

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 12TH MAY 2024

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

Saturday 11th

6.30pm People of the Parish

Sunday 12th 7th Sunday of Easter

9am Marie-Anne Xiberras RIP

10.30am Laura & Mauro Ferrari & Liliana Possentini RIP

6.30pm Maragret McIlvenny RIP

Monday 13th

9.30am Wellbeing of Teresa Pearl

Tuesday 14th St Matthias, Apostle, Feast

9.30am Holy Souls

Wednesday 15th St John Stone, Priest, Memorial

9.30am Tony & Josie Piperni RIP

Thursday 16th St Simon Stock, Priest, Memorial

9.30am Leonette Camara RIP

Friday 17th

9.30am Favale Delfina RIP

Saturday 18th

9.30am Rev. Fr Thomas McElbone RIP

Exposition: Monday to Saturday 8.30 – 9.20am.

Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 9am.

Mass Times: Monday to Friday: 09:30
 Saturday: 09:30, 18:30 (Vigil Mass)
 Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30

Confessions: Saturday 10-10.30am or at call.

Baptisms: Sundays 12pm, By previous arrangement.

Marriages: Six months' notice required, Diocesan rule



WORLD COMMUNICATION DAY 2024

This year's 'World Communications Day' is celebrated this Sunday, 12th May 2024.

The theme for this year's World Day of Social Communications, chosen by Pope Francis, is:

'Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication.'

If you would like to read further details and the Pope's full message about this day, please visit:

www.cbcew.org.uk/world-communications-day/

Please use your gift aid envelopes or the red bucket in the church porch. Thank you.

GIFTS IN YOUR WILL

Gifts in your Will are a wonderful way you can continue to support the Church's ministry and mission and help meet the needs of future generations. Do please consider gifts to the Church and Catholic charities next time you update your Will. For more information pick up a leaflet in the church porch or contact Your Catholic Legacy – Tel: 020 7095 5370 or www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk

PARISH OFFERINGS

SUNDAY COLLECTION: 05/05/2024

Gift Aid £96.30 Loose £449.36 **Total £545.66**

This Sunday there is a collection for World Communications Sunday.

Thank you for your continued generosity to your parish.

ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO DONATE TO YOUR PARISH

MAKE A DONATION ONLINE:

Donate to St Agatha's Church online via 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 – these are also correct)

VIA OUR QR CODE:

The QR code above will take you to our parish's 'Give A Little' web donation page.



SAVE THE DATE!!

ST AGATHA'S INTERNATIONAL DAY – SATURDAY 6TH JULY 2024

MANY NATIONS, ONE FAMILY

Everyone is invited to join us for our new **International Day** with lunch from many nations! The day will provide you with the fun and flavours of over a dozen countries without needing to step outside KT2. Kingston might just be a small suburb of Greater London, but we have at least 20 different countries represented in our congregation each week! Save the date: Saturday 6th July 2024, further details will follow soon.....



HOST OUR LADY OF LOURDES STATUE IN YOUR HOME FOR MAY DEVOTIONS

A few dates are still available in June and July!

Our Lady's Statue is currently visiting for May devotions.

If you would like to receive the Pilgrim Virgin Statue in your home during May, June or July, please fill out the form available in the church porch and return it to the Parish Office.

Please note, this is only a request which will be confirmed via a phone call to you. A date cannot be guaranteed and is subject to demand.



SOUTHWARK ARCHDIOCESE LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS 2024 - IN PERSON AND ONLINE

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.

FIRST SATURDAY DIVINE MERCY RECOLLECTION DAY

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday Divine Mercy Recollection Day at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, on Saturday 1st June 2024 from 11 am to 4:30 pm. The Recollection Day will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Holy Mass, Stations of the Cross, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome.

Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

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.

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 us know; home visits are by request. If you know of someone who is unable to attend Mass but who would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please contact the Parish Priests or the Parish Secretary.

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

Mary Smith, Kathleen Wiseman, Francis Bruce, Mary Murphy, Patrick Dunne, John McMahan, John Paterson, Mabel Heck, Joyce Huntingford, Nora Conlon, David Walsh, Mary Oldknow, Rita Allen, Florence Busby, Maria Persechino, Salvatore Menale, Thomas Sheehy, James McCabe, Patricia Mulley, Flora Smith, Kenneth Albert Peacock, Michael Humphries, Eileen Renner, John Chandler.

+++May They Rest In Peace+++

"The birth rate is the first indicator of a people's hope. without children and young people, a country loses its drive for the future." ~ Pope Francis

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, CYCLE B
SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2024

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102:1-2, 11-212, 19-20

Bless the Lord who rules heaven and earth.

GOSPEL READING

John 17:11b-19

Jesus Prays For His Disciples.

GOSPEL REFLECTION

On the seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' farewell discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. This entire chapter is a prayer by Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. At the end of this prayer, Jesus and his disciples depart for the garden, and Jesus is arrested. Several important themes appear in this prayer. First, Jesus' prayer reaffirms the complete union between himself and the Father. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus has been presented as the one who pre-existed with the Father and as the one sent by the Father to do his work on earth. In today's reading, we hear Jesus include all his disciples in this union with the Father. We are reminded that Christ is the source of Christian unity. Through Christ, we are united with one another and with God Our Father. In this prayer, Jesus describes part of his mission in the language of protection. He has protected those who were given to him by the Father. In this we hear echoes of the dualism that is reflected throughout John's Gospel. Beginning with the opening chapter, the Evangelist John has presented Jesus' mission on earth in the context of a cosmic struggle between good and evil, represented by light and darkness. In Jesus' presence, his disciples have been protected from Satan. Now that Jesus is returning to the Father, he prays that his disciples will continue to be protected from the evil one. We can't help but note here the echoes of the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, the Lord's Prayer.

We also see in this chapter the distinction found in John's Gospel between the world and the disciples. The disciples are in the world, but they do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. As Jesus' teaching and ministry was a source of consternation for some, Jesus knows that the world may not accept his disciples with open arms. Again, we hear echoes of John's theme that salvation is worked out through the cosmic battle between light and darkness. The world, according to John, prefers the darkness. Yet

the light will not be overcome by the darkness. Reading this prayer of Jesus during the Easter Season, through the lens of his Resurrection, we know that the light of Christ has overcome the darkness of sin and death in our world. In the opening line of this prayer, we hear Jesus pray that his disciples will be kept in the name that he was given by God. We know that the salvation is given to us in the name of Jesus, and that his name —“God saves”— announces his mission on our behalf.

Family Reflection

One of the greatest gifts that we are given in our family life is protection from harm. Families work together to keep one another safe from physical harm. Think of the effort a family makes to childproof its home for infants and toddlers. Families also work together to protect each other from emotional harm. For example, we attend to the ways in which family members talk to one another so that we do not hurt one another's feelings by our words. Most importantly, families work together to protect each other from those things that might harm them spiritually. We shield our children from those things in our culture that might tempt them. When families work together to strengthen their sense of God and community, they build the spiritual strength to turn from those things that would lead them away from God and the Church. Jesus' prayer for his disciples can also be a prayer for family life.

Gather as a family and talk about the things that you want most for each other. Talk about the fact that as we work toward these things, we also work to protect one another from harmful things. What do you want to protect each other from? Observe that in today's Gospel, Jesus shows these same two tendencies as he prays for something he wants for his disciples and prays for their protection as well. Read together today's Gospel, John 17:11b-19. Consider what Jesus wants for his disciples and what Jesus wants to protect his disciples from. We know that when Jesus prayed for his disciples, he was praying for us as well. We pray for these things as well, for example, when we pray the Lord's Prayer. Conclude by praying together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
SUNDAY 12TH MAY 2024
RESPONSE: FILL OUR HEARTS

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, in the church porch or on the Parish website.

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

Please note the following remaining and important dates for the FHC Programme. Please remember that there are two groups this year completing their FHC, so please make sure you take note of the relevant dates for your child's group.

- Sunday 12th May: Session 7 (11.45-1pm)
- Thursday 16th May: Final Preparation & Rehearsal 4pm – Group 1
- Friday 17th May: FHC Parents Church Decorating 10.30am
- Friday 17th May: Final Preparation & Rehearsal 4pm – Group 2
- Saturday 18th May: FHC Mass 12pm – Group 1
- Sunday 19th May: FHC Mass 12pm – Group 2



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CARDS

A selection of First Holy Communion cards are available to purchase in the church porch. Cards are just £1 each! Please leave money in box available. Thank you.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, our next Baptism Preparation class will be held in June 2024 (Date yet to be confirmed).

In the meantime, 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 2024/25

2024 or 2025 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 preparations for our parishioners must Parish Office and we will happily guide you.



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS COURSE

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Or wanting to explore your Catholic faith further? Our Evangelium course starts in October. The programme consists of weekly sessions running until Easter, including vital dates during Lent. Evangelium is for adults who have not been Baptised (or have not received Confirmation or Holy Communion) and for Christians of other denominations who want to be Received into the Catholic Church.

Please email the Parish Office for more details and to register for our next programme: kingston@rcaos.org.uk

