

CLERGY

Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest Fr. Ebuka Umekachikelu, 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

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.

SE	SUNDAY 17 TH JANUARY 2021 COND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
Saturday 16th	<u> </u>
6.30pm	Mary Frances MacDonald RIP
	The Crehan Family RIP
Sunday 17 th	2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Patrick McDonagh RIP
10.30am	
	Wellbeing & Recovery of Linda Fitton
Monday 18 th	
Tuesday 19th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 20 th	
	Dorothy Hall RIP
Thursday 21st	St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, Memorial
	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
Friday 22 nd	
Saturday 23 rd	
6.30pm	Thomas Leslie Dwyer RIP
	Anthony Colley RIP

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

Arthur Squires, James Coughlan, George Alexander Bergin, Winifred Frain, Ethel Finn, Joseph Coll, Michael Hart, Henry Heaton-Harris, James Burt, Madeline Gurney, William Hill, Marcella Sweeney, Patrick McDonagh, Joseph Ruddy, Frederick Burch, Umberto Milocco, Basil Gurney, Colin Alexander, Bruce Hickman, Eileen Mary Radnor, Peter McChrystal, Susan Prince, Patrick Walsh, Therese Currie, Peter Kearns, May East, Martin McDonagh, Una Reed, Liam Mullane, Mary Brice, Joseph Absalom, Eileen Ryan, James Milburn, James Gerald Torrens, Robert Francis Colclough, Agneta Hill, Mary Shanks, Mary Frances McDonnell, Winifred Gertrude Maton, William Little, Mary Abraham, Michael Gray, William George Hedger, Thyrza Colclough, Michael Cullen, Alfred Hall, Agnes Rimmer, Mary Johnson, James Norman, Margaret Heighton, John McParlane, Patric Emerson.

+++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.

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 <u>at all times</u>, 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, kindly note that the dispensation from Sunday obligation, granted by the Bishops at the onset of the first lockdown, is still in place until further notice.





Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B Sunday, January 17, 2021

Gospel Reading

John 1:35-42 John the Baptist recognizes Jesus as the Lamb of God, and Jesus receives his first followers.

Gospel Reflection

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptized by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus—the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him Peter, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?



Family Reflection

In today's Gospel we learn about one of at least two family relations that appear among Jesus' first disciples. Andrew is the brother of Simon, whom Jesus renames Peter. In next week's Gospel, we will learn about the brothers James and John, the sons of Zebedee. We know from the letters of Paul and other witnesses to the early Church that it was a common occurrence for an entire household to be baptized together. From the very beginning of the Church, families helped one another to know and follow Jesus. We hope and pray that this continues to be true in our family life.

Before your family gathers, look around your house and gather some items that your family might have that remind you of your faith. Perhaps you have a cross or crucifix displayed in your home, a statue of Mary, or statues or other art depicting saints. In today's Gospel we learn about how Andrew led his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Read today's Gospel, John 1:35-42.

In our family life, we also help to lead one another to Jesus. Talk together about the items that you gathered, discussing what these items mean to you and how you might use them during the day for prayer. Pray that your family will continue to help one another grow in our faith in Jesus. Pray together the Glory Be to the Father.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

Diocesan Directory 2021

Copies of the Diocesan Directory for 2021 are now available, please email the Parish Office if you would like a copy. They cost £3.00 each.

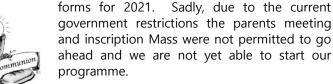
Baptism Preparation Class and Baptisms

For those who wish to have their child baptised this year, please register for our next class, (date to be confirmed for March) by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office. If you have already attended a class, please email the parish office to advise and arrange a date for your child's baptism.



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



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.

