sacramental life. In the Sacrament of Baptism, we are cleansed of sin and become a new creation in Christ. In the Sacrament of Penance, the Church celebrates the mercy of God through the forgiving of sins. This reconciling presence is also to be a way of life for Christians. In situations of conflict, we are to be agents of peace and harmony among people.

**Family Reflection**

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, the domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both. Today is a fitting time to share a family celebration of reconciliation.

As you gather together as a family, sit quietly for a few minutes, inviting everyone to reflect upon their need to forgive and to receive forgiveness. If there is a situation or an issue within the family that needs attention, spend some time reflecting on how your family might address it. Read together today's Gospel, John 20:19-23. Talk together about how Jesus gave us the gift of the Holy Spirit to help us in the work of forgiveness and to bring us peace. Pray together today's Psalm or the Prayer to the Holy Spirit, asking that the Holy Spirit help your family. Share with one another a Sign of Peace.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND**

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

**HOLY COMMUNION FOR  
SICK AND HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS**

If you are sick and/or housebound, our Priests would be happy to visit you, to pray with you, and to bring you Holy Communion in your home, please do let the Parish Office know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Christ but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests.

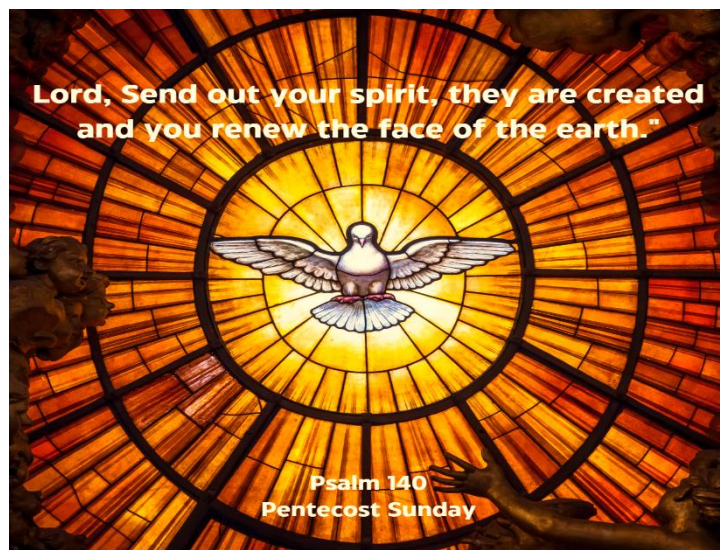
**LET US REMEMBER**

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**

*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, Margaret 'Clare' Horgan.*

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





**MARY'S MEALS  
FOREIGN CURRENCY CAMPAIGN**

Mary's Meals would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency\* no matter how old or obscure. Talk to friends and neighbours, maybe they have spare foreign coins/notes as well? We know that over the years foreign coins and notes end up in all sorts of odd places so please hunt high and low; remember we'll also gladly take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender anymore.

You will find envelopes at the back of church, please take one when you leave and put all your foreign coins and notes\* into it. You have until Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June to return your envelopes with all your foreign coins/notes\* in it. Mary's Meals currently feeds over 2.4 million children one good meal every school day and we want to reach many more. Please bring in your envelopes and you'll be helping Mary's Meals reach the next hungry child. Thank you.

\*We will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender.



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**MASS INTENTIONS**

Would you like a Mass offered at St Agatha for a particular intention? Perhaps you would like a deceased friend or relative remembered at the altar, or you would like a Mass said for yourself.

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. 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. Many people would like for their intention on a Sunday. We will try our very best to facilitate this, but these are the most sought-after slots.

The usual offering per Mass is a minimum of £10, this amount is pre-set by Southwark Diocese for all parishes within her jurisdiction, but you can give more. This 'stipend' goes to the priest offering the Mass, not the parish. Stipends are given to priests as they do not receive a salary, and sometimes they are their only source of income.

**Please note that the Mass diary is pre-arranged for the week ahead and the intentions can be viewed on the front of the Parish Newsletter or the Parish website**

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*Keeping our community fed,  
connected & supported.*

**SUPPORTING DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP**

Dons Local Action launched in March 2020 and is now a registered charity fighting the effects of poverty in South-west London. They 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. They currently provide support to 133 households within these boroughs and they are actively supporting families within the KT2 area. In the last three years the group has collected and distributed food for more than five million meals, as well as 3,000 laptops for those in digital poverty and hundreds of items of furniture for households in need. With UK food poverty soaring from 12 per cent in January 2022 to 22 per cent in January this year, demand for support from Dons Local Action is rising and funds are urgently needed to maintain and increase support levels.

Our collection point remains in the church porch for you to donate any non-perishable items. Some much needed items are stock items such as: salt, pepper, herbs, stock cubes, jam, sugar and cooking oil.

Please note that they accept non-food items such as toilet paper, washing up liquid, household cleaning products and toiletries.

***'For too many families, 'food deprivation' is a fact of life. An unacceptable fact of life in 2023! But wishing will not make it go away. It is here for the immediate future at least, so are we and so many like-minded folks. Thanks to your generous support here at St Agatha's, parents have been able to feed their children. That is a simple fact not an exaggeration!'***

*Thank you for your continued support and generosity.*

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**DONS LOCAL ACTION GROUP FAMILY FUN DAY**



Family Fun Day Raffle - Buy tickets for the amazing Dons Local Action Group raffle at the Family Fun Day on 28<sup>th</sup> May... here are just a few of the incredible prizes you could win....

- 2x Brands Hatch Touring Car Driving Experiences (worth £600 each)
- Fortnum & Mason Celebration Hamper with glorious treats and wine
- 12-month gym membership to SNAP 24/7 Gym
- Cannizaro Hotel du Vin - voucher for £120
- AFC Wimbledon - hospitality box at an available fixture including food worth £1,500
- Two tickets for a Showcase event Neil Warnock and Jack Rudoni at Plough Lane
- A mixed case of 24 beers from By the Horns including Crazy Gang Pale Ale
- £50 M&S voucher
- AFC Wimbledon - pair of training session spectator tickets & lunch with players

Further details available at:

<https://donslocalaction.org/family-fun-day-2023/>

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**ANNUAL MARRIAGE MASS AT  
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL**

Are you celebrating your 1st, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or any later wedding anniversary this year? If so, you are invited to join in celebrating a Mass for married couples at 3pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at St George's Cathedral (chief celebrant Bishop Paul Hendricks). You can apply for a written personal invitation to the Mass from Archbishop John Wilson. To book & for more details please email [mflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflsw@rcaos.org.uk)

**SOUTHWARK ARCHDIOCESE LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE  
2023 - IN PERSON AND ONLINE**

*Join at St George's Cathedral, at a "hub" venue in the diocese or on Zoom to explore how to live more fully in the power of the Spirit.*

The Archdiocesan Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and the diocesan Catholic Charismatic Renewal team are again organising Life in the Spirit Seminars for the Archdiocese during Eastertide.

The Seminars will run on five Tuesday evenings (2nd, 9th, 16th and 30th May and 6th June) at St George's Cathedral and at local hubs\* across the Archdiocese as well as on Zoom, with a Pentecost Saturday retreat day for all participants at St George's Cathedral on Saturday 27th May. Everyone would be most welcome. Inspiring talks and music, small group sharing and daily reflections (with food provided for those attending Tuesday evening sessions at the Cathedral).

\* **Local Hub: NEW MALDEN St Joseph's Catholic Church, Montem Road, New Malden KT3 3QW.**

For further details, see the leaflets in the church porch or visit: [www.bit.ly/SOUTHWARK2023](http://www.bit.ly/SOUTHWARK2023) or email [kristinabcooper@gmail.com](mailto:kristinabcooper@gmail.com).

**THE CATHOLIC UNION OF GREAT BRITAIN**



The Catholic Union was founded in 1870. It is a membership organisation dedicated to the defence of Catholic values in Parliament and public life, and the promotion of the common good.

The Catholic Union is a lay organisation; however, it works with the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) and the Catholic Bishops' Conference of Scotland (CBCS). It is a consultative body to the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales.

Membership of the Catholic Union is open to practising members of the Catholic laity in Great Britain and includes people from all parts of the country and all walks of life. It includes doctors, nurses, teachers, lawyers, and civil servants – we represent a wealth of lay Catholic experience and expertise.

The Catholic Union have several upcoming and interesting events. For further details please visit:

<https://catholicunion.org.uk/eventscalendar/>

**Mass with  
The Right Reverend  
Kenneth Nowakowski**  
Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy  
of Holy Family of London

**Bishop Nowakowski  
will preach at  
St. Mary's University Chapel  
Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
12:30pm**

All members of our community are very  
welcome to pray for Ukraine and for peace.

**ST AGATHA'S SCHOOL PSA  
SUMMER FAIR**

**SATURDAY  
24TH JUNE  
2 - 5PM**

INFLATABLE SLIDE | VEHICLE CAROUSEL  
PONY CYCLES | TEA CUP RIDE  
ICE CREAMS | BAR | BBQ FOOD  
RAFFLE | TEDDY TOMBOLA  
COCONUT SHY | FACEPAINTING  
BOTTLE TOMBOLA | SPIN THE WHEEL  
HOOK A DUCK | PENALTY SHOOT OUT  
LUSH BATH BOMB MAKING!

**BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS!**

ENTRY ON THE GATE:  
£2 ADULTS, £1 CHILDREN (AGE 4+)  
£5 FOR 2 ADULTS + 2 CHILDREN

Buy unlimited ride wristbands at  
[www.jumblebee.co.uk/summerfair2023wristbands](http://www.jumblebee.co.uk/summerfair2023wristbands)

'The first task of Christians is to keep alive the flame that Jesus brought to earth (Lk 12:49), which is the Love of God: the Holy Spirit. Without the fire of the Spirit, prophecies are extinguished, sorrow supplants joy, and routine substitutes love.' ~ Pope Francis