

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

FEAST DAYS, MEMORIALS AND MASSES

**SUNDAY 28TH MARCH 2021
PALM SUNDAY**

Saturday 27th	
6.30pm	John Davis RIP
Sunday 28th Palm Sunday	
9am	Angelo & Tina Piccirillo RIP
10.30am	Jan Schreur RIP
6.30pm	Mrs Julija Giljevic Misra RIP
Monday 29th Monday of Holy Week	
9.30am	Marko Giljevic Stella Browne 91 st Birthday
Tuesday 30th Tuesday of Holy Week	
9.30am	Caroline Baskell RIP Jan Schreur RIP
Wednesday 31st Wednesday of Holy Week	
9.30am	Jure Giljevic
Thursday 1st Maundy Thursday	
7.30pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 2nd Good Friday	
3pm	Solemn Liturgy
Saturday 3rd Holy Saturday	
9pm	Margaret Buhl RIP Sarah Everard RIP

**SUNDAY 4TH APRIL 2021
EASTER SUNDAY**

Sunday 4th Easter Sunday	
7.30am	Jan Schreur RIP
9am	John Sewter RIP
10.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
12pm	Joan Heelan RIP
6.30pm	Arthur Lawrence RIP
Monday 5th Easter Monday	
12pm	Caroline Hopkins RIP
Tuesday 6th Easter Tuesday	
9.30am	Holy Souls
Wednesday 7th Easter Wednesday	
9.30am	Alan Fraser RIP
Thursday 8th Easter Thursday	
9.30am	Anna D'Angelo & Antonio Vitolo
Friday 9th Easter Friday	
9.30am	Paul Herd RIP
Saturday 10th Easter Saturday	
9.30am	David Akehrst RIP
6.30pm	Alan Fraser RIP

Please remember that the clocks go forward one hour in the early hours of this **Sunday, 28th March**; Sunday Mass will feel one hour earlier than usual!



Happy Easter to you all from all of us here at St. Agatha's Parish! We pray for you and hope you and your families and loved ones have a joyful Easter Season. Easter brings so many promises of God to us, life is stronger than death, love can overcome hate, goodness ultimately triumphs over evil, and eternity and glory with God in Heaven. We pray that Jesus may live in all our hearts, that we may always embrace Him with love and gratitude. May His love and His peace fill our hearts, our lives, our homes and our families. God bless each and every one of you and your loved ones. Peace, love and joy, Fathers Anthony and Eugene, and Deacon Bob.

HOLY WEEK 2021



HOLY WEEK LITURGIES – at a glance

Palm Sunday 28 th March 2021 Normal Sunday Mass times
Monday 29 th , Tuesday 30 th , Wednesday 29 th March 2021 Mass of the day 9.30am
Maundy Thursday 1 st April 2021 Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm
Good Friday 2 nd April 2021 Stations of the Cross 10am Solemn Liturgy 3pm
Holy Saturday 3 rd April 2021 No Morning Mass Easter Vigil 9pm
Easter Sunday 4 th April 2021 Masses: 7.30am & 9am Family Masses – 10.30am & 12pm 6.30pm
Easter Monday 5 th April 2021 Mass of the day 12pm

Lenten Reconciliation

A Lenten Reconciliation service will be held on Tuesday 30th March at 7.30pm here in the Parish of St Agatha, for everyone. It is an opportunity for those who would like to go to confession before the Easter Triduum, which begins on Maundy Thursday. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the healing sacraments and a powerful help on our Journey of Faith.

Easter Offerings

Easter offering envelopes are available at the back of the church for those who wish to use them for an Easter Offering for our Clergy. If you normally Gift Aid your weekly offerings would you please print your name/number clearly on the Easter Offering Envelope or use the Easter gift aid envelope.



Last year all our services, Masses and Celebrations had to take place in an empty church, with the first lockdown in full force. This year we are blessed to be able to hold all these services in an open church, with the current restrictions and safety measures still in place.

Changes to the celebration of the Mass and services during Holy Week; because of the pandemic and to keep people safe, the Bishops have made the following changes to the liturgies during Holy Week:

Palm Sunday – There will be no procession at the start of the Mass. At all Masses palms will be blessed but not distributed until the end of Mass as people leave the Church. The short form of the Passion is to be read and the congregation should not join in with their usual parts.

Maundy Thursday – There will be no washing of feet and procession and watching after Mass. Following Holy Communion there will be a short period of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament before the final prayer.

Good Friday – Stations of the Cross at 10.00am There will be no individual veneration of the Cross during Solemn Liturgy.

Holy Saturday – There will be no ceremony of the fire outside the church, no individual candles, no sprinkling of Holy Water. There are no baptisms, receptions or confirmations and the number of readings will be reduced.

Easter Sunday – Two additional masses at 7.30am and Family Mass at 12pm. As the family mass is normally very busy, we will have small overflow into the church hall where the masses can be viewed on a screen.

Archdiocese of Southwark Chrism Mass

On Wednesday the Chrism Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop and clergy of the diocese in our Cathedral. It isn't open to everyone this year due to Covid. At the mass, which manifests the communion of the clergy with the Archbishop, Priestly Promises are renewed. This Mass will be available to view on the RC Southwark YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCr5pOWykDRh4v042c7n_vYA



MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – HELP PLEASE!!!

We urgently need volunteers to act as stewards to welcome, meet and greet, and help people keep safe during mass. Without more volunteers we cannot return to our full Mass schedule. We appeal today to all of you to consider helping us. If you can help, please send an email to the parish office or John DeQuidt.

A big thank you to all our continuing volunteers—you are doing a great job and without you we could not open our beautiful church.

PARISH HEALTH AND SAFETY VOLUNTEER

Following new Archdiocesan Health and Safety procedures we are seeking someone to act as our Parish Health and Safety volunteer. Do you have experience in this area? Could you spare just a couple of hours a month? If you are interested, please speak with Fr Anthony or email the parish office for further information at kingston@rcaos.org.uk



Marriage

Our congratulations and best wishes to **Sarah and Shane** who were married here on Saturday 20th March 2021.

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

Baptism Preparation Class and Baptisms

For those who wish to have their child baptised in the coming months, please register for our next class, which will be held virtually on Sunday 11th April 2021 at 2pm, 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 arranging a date for a baptism. Godparents are also encouraged and welcome to attend the class.



Holy Communion 2021

All usual arrangements for First Holy Communion had to be suspended in view of the Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions put in place.

FHC will recommence when we are permitted by the Archdiocese to hold classes in the church again. Please keep an eye on the newsletters for news of when we hope to resume.



Marriages in 2021/22

2021/22 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.



Mass Intentions

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.

It is a busy time for requests and sometimes Masses can be booked several weeks in advance, so if you have a particular date or time on which you want the Mass, **it is very important that you let the parish office know in advance and as soon as possible.** 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.

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

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion, Cycle B
Sunday, March 28, 2021

Gospel Reading

Mark 14:1—15:47 Jesus is sentenced to death and crucified. The centurion who witnessed his death declared, "This man was the Son of God."

Gospel Reflection

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday are called the Triduum—three days that are the highlight of the Church year. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted "Hosanna!" This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

At the Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle B, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Mark. We will hear these events proclaimed again when we celebrate the Triduum later in the week. On Good Friday, we will read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus that had been building throughout his public ministry. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for his death.

When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin—the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders—he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark's Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' disciples are rarely models of faith and do little to invoke confidence in their capacity to continue his ministry after his death. They fare no better in Mark's narrative of Jesus' passion and death. At the Last Supper, the disciples insisted that none among them would betray Jesus. When Jesus predicted that their faith would be shaken in the events ahead, Peter and the other disciples protested vehemently. Yet in the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus returned three times to find them sleeping. Jesus prayed in agony over his impending fate while his disciples slumbered through the night. Just as Jesus predicted, Peter denied Jesus, and the disciples were absent during Jesus' passion and death. Only the women who had been followers of Jesus in Galilee are said to have been present at the Crucifixion, but they remained at a distance.

Throughout this Gospel, Mark challenges the reader to consider the claim with which the Gospel begins: Jesus is the Son of God. When we read Mark's account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus' death. In Mark's telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood his death to have been preordained, and he accepted this death in obedience to God's will. Jewish Scripture is quoted only once, but there are several references to the fulfilment of the Scriptures. Jesus understood his anointing in Bethany as an anticipation of his burial, and he announced that this story would be told together with the Gospel throughout the world. Jesus predicted his betrayal by Judas as well as Peter's denial. At his arrest, Jesus acknowledged that the preordained time had arrived. Jesus was both confident and silent before his accusers. After he was sentenced to death, Jesus did not speak again until his final cry from the cross. The bystanders misunderstood and believed that he was calling for Elijah. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God.

Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross.

During Holy Week, we prayerfully remember the events of Jesus' passion and death. As we meditate on the cross, we ask again and anew what it means to make the statement of faith that Jesus, in his obedient suffering and dying, revealed himself to us as God's Son.

Family Reflection

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday, marks the beginning of Holy Week. During this week, we prepare ourselves for Easter by prayerfully reflecting on the events of Jesus' passion and death. During this week, your family might display a crucifix in a prominent place as reminder of the salvation that Christ won for us. This can also serve as the focal point for family prayer during Holy Week.

Because of the length and complexity of the passion narrative, it is difficult for children to remain attentive when it is proclaimed in its entirety. Families can make it a tradition to read a portion of this Sunday's Gospel each day of Holy Week, providing ample opportunity for children to ask questions and respond to the events described there. In this way, the entire week can become a "way of the cross."

Each day during Holy Week, the family can gather in a prayerful space with a crucifix as its focal point. The passion as found in Mark's Gospel might be read as follows throughout the week:

Sunday: Mark 11:1-10
Monday: Mark 14:1-11
Tuesday: Mark 14:12-26
Wednesday: Mark 14:27-52
Thursday: Mark 14:53-72
Friday: Mark 15:1-41
Saturday: Mark 15:42-47

After reading from the Gospel each night, the family might reflect on the reading together. Conclude your prayer time together by praying the Lord's Prayer or by singing an appropriate hymn such as "Jesus, Jesus," "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?" or "What Wondrous Love is This."

Sunday Connection, Loyola Press

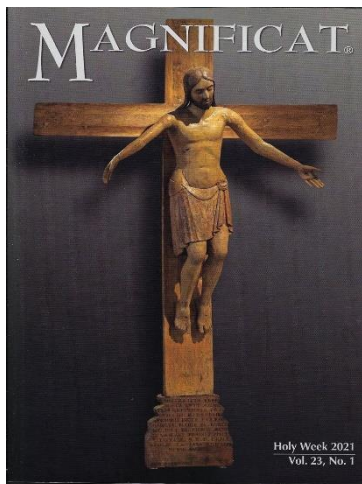


*He brought me up
also out of an
horrible pit, out of
the miry clay, and
set my feet upon a
rock, and established
my goings.
Psalm 40:2*

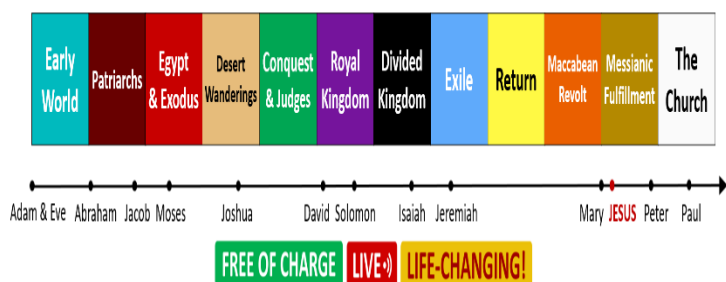
Gift Aid Envelopes

If you are a member of the Gift Aid Scheme and use weekly envelopes, your new packet of envelopes, which start on 11th April, will be ready for collection from next week. Please do not start using these until then and please do not use the old envelopes after this date. If you normally use weekly envelopes but have recently signed a standing order form and no longer need the envelopes, please email the Parish Office. Thank you.

The Catholic magazine **Magnificat** has responded to the current Coronavirus crisis by waiving the subscription to its online version. This means that the faithful can get access to the daily Mass readings, as well as morning, evening and night prayers, meditations and articles on the saints. Magnificat has made this gift to help sustain people's faith at a time when public Masses have been suspended or people are not able to attend in person. The Magnificat has made a free link available for Holy Week. <https://uk.magnificat.net/holyweek> This is a very generous offer and the online booklet contains everything you need to follow Holy Week and the Easter Triduum.



The Bible Timeline Course



THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE

Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this **FREE OF CHARGE**, world-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts on **7th April 2021** at 7pm (Eight Wednesday evening sessions).

Further information and Registration at:

www.comeandsee.org

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

Please pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish: Christina Ward, Clare Horgan, 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

Johanna Lombard, Theresa Dilliway, Catherine Henry, Bridget Battersby, Margaret Brigham, Mary Carraig, Leon Lorek, Mafalda Dilieto, Alan White, Johanna Norton, Carlo Marchese, Ruby May Fenton, Giovanni Grassi, James McArdle, Francis Brocking, Henry Wright, Sr. Stanislaus Holohan, Mario Bedoye, Maureen Swinbourne, Mary Lott, Alice Baker, Sarah Watson, John McKenna, James Patrick Kennedy, Caroline Hopkins, William Philip Murphy, Alice Delaney, Ellen Desmond, Eugene Doyle, Bernadette Harris, Evelyn Fiaschi, Clare Chambers, George Higginson, Bridget Doyle, Michael McDonnell, Margaret Hardless, Mary O'Connell, Martin O'Brien, George Deeb, Alfred Paish, Charles Philpot, Walter Hewitt,, Mercie Young, John Malone, Michael Lynn, Ottie Hewitt, Richard Lumey,, Nellie O'Brien, Mary Hobbs, Harriet Roberts, Gertrude Thompson, Marie Philomena Sinteuff, Denis Kennedy, John Nash.

+++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.



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 and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

Unite Against Unjust Debt.

CAFOD along with other agencies are lobbying world leaders to address the burden of debt felt by the world's poorest countries. For more information, please search or google 'CAFOD cancel the debt'.

CAFOD thank you for your continued support.

Jesus on the cross feels the whole weight of the evil, and with the force of God's love he conquers it; he defeats it with his resurrection. This is the good that Jesus does for us on the throne of the cross. Christ's cross, embraced with love, never leads to sadness, but to joy, to the joy of having been saved and of doing a little of what he did on the day of his death. ~ Pope Francis