

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 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 19th 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 19th 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 19th 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

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.

CHURCH CLEANING

Dear Parishioners, in response to the new guidelines which advises the cleaning of high frequency touchpoints after each Mass, we kindly ask for your assistance and request that you please clean the pew area that you have sat in after Mass. Wipes are provided at the end of each pew. This is to assist us with these new requirements and so not to overburden the stewards we previously had. We thank you for your understanding.

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 25TH JULY 2021
SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)**

Saturday 24th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
6.30pm	Sameer Polus
Sunday 25th 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
9am	Angelo & Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am	Alan Fraser RIP Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
6.30pm	People of the Parish
Monday 26th Ss Joachim and Ann, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Memorial	
9.30am	Tony Moffat RIP Silvie Stone RIP
Tuesday 27th	
9.30am	John & Margaret Finn RIP
Wednesday 28th	
9.30am	Rose Pereira RIP
Thursday 29th St Martha, Memorial	
9.30am	Private Intentions
Friday 30th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Saturday 31st St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, Memorial	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Rev Fr Ray Brennan
6.30pm	Baby Katrina Eileen Quigley RIP
SUNDAY 1ST AUGUST 2021 EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)	
Sunday 1st 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
9am	Sameer Polus
10.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
6.30pm	Thanksgiving Intentions from Bradley, Loren, Ezra & Snoopy Bush
Monday 2nd	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Tuesday 3rd	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Rev Fr John Horn
Wednesday 4th St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest, Patron of Parish Priests, Memorial	
9.30am	Wellbeing of Keith Fraser
Thursday 5th	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Friday 6th The Transfiguration of the Lord, Feast	
9.30am	Millicent Mary Laing RIP
Saturday 7th	
9.30am	Private Intentions
6.30pm	People of the Parish

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.

PARISH OFFICE

Karin, our Parish Secretary, will be on annual leave from **Monday 26th July 2021, returning on Tuesday 3rd 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

HOLY COMMUNION 2021/22

Registration Forms must be completed and returned in person on: Sunday 25th July 2021 after Family Mass (in the Cloister).

DO NOT post applications through the Presbytery Letterbox!



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 26th**

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 is welcome to join in.



"Today Christ tells us it isn't enough to distribute bread to those who haven't got any. The essential thing is to work toward the creation of a more just world, in which there will no longer be a minority owning too much, among such multitudes of hungry people." ~ Archbishop Hélder Câmara

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinary Time, Cycle B
Sunday, July 25, 2021

Gospel Reading

John 6:1-15

Jesus feeds the crowd of more than five thousand people with five barley loaves and two fish.

Gospel Reflection

Through most of Lectionary Cycle B, our Sunday Gospel readings are taken from the Gospel of Mark. Over the past two Sundays, we heard how Jesus sent his disciples to share in his mission. If we were to continue reading Mark's Gospel, we would next hear his report of how Jesus feeds the crowds in the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Our Lectionary, however, leaves Mark's Gospel for the next several weeks and instead presents this event from the Gospel of John. In John's Gospel, Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fishes is presented as a sign of his authority and divinity. Jesus interprets the meaning and significance of this miracle as a sharing of his Body and Blood. This chapter is sometimes called the "Bread of Life Discourse."

In many important ways, John's Gospel uses the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes to teach about the Eucharist. Like the Last Supper, this miracle is said to have occurred near the time of the Jewish feast of Passover. (In John's Gospel three Passovers are identified.) Jesus' language is similar to the language he used at the Last Supper as reported in the Synoptic Gospels. John's description of this event also anticipates the Messianic banquet of heaven, as the crowd reclines and all hungers are satisfied with abundance. This connection is further amplified by the response of the crowd, who wants to make Jesus a king. John is teaching us that each time we celebrate the Eucharist, we are anticipating the eternal banquet of heaven.

Recall that John's Gospel tells the story of the Last Supper differently than the Synoptic Gospels. Instead of describing the meal and Jesus' actions with the bread and cup, John describes how Jesus washed his disciples' feet. We hear this Gospel when we remember the Last Supper on Holy Thursday. This recollection of Jesus' action at the Last Supper complements the institution narrative of the Synoptic Gospels and Paul's Letters that we hear repeated at each Mass.

In both stories about the Eucharist—the washing of the disciples' feet and the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes—the Gospel of John teaches us that the Eucharist is an action. Our word Eucharist is taken from the Greek language and describes an action: "to give thanks." In the Eucharist we are fed by Jesus himself, and we are sent to serve others.

John's Gospel notes the detail that the bread blessed and shared with the crowd are barley loaves. This is the food of the poor. It reminds us that God feeds and nourishes us, fulfilling our physical needs as well as our spiritual ones. In the Eucharist, we are sent to serve the poorest among us.

The story of the multiplication of the loaves and the fishes recalls a particular aspect of the Mass. In this miracle, Jesus transforms a young boy's offering of five barley loaves and two fish. In the offertory at Mass, we present the fruits of our labours, represented by bread and wine. These gifts, given to us first by God as grain and fruit, are returned to God in our offering of thanksgiving. God in turn transforms our gifts, making this bread and wine the very Body and Blood of Jesus. We also offer ourselves in this exchange, and we, too, are transformed by the Eucharist.

Family Reflection

Parents may sympathize with the disciples' protests when Jesus asks Philip where food might be found for the crowd. In the responses of both Philip and Andrew, we hear feelings of inadequacy as they survey their limited resources in the face of such great need. We may sometimes share these feelings about our own material possessions or our emotional and spiritual resources in the face of our family's needs. This is a Gospel of hope for these times, which are all too frequent in parenting and family life. As Jesus made the five barley loaves and two fish sufficient to more than meet the needs of over five thousand people, Jesus will also work with what we have to provide for our family's needs. When we offer our efforts to God, we ask him to transform them so that they will be more than adequate to the tasks and needs before us.

As you gather as a family, talk together about the things that your family needs, starting with the basics—food, shelter, safety, and so on. Continue by naming other things that a family needs to be happy and healthy—time together, cooperation, patience, and so on. Observe that sometimes we can feel like we don't have enough of the things that we need or want. Read together today's Gospel, John 6:1-15. Talk about how Jesus provided plenty of food for the crowd with just five barley loaves and two fish. We have faith that Jesus will also take what we have and make it enough to satisfy and fill all our needs. We ask for this blessing when we offer to God the work of each day in prayer in the Morning Offering. Pray together the Morning Offering, asking God to bless and make fruitful the work of each of our days.

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press



THE LORD IS *righteous in all his ways
and loving towards all he has made*

THE LORD IS *near to all who call on him
to all who call on him in truth*

Psalm 145: 17-18

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.*

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

Teresa Konrath, Agnes Egan, Elsie Doris Dowling, Colin James Hughes, Louisa Evans, Michael Halloran, Leonard Matthews, Christopher Robin O'Connor, William Goddard, Lucy Jane Chandler, Joseph Henry Wright, David McSorley, John Carr, Vidamantas Kavaliauskas, Lilian Gardner, Margaret Finn, Janet Nolan, Margaret Marley, Maureen McArdle, Maria Theresia Atkinson, Tom Farrelly, Baby Milo Patrick O'Reilly, Marcella Massey Hill, Mary Kate Walsh, Thomas Stapleton, Matthew Power, Kathleen Harmsworth, Bridget Anderson.

+++May they rest in Peace +++

Altar Servers' Rally 2021

Saturday 18th September 2021

The annual rally for Southwark Altar Servers is on **Saturday 18th 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 9th 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Please, if you have a particular date or time on which you want a Mass said, **it is very important that you let the parish office know ahead of time and as soon as possible.** You are very welcome to book your Mass intentions in advance. 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.

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



Summer FUNraiser

This summer, support CAFOD with your very own Summer FUNraiser! By raising money, you'll be helping people around the world who are suffering because of the climate crisis, the pandemic and poverty.

Are you a wannabe Olympian, tennis pro or football star? Take on an active challenge for CAFOD this summer in celebration of the return of international sporting events! Run, cycle, swim, play tennis or football, or anything else that you love doing. You can do it on your own or with your family! You'll be helping people around the world who are suffering because of climate change. More information available at: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Summer-FUNraiser>

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

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 the Parish Secretary with your contact details if you would like to discuss further.