

St. Agnes Catholic Church, Cricklewood

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There is a Pastoral Letter this Sunday from the Cardinal and which is being read at all Masses.

Last Sunday's collection: £1753. Catholic Education Service £619. Many Thanks.

First Holy Communion application forms for 2023/2024 are available from the Parish office and the deadline for returning applications will be Sunday 1st October.

Feasts this week. Wednesday. St Andrew Kim Taegon and companions. Martyrs. Thursday. St Matthew. Apostle and Evangelist. Saturday. St Pius of Pietrelcina. Priest.

Annual Mass Count is taken over the next Four Sundays beginning this Sunday.

Mass in honour of Padre Pio on Wednesday 20th September at 7pm. There will be the blessing with the mitten of Padre Pio and the anointing of the sick will be administered. There will be the recitation of the Rosary. All are invited to what can be a sizeable and spiritually uplifting event.

The Pope's Monthly Intention. For people living on the margins: We pray for those people living on the margins of society, in inhumane living conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.

Evangelii Gaudium – Preparing for the Jubilee Year in Faith and Prayer

Evangelii Gaudium Sunday calls us to be joyous in proclaiming our faith. "*Evangelii Gaudium*" is Latin for "Joy of the Gospel". The day supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops' Conference.

A key focus of work for the next few years is responding to Pope Francis' calling of a Jubilee Year in 2025 with the theme *Pilgrims of Hope*. The Holy Father has invited the whole Church to prepare for the Jubilee in the two years prior through:

- Reflecting on the four Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council in 2023.
- Deepening our prayer life, with a special focus on the Lord's Prayer, in 2024.

Please support the Mission Directorate through prayer and giving to the second collection. However much you give, big or small, it will go directly to support this important work to bring the joy of the Gospel to all.

The second collection of *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday supports the work carried out by the Mission Directorate on behalf of the Bishops' Conference. In the last year this has included:

- Enabling the recording of the videos on the four constitutions.
- Bringing together a working group from across England and Wales to prepare materials for the Jubilee Year 2025 and Year of Prayer 2024.
- Supporting Patrimony experts to deliver funding to 39 projects at outstanding Grade I and II* Catholic churches with the £6.6million awarded to the Catholic Bishops' Conference via Historic England through the governments' Culture Recovery Fund in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Supporting co-ordinators and their teams in dioceses through formation and sharing of best practice.

Gospel Notes. Jesus surprised Peter by telling him he needed to forgive seventy- seven times. Forgiveness doesn't mean forgetting or excusing the harm done. It does mean bringing the kind of peace that allows you to focus on yourself and helps you to get on with life. Letting go of grudges and bitterness can be most helpful and can bring many benefits. Sometimes we need to forgive ourselves for things we regret. Are there people who have inspired forgiveness in your life? Recall that and give thanks for their example.