

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

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

**SUNDAY 10TH JANUARY 2021
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (B)**

Saturday 9th	
9.30am	Alfred Knight RIP
6.30pm	Marie-Anne & Edward Xiberras RIP Rosa Vitolo RIP
Sunday 10th The Baptism of the Lord	
9am	Nicki Murphy & Family
10.30am	Narrie Curtin RIP
6.30pm	Wellbeing of Alan Fraser
Monday 11th	
9.30am	Edward & John Lovekyn RIP
Tuesday 12th	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
Wednesday 13th	
9.30am	Angelo & Tina Piccirillo RIP
Thursday 14th	
9.30am	Thanksgiving Intentions
Friday 15th	
9.30am	Cyril Jarvis RIP
Saturday 16th	
9.30am	Mary Frances MacDonald RIP
6.30pm	The Crehan Family RIP
Morning Prayer & Mass: Tuesday & Thursday 09:00 AM	
Weekend Mass Times: Saturday: 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, Clare Horgan, John Sewter, 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

Mary Ann Jelley, Walter Padberg, Rosa Vitolo, Jerzy Henryk Kopicki, Douglas Carter, Teresa Scott, Annie Burton, Mary Dobson, Frederick Fear, Bridget Cumiskey, Alfred Mulcahy, Joseph Rice, Eileen Wharton, George Winnen, Charles Woogar, Alexander Paterson, Balbina Saiz Agudin, Kathleen McEnery, Mary Blythe, Ellen Crowley, Bridget Dodd, Sandra Ruff, Agnes Mary Hill, Caroline Duckett, Thomas Begley, Joanna Herd, Eileen Sagar, Cyril Jarvis, Rosario Stroud, Amber Rose Kijowski, Arthur Squires, James Coughlan, George Alexander Bergin, Winifred Frain, Ethel Finn, Joseph Coll, Michael Hart.
+++**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.

LATELY DEAD

† Rev. Fr Michael Gwinnell, Former Parish Priest of St Ann's, Kingston Hill (1992-2001), who died peacefully in the early hours of Sunday, 13th December 2020 at St Teresa's Home (Wimbledon), aged 96 years, and after 68 years of priestly life and ministry.

† Canon Frank O'Sullivan, Former Parish Priest of St Joseph's New Malden died peacefully on 22nd December 2020, aged nearly 100.

† Leslie Feast, Former Headmaster of OLI Primary School from 1976 to 1988, who died peacefully in his sleep aged 94 years, at Kingston Hospital on Monday 21st December 2020.

Please remember them in your prayers.

+++*Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.*+++

Our Church is open for Public Masses

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of a lockdown on 4th January 2021 places of worship may remain open as long as they follow the established guidance. Our church remains open and will maintain the highest standard of social distancing and sanitising.

However, due to these restrictions and the availability of our stewards, the decision has been made to reduce the opening of the church during the weekdays for the next few weeks. **Therefore, the church will only be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Adoration and Mass at 9am.**

We will continue our normal weekend Mass schedule: Saturday: 18:30 and Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30.

We will continue to live stream our Sunday 10.30am Mass

Live Streaming of the 10.30am Sunday Mass, will continue from our website home page and Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/agatha.kingston.92>

- We ask that you do not enter the church if you have cold or flu-like symptoms.
- Maintain strict social distancing at all times, both inside and outside the church building.
- You must not 'mingle' with anyone outside of your household or support bubble.
- Face coverings must be worn in the church at all times by those over the age of 11, unless they have a medical exemption.
- Please sit in designated seating, and be guided by our church stewards.
- All surfaces will be cleaned when the church is closed. Please try to avoid touching anything in church unnecessarily.

PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



THANK YOU!!

A Huge Thank you to everyone for your kind wishes, the many Christmas cards, messages and gifts. You have all been so very generous! Also, a very special thank you to the parishioners who worked so hard to ensure that our Church and gardens were so beautifully cleaned and decorated. To EVERYONE that helped make all our Christmas celebrations so very special: the virtual Christingle service team, the men of the parish who set up the Crib, our amazing team of stewards, our fantastic broadcasting team, and our remarkable Parish Secretary. I thank you and pray that the new year will bring us joy, love, peace, happiness and big hugs! ~ Fr. Tony

Baptism Preparation Class and Baptisms

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the new year, please register for our next class, which will be held virtually this Sunday, 10th January 2021, by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office by 12pm Sunday. If you have already attended a class last year please email the parish office to advise and arrange a date for your child's baptism.



School Application Form Signing

The time of year has come when many parents are thinking about places in a Catholic School. Regular Mass attendance is a requirement for a reference to be completed. If you have recently moved to the area you should seek a priest reference from your previous parish which we will then countersign.

A priest will be available to sign school application forms on: **Tuesday 12th January 2021 between 3pm and 4pm.** No appointment is necessary, please call at the Presbytery.

Please ensure that you complete as much of the forms as possible and if you have any reference letters, please also bring these along with you. Please bring all relating documents with you at this time, especially Baptism Certificates, if not baptised here at St Agatha's. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2020.

First Holy Communion 2021

Thank you to all parents/carers for returning the FHC application forms for 2021. Sadly, due to the current government restrictions the parents meeting and inscription Mass were not permitted to go ahead and we are not yet able to start our programme. Another email update will be sent this weekend.



St Agatha's Confirmation 2021

Please check the website and newsletter for updates regarding our next confirmation course. We will update these details as soon as possible.

BAPTISM
OF OUR LORD

The Baptism of the Lord, Cycle B Sunday, January 10, 2021

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:7-11

Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist.

Gospel Reflection

In today's Gospel we hear John the Baptist contrast his baptism of repentance with the baptism that Jesus will inaugurate. John the Baptist says that he has baptized with water, but that the one who is to come will baptize with the Holy Spirit. John's baptism was not yet a Christian baptism; it was a preparation for the Christian Baptism we celebrate today, and through which sins are forgiven and the gift of the Holy Spirit is received. In accepting John's baptism, Jesus, though sinless, united himself with all sinners.

The baptism of Jesus is reported in each of the three Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Clearly, Jesus' baptism was an event of great significance for Jesus and for the early Christian community. Mark and Luke report the story from Jesus' perspective; the voice from heaven is addressed to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, the voice from heaven speaks to all who are present. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his baptism shows that something new is beginning through the baptism and ministry of Jesus.

The baptism of Jesus is considered an important manifestation of God in the person of Jesus, another epiphany. Jesus' baptism inaugurates his mission. Mark's Gospel moves quickly from the report of Jesus' baptism to Jesus' temptations in the desert to his ministry in Galilee after John's arrest. The end of the ministry of John the Baptist is the beginning of Jesus' ministry. In an analogous way, our Baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians.

Surprisingly, on this the last day of the Christmas season the Gospel does not tell a story from Jesus' childhood. Instead, the Gospel reveals Jesus' relationship to God: The Son of Mary and Joseph is also God's own Son. We believe that through Baptism we are also made children of God.

Family Reflection

In the story of Jesus' baptism, we hear the report of a significant moment in Jesus' life. By accepting baptism from John the Baptist, Jesus shows himself to accept solidarity with sinners. In the voice from heaven and the descent of the Holy Spirit, we know that God received this offering from Jesus and found it pleasing. In the passages that follow in Mark's Gospel, we learn that Jesus' baptism marks the beginning of his public ministry.

Although many of us may have already taken down our Christmas decorations, liturgically speaking, the Christmas season hasn't ended yet; today is the last day. Holidays like Christmas are highlights of our year, moments of great grace. This grace renews us and prepares us for our return to the season of Ordinary Time, to the continuing work of discipleship.

Gather as a family and discuss your feelings about the ending of the Christmas season. How does it feel to take down the Christmas decorations? Many of us experience a let-down after the excitement of Christmas; others may feel relieved that life is returning to normal. Liturgically, we end the Christmas season today by reflecting on the importance of Jesus' baptism. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 1:7-11. Jesus' baptism prepared him for his public ministry. What will we take from this Christmas season to carry us forward into Ordinary Time, to renew and strengthen our life of Christian discipleship? Conclude by praying together today's psalm response taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah, Isaiah 12:2-6, or pray the Prayer to the Holy Spirit.