

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](mailto: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. In case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry *only*, please call Fr. Anthony or Fr. Eugene on 020 8546 4633.

## Archdiocese of Southwark



### CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

#### COVID-19 ROUTE MAP: STEP 4 GUIDANCE

Dear Parishioners, following the Prime Minister's address to the Nation regarding the lifting of restrictions from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2021, we have received guidance from the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, and we can advise the following guidelines for our church:

⇒ **Face coverings/Masks:** The Government has announced that it will no longer be mandatory to wear a mask in church. However, the wearing of masks around the building is strongly recommended and encouraged, for the continued protection of both the wearer and those around them. Similarly, we also recommend and encourage wearing of masks whilst in the pews.

⇒ **Stewards:** The deployment of stewards will no longer be necessary from Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July. However, those coming to Mass have spoken so warmly about the welcome that they have received, that we will be seeking welcomers for our Sunday masses.

⇒ **Test, Track and Trace:** Our existing Track and Trace system will no longer be used. As long as the NHS Test, Track and Trace system is in operation, we will make available the means for people to sign in using the NHS app with a QR code at the church entrance, everyone attending is encouraged to scan for test, track and trace purposes.

⇒ **Congregational Singing:** Although congregational singing will be permitted from 19<sup>th</sup> July, we will be phasing this back in gradually as part of worship over the summer period, this is because face coverings should be worn by all members of the congregation whilst singing together, particularly until infection levels reduce. For now, any singing should be limited to the clergy or other authorised persons. Choirs are now permitted, if you would like to sing at Mass, please speak with Frs Anthony or Eugene.

⇒ **One-way systems and movement of people:** We will no longer be required to have one-way systems or other restrictions on movement in church. However, everyone should exercise good responsible behaviour, especially when moving to receive Holy Communion during Mass and we encourage everyone to have regard to those who prefer to continue to socially distance.

⇒ **Offertory Collection:** The offertory collection is now permitted in church; however, we will continue to use the current boxes at the back of the church, particularly until infection levels reduce. Attendees are invited to place any offering they wish as they leave, please also use these boxes for Gift Aid envelopes.

⇒ **Hand sanitising:** Hand sanitisers will still be in place throughout the church. Sanitising hands on entry and exit to the church, and before liturgies, is still recommended and encouraged and also reduces risk.

⇒ **Toilets:** The disabled toilet will be available.

⇒ **Please remember:** If you feel unwell, please do not put others in danger and stay at home. Please do not visit the Church if you have a high temperature, a new continuous cough or loss/change in your normal sense of taste or smell.

To read the full guidance from the Bishops' Conference please [click here](#) or visit the parish website for further information. [www.stagathaschurch.org.uk](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)

#### MASS WELCOMERS NEEDED

Many parishioners have spoken so warmly about the welcome that they have received at the church entrance during the past months, we would like to introduce welcomers at all the Sunday masses. If this is something you would be interested in doing, please email the parish office with your details and which Mass you would be able to help at.

#### TEMPORARY CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED

The new guidelines require that we clean high frequency touch points in the church after each act of worship and, in addition, thoroughly cleaning the church once a week. We are therefore seeking individuals who would be willing to join a small rota to carry out these requirements for the next few months. This can be at a time that is convenient for those undertaking the cleaning, not essentially straight after Mass. If you would be willing to assist us with this, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

*Care has to be taken to ensure that churches continue to be places where people feel safe to gather to worship and we hope you can support these current measures; they represent the balance between trying to make Sunday worship as enriching as possible, whilst encouraging people to return to St Agatha's when they feel ready, and to assure those who do come that we are doing everything as safely as we possibly can. Our arrangements are under constant review and while they may not suit every individual, we hope we can all respect them as a means of showing care for each other.*



**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES  
SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021  
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**

<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Tony Moffat RIP Silvie Stone RIP
6.30pm	Wellbeing of Tony Bronie
<b>Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>	
9am	Sameer Polus
10.30am	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Mrs Teresa Fernandez RIP
<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Holy Souls
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Thanksgiving Intentions
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	
9.30am	Alessandra Montezemolo
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> St Mary Magdalene, Feast</b>	
9.30am	Fachra Daly RIP
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> St Bridget, Religious, Patron of Europe, Feast</b>	
9.30am	Private Intentions
<b>Saturday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Holy Souls
6.30pm	Sameer Polus

**Morning Prayer:** Monday to Saturday 09:00 AM

**Mass Times:** Saturday: 09:30, 18:30

Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30

Baptisms: By previous arrangement – Sunday at 12pm.

Marriages: Six months' notice required – Diocesan rule.

**MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST PAUL APPEAL  
SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021**

This weekend we will have a Mission appeal for the Missionary Society of St Paul (MSP) at all Masses. Your prayers, material and financial support are most needed for:

- The training of 120 MSP seminarians studying to become priests, it takes an average of £1,100.00 to support each student in the seminary for one year and this is becoming an increasingly difficult task for the society.

- To help sustain some challenging missions like Malawi, Chad, South Sudan and agriculture and water projects.

MSP priests serve in more than 20 countries; Fr. Anthony and Fr. Eugene are among the MSPs currently serving in the UK.

The Missionaries of St Paul are committed to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and the wonderful works of the Father in the Holy Spirit, but they cannot do this alone, they need your help.

We will have a collection (via envelopes); envelopes are available in the church porch, which can also be used to Gift Aid your donation. Please pop them into the offering's boxes.

For further information about the Missionary Society of St Paul, please visit: <https://www.mspfathers.co.uk/>



**MARRIAGE**

Our congratulations and best wishes to Mary and Nino who were married here at St Agatha's this weekend

~May the Lord bless them as they begin their married lives together~



**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2021/22**

Application forms for next year's First Holy Communion are available from the parish office.

**Forms must be completed and returned in person at one of the following sessions:**

Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> or Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> July after Family Mass (in the Cloister).

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> or Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July between 2.30pm and 3.30pm (at the Presbytery)



**CONFIRMATION 2021 & 2022**

Please note that the programme and schedule details are not yet available and will be provided via email once we know how many candidates will be taking part, however, we can confirm the programme will begin in September 2021.



**BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS AND BAPTISMS**

For those who wish to have their child baptised later in the year, please register for our next class on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2021**, by completing and returning the baptism application form, available on our website, to the parish office. Parents need to attend a Baptism preparation class before a child's baptism.



**MARRIAGES IN 2021/2022**

2021 or 2022 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.



**PRAY THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET**

Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Mondays and Fridays each week at 10 am after Mass. Please stay after Mass for 10/15 mins to pray with fellow parishioners.



**THE ROSARY**

We will pray the Rosary in the church every Wednesday morning after Mass. Everyone welcome to join in.



Sunday, July 18, 2021

**Gospel Reading**

Mark 6:30-34

*Jesus invites his disciples to rest after their ministry, and Jesus is moved with pity for the crowds who pursue them.*

**Gospel Reflection**

In this today's Gospel, we read the report of the return of the Twelve, who were sent by Jesus to preach repentance, heal the sick, and drive out demons. When the Twelve return to Jesus, he invites them to come away from the crowds and rest. But the crowds will not give them peace. As the Twelve have shared in Jesus' ministry, they now appear to share in his popularity. The crowds continue to approach them, and Mark reports that the disciples don't even have time to eat. In an effort to get away, Jesus and his disciples board a boat in hopes of finding a deserted place. But the crowds notice this and arrive ahead of them. The crowds are so persistent that Jesus and his disciples cannot find a place to be alone. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowds.

Our Gospel for today stops here, but Mark's report of the unyielding demands of the crowd continues in the verses that follow. If we were to continue reading from Mark's Gospel, we would hear Jesus instruct his disciples to feed the crowd in the familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. The work of Jesus and his disciples appears to be a round-the-clock job. In the next few weeks, we will hear the story of Jesus' feeding of the multitude, but our Lectionary will turn to the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John to report and reflect on this story.

In today's Gospel, we hear the Twelve referred to as "apostles." The word apostle is a Greek word meaning "one who is sent." Jesus chose twelve men from among his disciples whom he sent to share in his ministry of preaching and healing. The first report of this is found in the third chapter of Mark's Gospel, where the Twelve are also called apostles and the names of this select group are listed.

We who are Jesus' disciples today have also been sent to share the Gospel with others. Perhaps our commitment to following Jesus as his disciple leaves us feeling tired and overwhelmed. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm the importance of times of rest and renewal. Jesus wanted his disciples to come away and spend time alone with him. This is what we seek and find in our life of prayer and in our celebration of the Eucharist.



**Family Reflection**

Family demands can make us feel like Jesus and the twelve apostles. We wish for times of relaxation and renewal, but there are errands to do, household chores to keep up with, volunteer commitments to keep. These are all good things, but we can be left feeling drained and tired as we try to keep up. Perhaps we might take the opportunity this week to give ourselves permission to find the rest and relaxation that Jesus seeks for his disciples in today's Gospel. One of the gifts we can give to one another in our family life is assistance in finding the time and space to renew ourselves through prayer.

When you gather together as a family this week, bring your family calendar. Together review your family calendar and spend some time reflecting on your family activities. In particular, ask if your family has an appropriate amount of time for rest and relaxation. If not, discuss ways in which this time for renewal might be included in the week ahead. Read together today's Gospel, Mark 6:30-34. Notice how Jesus tried to find time and space for his disciples to rest and relax after they returned from their mission. Conclude in prayer together, asking God to help us find time to renew ourselves so that we might be better disciples of Jesus. Pray together the Lord's Prayer.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

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**+++ LATELY DEAD +++**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Peter Connor who died on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's Church on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 11am. Our condolences to his Family.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Maura Strong, formerly of Lower Kings Road, Kingston, who died peacefully, on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2021, in Cumbria where she was residing closer to her family. Her Requiem Mass will take place here at St Agatha's Church on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

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

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**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.*

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**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.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Annie Evenden, Patricia Green, Peter Henry Bowden, Antony Cox, Eileen Flynn, William Miles, Margaret Smith, Jesse Higgs, Jacqueline Sewter, Mary Hutton, Josephine Lamb, Catherine (Trudy) McIntyre, Frances Cobb, Patrick Joseph Collins, Anne Keane, Mary Mackey, Mary Smith, George Dyke, Teresa Konrath, Agnes Egan, Elsie Doris Dowling, Colin James Hughes, Louisa Evans, Michael Halloran, Leonard Matthews, Christopher Robin O'Connor. **+++May they rest in Peace +++**

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### Parish Office

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021, returning on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, therefore the parish office will be closed.**

Fr Anthony or Fr Eugene will be available in case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry only.

For non-urgent enquiries please email [kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk)

### Summertime 2021: Altar Servers' Summer Break

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021

This annual activity for altar servers, aged 10-15, of the Southwark diocese, takes place at the Oratory school, Reading, in August. A well organised, fun, educational and prayerful week. Activities include talks, discussions, prayer, daily Mass, as well as sport, Thorpe Park visit and Swimming. Cost £165 covers: All board and lodging, Thorpe Park, Swimming. Summertime will open with Mass celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson. For more details pick up a leaflet from the church porch or please contact: Fr. Stephen Boyle, Chaplain to the Guild of St. Stephen. Tel: 01322 220075 or Email: [dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk)

### Altar Servers' Rally 2021

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021** at The Friars, Aylesford Priory, Kent. Monsignor Canon John O'Toole, Episcopal Vicar of Kent, will be the principal celebrant. During the Mass new servers will be enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen. Those already enrolled may renew their promises. The rally gives servers a great opportunity to collectively acknowledge and celebrate their special Ministry of Service. This year, we especially pray for Southwark's faithful servers who have made their journey home, to be with St Stephen. If you or your children are interested in joining the ministry or if you have questions about the ministry, please speak to Frs. Anthony or Eugene. Leaflets are available in the church porch. Please do let us know if you are anticipating attending.



### Annual Cathedral Marriage Mass

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Are you celebrating your 1st, 10th, 25th, 40th, 50th, 60th or any later wedding anniversary this year or last year? If so, Archbishop John invites you to join him in celebrating a Mass for married couples at 3pm on Saturday 9th October at St George's Cathedral. For more details, please email [emailmflsw@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:emailmflsw@rcaos.org.uk)



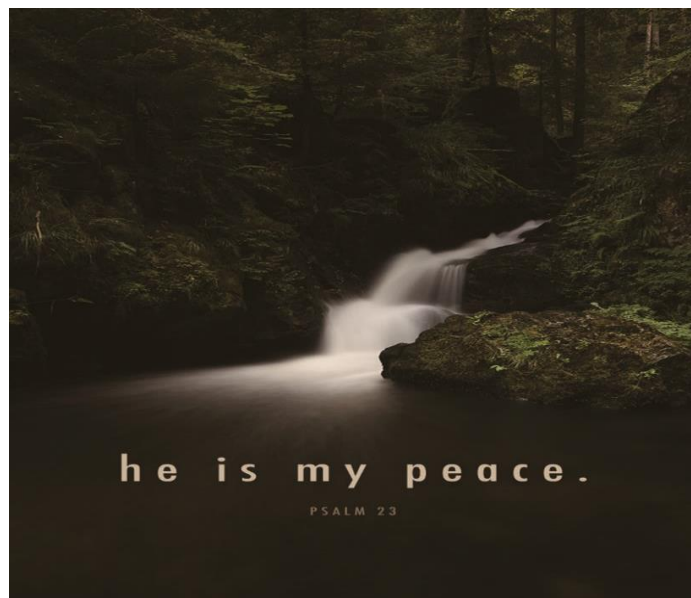
### Synod Online Session

Across the world preparations are taking place for the synod. To help the Catholic community CAFOD are offering online sessions, open to all, with experts sharing what the synod and synodality is, why it is important. Everyone is welcome to join live or by watching on catch up. The first session, on **Tuesday 27 July at 7pm**, will feature a conversation with Christopher Lamb, Rome correspondent for The Tablet, about why Pope Francis is inviting us all to participate in the synod. [Click here to book onto the session.](#) Or visit: <https://www.bigmarker.com/cafod/Synod>

### Unite Against Unjust Debt

Many Catholics have been meeting with their MPs in response to Pope Francis' call for a better kind of politics. Dialogue has focused on debt cancellation for the world's poorest countries, action to tackle the climate crisis and vaccine equity. You can still sign the petition here: [petition to the Prime Minister](#). Thank you if you have already supported this.

**A message from CAFOD:** Thank you for supporting CAFOD over this very difficult year, we are very grateful and wanted to share some of the work you have made possible. Do follow the link to find some of the stories of [communities transformed by water projects](#), including a video of [Binga from Zimbabwe](#) who is delighted with a new water source. Thank you for helping to make these good things possible. [cafod.org.uk/News/International-news/Water-stories](http://cafod.org.uk/News/International-news/Water-stories)



### Lunchtime Carer Needed

A parishioner is looking for a lunchtime carer for her 80-year-old mother who is frail and has dementia, but is peaceful and slightly forgetful.

She needs someone from 11.30-2 (or 2.30). The person would need to do her leg exercises (basic), feed, chat and pop her on the commode, as needed, and when they leave put her into bed. Equipment for transferring to bed/chair/commode provided. Someone who is happy to pray with her would be advantageous. Please email or call the Parish Secretary if you would like to discuss further.