



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.

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES
SUNDAY 28TH JULY – SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY (C)**

Saturday 27th	
9.30am	No Intentions
6.30pm	John & Margaret Finn RIP
Sunday 28th	Seventeenth Sunday
9.00am	Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am	Michael Monk RIP
6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 29th	St Martha, Memorial
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 30th	
9.30am	No Intentions
Wednesday 31st	St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, Memorial
9.30am	Baby Katrina Eileen Quigley RIP
Thursday 1st	St Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop, Memorial
9.30am	Elizabeth (Betty) Hicks RIP
Friday 2nd	
9.30am	Thanksgiving for the Parish
Saturday 3rd	
9.30am	No Intentions
6.30pm	Joseph & Mafald Di Lieto 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 (3rd August) 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. *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

Lilian Gardner, Margaret Finn, Janet Nolan, Margaret Marley, Maureen McArdle, Maria Theresia Atkinson, Tom Farrelly, Baby Milo Patrick O'Reilly, Marcella Massey Hill, Mary Kate Walsh, Thomas Stapleton, Matthew Power, Kathleen Harmsworth, Bridget Anderson, Jane Black, Maurice O'Sullivan, Margaret Markey, James Owens, Frederick George Higgins, Christina Stilwell, Ted Hegarty, Joseph Goldsmith, Muriel Connellan, John Smyth, Delia Galligan, Gertrude Farrell, Freda Ross.

++ May they rest in Peace +++

OFFERINGS

First collection	Gift Aid	£479.00	Loose	£489.45
Retiring Collection	Gift Aid	£7.00	Loose	£61.61
TOTAL		£1037.06		

SUMMER HOLIDAYS For all those on holiday over the coming weeks we hope that you have a refreshing and relaxing time, for those travelling, we pray that you will have a safe journey. For those visiting families, may it be moments to cherish and for those going on pilgrimage over the summer period, please keep the parish in your prayers. May God be with you all over this period. Pray for God's protection and safety for all families wherever they may be. God Bless you all.

GRATITUDE

A REFLECTION OF PSALM 137:1-3, 6-8.

Prayer takes many forms. Abraham bargains with God, as if beating down the price with a street vendor. Jesus teaches us to pray as children to the Father with persistence and absolute confidence. Knitting these readings together is a psalm of gratitude.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you.

Gratitude is at the heart of prayer. It arises from the gracious awareness of what God has given. Thanksgiving responds to the gift: praise moves beyond the gift and responds to the giver. The psalmist gives thanks, then blesses, then adores.

It is impossible to appreciate the Eucharist without a deep sense of gratitude. The very word *Eucharist* comes from the Greek work for thanking. In the Eucharist we join with the angels in adoring the thrice holy God. Liturgy is like somebody rapt in enjoyment of a great orchestra, secretly envious of the musicians who are part of the symphony. Then an angel comes, places an instrument in the hands of the spectator with the invitation to play. The person protests his inability. 'Oh no,' says the angel, 'this is different. The conductor is Jesus and if you keep your eye on him, every note you play will be part of the harmony.' That is how it is with divine liturgy. We lift up our hearts, join with the orchestra of angels and saints, in unison with Jesus our conductor, returning all praise and thanks to the father.

Before the angels I will bless you.

I will adore before your holy temple.

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

Music at Masses

We are approaching the summer holidays and traditionally our musicians take a well-earned break for the month of August. This means that our songs during Mass may not be accompanied by musical instruments. If you would like to play any musical instrument at any Mass during this summertime, please let the priests know. We are still in need of more musicians to join when the musicians resume in September! A big thankyou to our musicians for all that they do for the parish!

Parish Office

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from Thursday 15th to Tuesday 27th August. Fr. Anthony will still be available in case of emergency or a pressing enquiry.

Michael Monk RIP

It is with great sadness that we let you know that Michael Monk died peacefully last Saturday, 20th July. Michael was the son of former St Agatha's headteacher Mr Paddy Monk, from 1990 until 2013 and who is known to so many of the St Agatha's Church and school family.

All are warmly invited to a Mass for the Monk Family's intentions on Saturday 14th September at 11am. This will be followed by light refreshments in the cloisters and church grounds. This Mass replaces the "Team Monk" tea party which was to be held in the grounds of the school on the same day and Mr Monk is planning to join us. For further information please contact Josie Bate directly:

goldenjosie@googlemail.com

HAVE A BLESSED AND PEACEFUL WEEK!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Seventeenth Sunday (C)

Gospel Reading

Luke 11:1-13

Jesus teaches the disciples about prayer.

Reflection

Luke gives more attention to Jesus' teachings on prayer than any other Gospel writer. He also mentions Jesus at prayer more than the others. In today's reading, from the beginning of Chapter 11 of his Gospel, Luke presents the core of Jesus' teaching on prayer. It consists of Jesus teaching a prayer to his disciples, a parable on the persistent neighbour, and assurances that God hears our prayers.

The disciples notice Jesus praying "in a certain place." They ask him to teach them to pray just as John the Baptist had taught his disciples. Jesus teaches them a simple version of the most famous Christian prayer, the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer. Matthew's version shows signs of being shaped by public prayer. Luke's version is probably closer to the original form that Jesus taught. Stripped of much of the language we are used to, Luke's version seems simple and direct. We pray that God's name will be recognized as holy and that his rule over all will be established. This is followed by petitions for our needs for bread, for forgiveness, and for deliverance. Luke uses the more theological language of "sins" rather than "debts," which is used in Matthew's version.

Having taught his disciples a simple, daily prayer, Jesus goes on to reassure them that God answers prayers. First, he tells a parable about a persistent neighbour who asks a friend for bread at midnight. The friend is already in bed and has no desire to disturb his family by opening the door. But because the neighbour is persistent, the sleeping man gets up and gives him all that he needs. If a neighbour is willing to help us if we are persistent enough, how could God not respond to our requests?

This teaching concludes with the reminder that if we seek, we will get a response. If a human father, with all his faults, knows how to give good gifts to his children, how much more will our heavenly Father give us? Instead of good gifts, however, Luke substitutes the word Holy Spirit. This foreshadows the gift of the Holy Spirit, who is central to Luke's theology and who will play an important role in the growth of the early Church after Pentecost.

The parable and the concluding teaching in this section should not lead us to think of prayer as a series of requests presented to God. Rather, as Jesus teaches in his model prayer, prayer consists in recognizing God's holiness and his rule over all things.

Family Reflection

When someone in our family is going through a hard time, we can't just sit by and watch. We try to do everything we can to let him or her know that he or she is not alone. Sometimes we even try to find a special gift for him or her—something that will help that person to understand how important he or she is to us. Talk about times in your family when this has happened.

Like a good father, God saw that his children needed help. He decided to offer his beloved children a special gift to reveal his love. What did God give us? Not a thing, but a person—the Father's beloved Son, Jesus. Jesus, in turn, taught us to approach God as we would approach a loving father. He gave us the words of a prayer that we call the Our Father, or the Lord's Prayer.

Read aloud Luke 11:1-13. Talk about how Jesus teaches us to be persistent in prayer. Think of times when family members were persistent about something until they were able to achieve a goal or receive what they sought. Talk about what it means to be persistent in prayer. Help your children understand that prayer is not like sitting on Santa Claus's lap, asking for what we want until we get it. Emphasize that prayer is a way of striving to recognize how God is reaching out to us in love and responding by presenting him with our needs.

Conclude this time together by joining hands and praying the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



Baptism

Congratulations to James, Charlotte and Oliver who were Baptised here at St. Agatha's in July. May God continue the good work he has started.

Important Upcoming Dates:

Wednesday 31 st July	Parish Men's Group
Saturday 3 rd August	Monthly Adoration
Sunday 4 th August	Prudential Ride 100; local road closures

St Agatha's Church Youth Club

The launch of the brand-new St Agatha's Church Youth Club has gone very well!

The Youth Club will run every Friday (Term-time) from 6 to 8pm, returning on Friday 13th September, and will be open to all children in year 6 and above. They will meet in the Cloister at St Agatha's Church; the club aims to offer a range of sports, music, arts, crafts, cooking and spiritual activities, trips and excursions and much more! Once fully established the young people will play a major part in shaping the youth club and the activities that are run. We are looking forward to being able to offer a youth provision, offering a safe and fun place for young people to make new friends and take part in the activities we will offer.



We would like to say a very big thank you to our parishioners who have very kindly donated sports equipment, including 2x table tennis sets, a basketball hoop and 2x football tables. Your kind donations are greatly appreciated and are being thoroughly enjoyed by our young parishioners! Thank you!

We would also like to thank the parishioners who have already come forward to help, however, **we urgently need more volunteers**, of all ages, to help behind the scenes with the various tasks involved with running the club, such as setting up and clearing away equipment, to ensure the club can continue. No experience of youth work is necessary. Could you spare just a few hours a month? Please speak with Frs. Anthony or Pius or contact the parish office for further details.

Prudential Ride 100 London / Surrey

This world class festival of cycling will once again pass through Kingston on Sunday 4th August. It will affect all those coming to morning mass by car from East of Park Road or South of Canbury Park Road. Queens Road and the lower part of Kingston Hill will be closed from 5.00am until about 12.30pm. there will be various other road closures throughout Kingston from 5am until about 7.30pm. Some bus routes will be affected. There will be pedestrian crossing places along the route and Kingston town centre will remain open as normal. For further details see the map on the church noticeboard or go to:

www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk/road-closures

Baptism Preparation Class

Our next baptism preparation class will be held on **Sunday 22nd September 2019**. If you are considering your child's baptism, please complete an application form, available from the back of the church and return to the Parish Office and register for this class. Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before receiving a date for a child's baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class. The Baptism preparation class is for adults only; it is our experience that parents get more out of the sessions if they are not easily distracted.

Parish Men's Group

The men of the parish meet together once a month at the Wych Elm. The group will meet on the following dates in 2019, please note changes to some previously announced dates: **31st July**, 28th August, 11th September, 23rd October and 27th November. Please come along and join them from 8pm.

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

- The Mustard Seed
- St John's Seminary Chapel Appeal
- Conquest Art Group at St Pius
- London SW Catholic Social Group