

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

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Last week's collection.£2083. Sea Sunday£585. Many Thanks. There is still a large number of Planned Giving boxes of envelopes awaiting collection from the Parish Room. Thank you for your giving through Planned Giving as well as giving through the other means that are now available for this purpose..

CAFOD Presentation at all Masses this Sunday to highlight the need to support small-scale farmers around the world. Please sign a letter as you leave Church today. This will be sent to the World Bank ,which has a lot of influence over agricultural issues, asking them to promote the rights of small farmers to use and share their own seeds.

Year 6 Leavers' Mass in the Church on Wednesday 19th July at 6pm. We wish them well as they proceed on to secondary education.

Appeal for catechists .We are looking for some people to take on a catechetical role helping with the First Communion and Confirmation programs in the parish. There is also a need for help with RCIA(catechesis for adults) and Baptismal preparation.

Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist. There is a need here as well particularly with taking Communion to the sick which suffered during Covid.

Altar serving is another area requiring embellishment. This is a good way to involve children and their families in the Mass.

We always need a few key people who have ability and can undertake key functions in the life of the parish. They can be somewhat elusive to come by.

Our musical and singing accompaniment at some of the Masses remains patchy.

We could also do with a few more collectors at some Masses.

Thanks to all those who are currently involved in any way. It is deeply appreciated.

The Pope's Monthly Intention for July. For a Eucharistic life. We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to an encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Gospel Notes. Jesus uses parables to make people think about their own responses to his message. With today's parable you may recognise that at different times you have been like each of the different types of soil.

The parable is also an invitation to us to ask ourselves why is it that there are times when we are unreceptive to a truth presented to us either in the word of God or in the words of another.

Parents with children, teachers with pupils, speakers with listeners, are like sowers in a field where the preparation of the soil is up to another- the child , pupil or listener. They can sow the seed but cannot guarantee that it will bear fruit. At times there may be a temptation not to try any more. The challenge is to sow in hope. When have you been surprised by the harvest you have reaped?

Thought for the Day. Joy and happiness are two different things, although they are obviously related. There are things in our live we feel happy doing or experiencing. Watching a good movie makes us feel happy for the time we're watching it. Happiness is very much in the moment and it can be good. But joy is a different thing. Joy is a deeper dense than happiness. We feel happy watching a film but we feel joy when we see a good friend who we haven't seen for a while. To live lives of joy is not to depend on happiness or temporary experiences. It is to seek out the better path and walk it.

Introduction to the Readings

1 Reading **Is 55:10-11**. The rain makes the earth give growth.

Ps 64:10-14, R/ Lk 8:8. Some seed fell into rich soil and produced its crop.

2 Reading **Rm 8:18-23**. The whole creation is eagerly awaiting for God to reveal his children.

Gospel. **Mt 13:1-23**. A sower went out to sow.

Renew our hope

Living God,
we give you thanks
for the wonder of your creation
which reflects your glory.