

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

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Last week's collection.£2170. Many Thanks. There are still a large number of Planned Giving boxes of envelopes awaiting collection from the Parish Room.

Feasts this week. Monday 1st May. St Joseph the Worker. Tuesday 2nd May. St Athanasius, Bishop and Martyr. Wednesday 3rd May. SS Philip and James, Apostles. Thursday 4th May. The English Martyrs. Friday 5th May. First Friday. Exposition and Adoration after morning Mass until 1pm.

Monday 1st May is May Day Holiday. Mass at 10am.

Requiem Mass for Seamus Burke on Wednesday 10th May at 10.30am. Your prayers for the repose of his soul and for his family in their loss.

Fr Peter Maher's Funeral details. Reception at St Joseph's Church, Gardenia Avenue, Luton LU3 2NS on Tuesday 9th May at 7pm. Mass will be celebrated. Funeral Mass on Wednesday 10th May at 1pm at Our Lady and St Michael, Crown Rise, Garston WD25 0NE. Cremation at West Herts Crematorium, High Elms Lane, Watford WD25 0JS.

The Coronation of King Charles. This will take place on Saturday 6th May in Westminster Abbey. From Wednesday 3rd May until Friday 5th May the Bishops ask each Catholic in our lands to pray for His Majesty and the Queen. We can do this in our daily prayer and when we gather together at Mass, especially on Saturday 6th May. Prayer cards have been printed and are available in the Church Porch.

The Pope's Monthly Intention. For a culture of peace and non-violence. We pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by States and citizens.

CAFOD Volunteers. We are pleased to announce that Agnes Ikazoboh and Anthony Lee have volunteered to represent the Parish and to work more generally with CAFOD in promoting its response to needs in the developing world. We are pleased to announce also that Cecelia Mc Loone is going to be the Parish Caritas Representative.

Priest Training Fund

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and our second collection will support the Priest Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 48 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 14 of whom are from our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also from our Diocese. Last year 8 men who studied at Allen Hall were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, plenty are still available at the back of the church. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

On Good Shepherd Sunday let us respond to God's call and renew our dedication to serving the Lord and our brothers and sisters.

First Reading. Acts. God has made him both Lord and King. Psalm. The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want. Second Reading. You have come back to the shepherd of your souls. Gospel. I am the gate of the sheepfold.

In the Middle East it was the task of the shepherd to find water and pasture and to ensure safety. In your life who have been the people that have nourished you and given you security. For whom have you done this?

Important to the shepherd's ability to give security to the sheep is the fact that he was known and familiar to them. They recognised his voice. Does that resonate with you?

We are familiar with the image of Jesus as the shepherd. The image of Jesus at the door or gate is not so familiar. Jesus presents himself at the door through which we pass and find life. At what doors have you found this life? Was it a situation, a place, a book, an experience, a person? For whom have been a door to a richer life?