



CLERGY  
 Fr. Anthony Oleh, MSP — Parish Priest  
 Fr. Eugene Terngohol Lugh, 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](http://www.stagathaschurch.org.uk)  
[kingston@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:kingston@rcaos.org.uk). In case of an emergency or for a pressing enquiry only, please call on 020 8546 4633.

**FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES**

**SUNDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2021  
 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	
6.30pm	Rita Souter RIP
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Lent</b>	
9am	Souls of The Bush, Fernandes & Miranda Families RIP
10.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	People of the Parish
<b>Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> The Chair of St Peter, Apostle, Feast</b>	
	Wellbeing of Mavis Hatchman
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> St Polycarp, Bishop, Memorial</b>	
9.30am	Rose Pereira RIP
<b>Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
<b>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup></b>	
9.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup></b>	
	Thanksgiving Intentions
<b>Saturday 27<sup>th</sup></b>	
6.30pm	Louis Briffa RIP
<b>Morning Prayer &amp; Mass: Tuesday &amp; Thursday 09:00</b>	
<b>Weekend Mass Times:</b>	
Saturday: 18:30, Sunday: 09:00, 10:30, 18:30	

**Liturgical Dates for Diary**

- 1st Sunday of Lent – 21st February
- St Patrick – 17th March
- St Joseph – 19th March
- The Annunciation of the Lord – 25th March
- Palm Sunday – 28th March
- Maundy Thursday – 1st April
- Good Friday – 2nd April
- Easter Sunday – 4th April

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

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Alan Fraser who died on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2021. His requiem will take place here at St Agatha's Church on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 10.30am. Due to the current restrictions for numbers attending funerals, we ask that you contact the family directly regarding attending the service. Our condolences to Alex, Joan & Keith and their families.

Please also pray for the repose of the soul of James McKay who died recently. His requiem will take place here on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2021. Our condolences to James' family.

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

**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**

*Bernard McArdle, Mary West, George Alexander, Thomas McCormack, Charles Waddell, Mervyn Woolger, Ursula Nolan, Julia Turner, Nestor Paralta, Maria Onorato, Michael Whelan, Giovanna Capaldi, Mary Ellen O'Donoghue, John McLaughlin Sim, Josephine Flynn, Kathleen Law, James Brooks, John Connell, Susan Thomas, Rose Pullen, Jorge Potier, Frederic Whelan, Ronald Macdonald, Charles Crawley, Edit Brown, John McSweeney, Elizabeth Heppel, Mary Ellen White, Bernard Mackey, Kate Goddard, Eugenie Connolly, Mario Porlanti, Sr. Declan Carroll, Eileen Murphy, Tom Costello, Vladas Dankis. +++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

"Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and, in this way, to know the fundamental truth: who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life..." ~ Pope Benedict XVI



**PLEASE STAY SAFE AND KEEP WELL!**

ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation – Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



## Our Church continues to be Open for Public Masses...

Following the Prime Minister's announcement of a lockdown on 4<sup>th</sup> 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 livestream 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, 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.



### CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 26th February

**Eat a simple meal and give what you save to help life-saving work carried out by CAFOD**

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water. He says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Please give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water and to provide other vital support.

Please take a Family Fast Day envelope and give what you can, and Gift Aid your donation where possible. Or donate online:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Give/Donate-to-CAFOD/Lent-Appeal>

Your donations will help to support the health of the world's poorest families by funding local experts to reach out to even more people who need health, care and love. Through CAFOD's global Church family – one of the largest aid networks in the world – your support can reach to the ends of the earth.



### CAFOD – Daily Walk? Something positive this Lent.

Could you walk 10000 steps either on one day or everyday this Lent? The walk could be a sign of your solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source and who have to walk for water each day. Find out more or sign up online at [cafod.org.uk/walk](https://cafod.org.uk/walk) and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

## First Sunday of Lent, Cycle B Sunday, February 21, 2021

### Gospel Reading

Mark 1:12-15

Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.

### Gospel Reflection

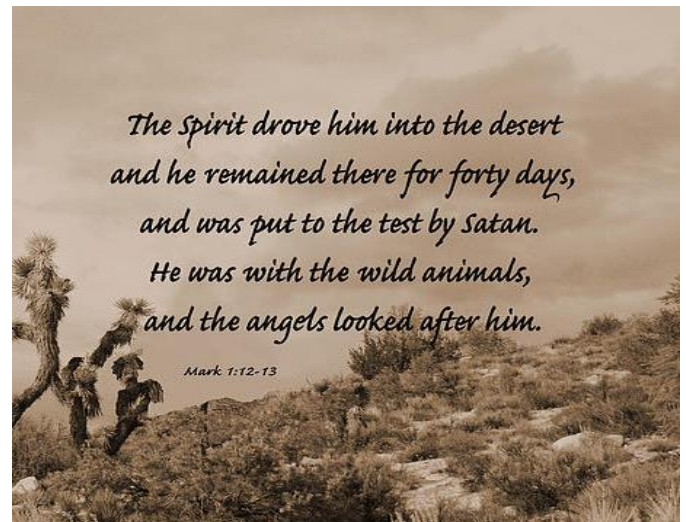
On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading in each Lectionary cycle is about Jesus' temptation in the desert. This event in the life of Jesus is reported in each of the Synoptic Gospels—Matthew, Mark, and Luke—but it is not found in John's Gospel. This year we read Mark's account of this event.

Compared to the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, the details throughout Mark's narrative are sparse. This is evident in Mark's account of Jesus' temptation in the desert. Mark tells us only that Jesus was led into the desert by the Spirit and that for 40 days he was tempted by Satan. The Gospels of Matthew and Luke explain that Jesus fasted while in the desert, that Satan presented him with three temptations, and that Jesus refused each one, quoting Scripture. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Mark report that angels ministered to Jesus at the end of his time in the desert.

In each of the Synoptic Gospels, the temptation of Jesus follows his baptism by John the Baptist. In Mark's Gospel, we are told that Jesus went into the desert immediately after his baptism, led by the Spirit. Jesus' public ministry in Galilee begins after his temptation in the desert. Mark's Gospel makes a connection between the arrest of John the Baptist and the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Jesus' preaching about the Kingdom of God is in continuity with the preaching of John the Baptist, but it is also something new. As Jesus announces it, the Kingdom of God is beginning; the time of the fulfillment of God's promises is here.

The fact that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert is significant. This recalls the 40 years that the Israelites wandered in the desert after being led from slavery in Egypt. The prophet Elijah also journeyed in the desert for 40 days and nights, making his way to Horeb, the mountain of God, where he was also attended to by an angel of the Lord. Remembering the significance of these events, we also set aside 40 days for the season of Lent.

In Mark's Gospel, the desert marks beginning of Jesus' battle with Satan; the ultimate test will be in Jesus' final hours on the cross. In a similar way, our Lenten observances are only a beginning, a preparation for and a reinforcement of our ongoing struggle to resist the temptations we face in our lives. During Lent, we are led by the Holy Spirit to remember the vows of Baptism in which we promised to reject sin and to follow Jesus. Just as Jesus was ministered to by the angels, God also supports us in our struggle against sin and temptation. We succeed because Jesus conquered sin once and for all in his saving death on the cross.



### Family Reflection

The announcement that Jesus makes as he begins his preaching in today's Gospel is recalled on Ash Wednesday at the signing with ashes: "Repent and believe in the gospel." This is our challenge for Lent; indeed, it is the challenge of our entire life. During Lent, we are invited to strengthen and to renew the promises that we made at our Baptism, to reject Satan and sin so as to live as children of God. Through the grace of God that we received at Baptism, we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit and know that with Jesus' help, we will be victorious over sin.

As you gather as a family, talk about the importance of Baptism. At our Baptism, our sins were forgiven, and we promised to live as children of God. As part of the Rite of Baptism, we rejected sin and Satan. Read today's Gospel, Mark 1:12-15. During Lent, we renew the promises of our Baptism, turning again from sin and promising to follow God. Light a candle, perhaps a candle used at one of your family member's Baptisms, and pray together the Act of Contrition.

## **Diocesan Retreat for Lent**

Archbishop John and the Diocesan Spirituality Commission are offering a Retreat for Lent, which you can follow in your own home. Using the link below, you can watch a short video reflection each week, download prayer materials and other resources which can help you make the best use of whatever time and opportunity you may have during your week. There are also additional materials for use by parish and other groups, either in person or via Zoom/Teams or similar. If you are looking for a way to deepen your life of prayer this Lent, click on where you can also sign up to receive materials directly to your email.

---

### **Lent Reading – ‘My Day by Day’**

There are copies of the Lent edition of ‘My Day by Day’ available at the back of the Church - they cost £1.00. Please put money in the box marked ‘papers’. This little book offers helpful readings and reflections for every day during Lent and is an excellent way to prepare for Easter.

---

### **Knowing Jesus:**

#### **Jesuit Lent Online Retreat 2021**

Walk with the Jesuits through Lent and Easter and really come to understand and love Jesus. They will ponder Gospel stories, reflect on their meaning and see how startlingly relevant Jesus is to living a truly human life in the 21st Century. Follow the retreat online, and sign up to an online group (places limited): <https://www.onlineprayer.net/> Sign up to receive daily emails during Lent and additional resources:

<http://eepurl.com/hnIXAn>

---

### **Six Bible Studies on the Lenten Sunday Gospels**

Six Wednesday evening Bible Study sessions, to break-open each Lenten Sunday Gospel. Experience Sunday Mass in a new way! Mauro Iannicelli will walk you through the forthcoming Sunday Gospel with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. The sessions are delivered with ‘Expository Preaching’ teaching method & with ‘Life-Application’ questions.

Wed 17th Feb - Wed 24 Mar, 2021 | 7pm - 8:30pm  
(Free and Live sessions)

Further Information and Registration at:  
<https://comeandsee.org/lent>

---

## **‘Building a Better Marriage’**

An online event on the 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021, between 10.00am and 1.00pm, which will give you a chance to explore and improve your relationship and hopefully provide you with valuable insights into your communication skills and the call of the Church to the married. Please note that there is no group sharing. This is not marriage counselling but a chance to make average-to-good marriages a bit better. That applies whether you have been married five years or 50. Booking is essential: telephone 07983 524 727 or email [mflkent@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:mflkent@rcaos.org.uk)

---

### **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.

---

### **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.

---

### **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.

---

### **FROM OUR DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING OFFICE**

The government have launched the “Ask for ANI” codeword scheme in partnership with Boots and independent pharmacies across the country. Those who are victim to or at risk of domestic abuse can ask for ANI and a safe space will be provided, by a trained pharmacist, to allow the individual to access support services and helplines. Where the victim is at risk of harm, the police and other relevant authorities may be contacted. This scheme is especially useful in helping those who are isolated at home with their abuser and unable to access help. Please share this with anyone you know who may need help. Please click here for more information on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/pharmacies-launch-codeword-scheme-to-offer-lifeline-to-domestic-abuse-victims>