

CLERGY Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugah, MSP — Assistant Parish 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

PLEASE NOTE: The best way to contact us is by email. All enquiries and non-urgent matters, including mass intentions, please email the Parish Office, at kingston@rcaos.org.uk In case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry only, please call Fr. Anthony or Fr. Eugene on 020 8546 4633.

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES SUNDAY 2 ND MAY 2021	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)	
Saturday 1 st	St Joseph the Worker, Memorial
9.30am	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
6.30pm	Maria Christina Viegas Ramahlo RIP
Sunday 2 nd	Fifth Sunday of Easter
9am	
10.30am	Cyril & Frances Jarvis, RIP
6.30pm	James Kenneth Seidlinger RIP
Monday 3 rd	
9.30am	Thanksgiving for Liam Calapini's One Year of Remission
Tuesday 4 th	
9.30am	
Wednesday 5 th	
9.30am	
Thursday 6 th	
9.30am	
Friday 7 th	
9.30am	
Saturday 8 th	
9.30am	Mary Murphy, RIP
6.30pm	
Morning Prayer: Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM	
Mass Times:	Saturday: 09:30, 18:30
	Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, Keith Fraser, Trish Taylor, Ryan Morrison, Philip Cockle and Melba De Silva. *Please let the Parish Office know in writing if either you or your relatives want to be mentioned on our sick list.*

ANNIVERSARIES

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, Roland Tierney, Mary Bowen, Jeremiah Murphy, Nora Thorpe, Capt. Eugene William De'Kerckhove, Patrick McNally, Patricia Fenton, Marie Rogers, Ivy Walsh, James Young, Geoffrey Allen, Mary Finley, Mary Postins,.

+++May they rest in Peace +++

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.



MORE VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED – HELP PLEASE!!!

We still need more volunteers to act as stewards, to welcome, meet and greet, and help people keep safe during mass. We appeal today to all of you to consider helping us. If you can help, please send an email to the parish office or John DeQuidt.

A big thank you to all our continuing volunteers—you are doing a great job and without you we could not open our beautiful church.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, your new packet of envelopes, which started on 11th April, are ready for collection from the church porch. If you normally use weekly envelopes but have recently signed a standing order form and no longer need the envelopes, please email the Parish Office. Thank you.

MAY DEVOTIONS

It is a centuries-old custom of Catholics to dedicate the month of May to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The month of May is always part of the Easter season, the fifty days we celebrate in the liturgy the Resurrection of Our Lord, a time also of awaiting the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The celebration of May as a Marian month fits well with the liturgical celebrations of Easter and Pentecost as we recall Mary's great joy in her Son's victory over death as well as her presence with the apostles in the upper room prayerfully awaiting the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. During May it has long been the tradition of the Catholic Church to highlight our devotion to Mary and seek her intercession in our lives.

Sadly, this year we will be unable to come together as we would usually to Pray the Rosary and have Adoration and Benediction. We therefore encourage you to Pray the Rosary individually and also as families. Prayer life is essential in these changing times.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS

I have come that they may have life and have it to the full (John 10:10) The Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis and the Southwark Archdiocese Catholic Charismatic Team are delighted to offer a wonderful opportunity for personal and diocesan renewal. Through the Life in the Spirit Seminars, you will be invited to grow in your love of the Lord, welcome the Spirit into your life afresh and pray for the renewal of our diocese. Each seminar will feature a talk from a gifted speaker and small group sharing. Book a place on this Spiritfilled course in preparation for Pentecost. It is a life changing experience releasing more of the Holy Spirit within you. This seminar is highly recommended and comes with the complete approval of Archbishop John Wilson, who is also one of the speakers. Click on the link below to book a place and for dates and info re speakers, topics, etc: https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/liss

+++ LATELY DEAD +++

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Clare Horgan who died on Monday 26th April 2021. Our condolences to her family. Eternal rest grant to her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.'



Fifth Sunday of Easter, Cycle B Sunday, May 2, 2021

Gospel Reading

John 15:1-8 Jesus teaches that he is the vine and that his disciples are the branches.

Gospel Reflection

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing his disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

Family Reflection

The goal of our life of prayer is to increase our awareness that Jesus lives with us always. Prayer is more than a dialogue with God; prayer is a lifting of our minds and hearts to God so that God might dwell and act within us and through us. The pinnacle of our life of prayer is our communion with Jesus in the Eucharist. Through this sacrament, we receive Jesus himself, and he remains with us. Our life of prayer and our union with Jesus will lead us to fruitful service to others.

Place a plant in your gathering space. Invite everyone to look at the plant, noting the connection between the plant and its leaves. Talk about the integral connection between all the parts of a healthy plant. Introduce today's Gospel by saying that Jesus talked about his relationship to his disciples using this metaphor. Read today's Gospel, John 15:1-8. Talk about the ways in which we are invited to relate to Jesus as his disciples today—prayer, Scripture, the Eucharist, and so on. When we do these things, Jesus promises to remain with us and to lead us to serve others well. Pray together that we will continue to be attentive and open to Jesus as he works in our lives today. Pray together the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Holy Communion 2021

All usual arrangements for First Holy Communion had to be suspended in view of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions put



in place. FHC will recommence when we are permitted by

the Archdiocese to hold classes in the church again. Please keep an eye on the newsletters for news of when we hope to resume.

Marriages in 2021/22

2021/22 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.



Mass Intentions

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.

It is a busy time for requests and sometimes Masses can be booked several weeks in advance, so if you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, *it is very important that you let the parish office know in advance and as soon as possible.* 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 date.

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



Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this **FREE OF CHARGE**, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro lannicelli. Continues on 5th May 2021 at 7pm.

Further information and Registration at: <u>www.comeandsee.org</u>



CAFOD – 400,000 Steps.

The response to CAFOD's Lent challenge to 'Walk for Water' has seen more than £800,000 raised. This will be used to help communities like Abdella's who's plight, and that of so many others, suffering the injustice of water poverty, was highlighted in the above campaign. For more information on the work of 'our' relief agency, please go to <u>cafod.org.uk</u>

CAFOD thank you for your continued support.

