

18th September 2011



OUR LADY IMMACULATE  
TOLWORTH

# Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



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## OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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PRIESTS OF THE PARISH: Canon Anthony J Charlton, Fr Arbo Lekule

Deacon: Rev A Callan, 59 Princes Avenue, Tolworth KT6 7JL Tel: 020 8399 9862 Parish Administrator: Mrs Elaine Intranova

## OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

399 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG Tel: 020 8399 9854 Fax: 020 8399 8582 [www.oli.kingston.sch.uk](http://www.oli.kingston.sch.uk)

HEADTEACHER: Mr Tim Sheehan

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### LETTER FROM BETHLEHEM FROM PAUL FARMER

Dear friends,

Greetings from Bethlehem and a note to you all since my short article in June telling you of my 3 month spell with the Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Israel and Palestine (EAPPI), a Programme of the World Council of Churches. Having completed some further days of preparation in the Old City in East Jerusalem (not too far in fact from the Via Dolorosa) I am now living in Bethlehem with four other EAPPI volunteers. The accommodation is a ground floor apartment provided by the World Council of Churches situated on one of the main roads into Jerusalem. Indeed one of the most obvious signs of conflict here is the industrial sized checkpoint very close to my bedroom window and the separation wall that snakes deep into the northern part of the town. The road outside my house carries much of the tourist traffic coming to/from Jerusalem en route to one of the most revered Christian holy places – the Church of the Nativity in Manger square, right in the heart of old Bethlehem.

The people here are very friendly and will greet you with a smile and a very Arabic sounding *Welcome*. Hand on heart however I have to say that Bethlehem itself is not the most attractive of places and when you take a closer look you will see the effects of conflict on peoples' lives. It is a very hilly town, (dry and dusty in the present heat), many building sites with unfinished structures and shops showing signs of economic paralysis. There are 3 refugee camps dating back to the war in 1948 with a combined population of around 10,000+. The living conditions are difficult with shortages of water, overcrowding and serious lack of good sanitation, amenities and space for children to play.

We (the team) share out an early shift (3:45am start) at the checkpoint four mornings per week – As I said, this checkpoint is on one of the main roads into Jerusalem. On a recent shift I counted 2500+ men, women and some children going through - most trying to get to work, many of whom had been queuing from about 3 am. And then there are the soldiers behind the bullet proof screens many of them young lads and girls 18 yrs + doing their compulsory military service.

You will be pleased to hear that I visited Laila Asfoura, a Catholic lady who runs a small family tours & travel business whose project for the elderly women's day care centre we are supporting through the last Parish Lenten project. Fr Charlton met her during the Parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land last October. She sends her greetings to you all. Life here is particularly hard for the small Palestinian Christian communities (less than 2% of the total population and decreasing) who fall under the same harsh *permit regime* as the majority Muslim Palestinian population. When I asked her what life was like living in Bethlehem, sadly she reflected that for many "living in

Bethlehem was like living in a prison". She also told me that her daughter, born in the West Bank, (that part of Israel Palestine illegally occupied by Israel since the 1967 war), does not have the permission (in her own native land) to go to Jerusalem, except under very exceptional circumstances.

Our apartment landlord, a man of 60 years, is very kind and supportive to us. He and his family who are Catholic live up stairs having lived in Bethlehem all their lives. (Of the 9000 or so Christians living in Bethlehem approximately half are Catholic.) When I spoke to him recently he told me that he and his family are *not happy*. Over 10 years ago the majority of his land upon which he harvested a significant olive crop had been confiscated by the Israeli Government, (contrary to International humanitarian law) for new settlement expansion. Under the 4<sup>th</sup> Geneva convention, Article 53 codifies the protection of private property against confiscation (unless required by imperative military necessity). He has not received any compensation for this loss of property and the resulting loss of income. There are few conflicts in the world today like the Israeli – Palestinian one to generate a heated debate or worse, and I am very aware that if we were to have a discussion now there would be many differing opinions. However, as Christians and people of good will, we need to recognise blatant obvious wrongs in the conflict whoever the perpetrator. Sadly in the last few days here (20 Aug onwards) we have seen the loss of innocent life including children, with deadly attacks on Israeli civilians followed by subsequent bombing of the densely populated Gaza strip.

In July 2010 the then UK ambassador to Israel, Tom Phillips, said "What people see in the UK is: OK, Israel has some genuine security concerns and they've got to be met. But the answer cannot be keeping several million people *without full civil, human and other rights, in a state of occupation*." He was referring to the people who live in the Israeli occupied West Bank (also known as the Occupied Territories).

Dear all, pray for peace in the *Holy Land* - a land so blighted by religious intolerance and unjust structures. As a Christian community, this place and this conflict must matter to us. I believe that we must be proactive in doing what we can to further the cause of peace and be wary of those who would use a theological cover to justify much of the injustice that takes place here while concealing the truth about the harsh reality of people's lives Muslim and Christian, who live under occupation. Peace would be the catalyst to unbinding *all the peoples* - Jew, Muslim and Christian in this tortured land. His Grace, the Lutheran Bishop, Munib Younan (for the Holy Land and Jordan) said recently: "**To free Palestine from occupation is to free Israel**". God bless you all. Keep me in your prayers. Paul.

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 17th/18th September 2011**  
**Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**HOME MISSION SUNDAY**

- Sat 6.30pm** Tom & Jean Studham– In Thanksgiving  
 60th Wedding Anniversary  
**8pm** Mass in Korean
- Sun 9am** In Thanksgiving-Raphael's 4th Birthday (Suresh-Mary)  
**11am** Ravenna Ahmed's Intention (Rosemary Durkin)  
 Baptism during Mass: **Lily Florence Dove**  
**12.30pm** **Baptisms: Deco Michael, Costa Dantas & Nessie Stanley Dabreo.**  
**2pm** Mass in Korean  
**6pm** People of the Parish

**Retiring Collection for Evangelisation**

**Daily Masses 19th—24th September 2011**

- Mon St Theodore of Canterbury, bishop**  
**7am** John Sullivan RIP  
**9.30am** Angelica & Concetta De Stasio RIP (Mrs D'Agostino)  
**5.30pm** Syro-Malabar Mass
- Tues SS Andrew Kim Taegon, priest & martyr, Paul Chong Hasang, catechist & martyr & their companions**  
**7am** Elsie Turner RIP (FM)  
**9.30am** May Cummins RIP (Mr & Mrs Berry)
- Wed St Matthew, apostle and evangelist**  
**7am** Phil Gibson (Jackie Uluhan)  
**9.30am** Monica Grant RIP (Heather Trutwein)
- Thur Feria**  
**7am** Most Forsaken Holy Souls (Rosemary Durkin)  
**9.30am** Dolly Sirmon RIP (FM)
- Fri St Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio), priest**  
**7am** In Thanksgiving (RMJ)  
**9.30am** Patrick McGrath RIP (Mary & Brian Farrelly)  
**10am** **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
- Sat Our Lady of Walsingham**  
**9am** Maria Ernesto Sebastian RIP & All Family Members

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 24th/25th September 2011**  
**Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)**  
**HARVEST SUNDAY**

- Sat 6.30pm** Ron Turnpenny RIP (Marie & Family)  
**8pm** Mass in Korean
- Sun 9am** Simon Rodrigues RIP (Francesca Rodrigues & Family)  
**11am** **Church Parade** People of the Parish  
**12.30pm** **Baptisms:**  
**2pm** Mass in Korean

**Last week's Offertory Collection for the upkeep of the church : £2,021**

**Racial Justice £ 285**

We thank you for your continued generosity .  
 (Cash counters this week:: Allan & Marie-Helene Cook  
 Next week: Gerry Hague & Tessa McLeod)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**  
**(Confession)**  
**Saturday 9.30am to 10am and**  
**Saturday 5.30pm to 6pm**

We pray for all **the faithful departed** who have died recently, especially:- **Kay Bridgland whose Funeral Mass is at OLI Monday 26th September at 1.30pm & Canon Cornelius Beausang**

We pray for all those who mourn and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We remember all our **sick and elderly parishioners**, those in hospital, the housebound and those who care for them; Sheila Durrant, Barbara Stevenson, Ron Dorey, Bernard Darney, Peter Groves, Baby Ella Hayes, Gerard Dodds, Amandina Marsella, Mora Witton, Stephen Fleming, Derek Wells, Mary Ryan, Luke Nolan, Roisin Loftus, Theresa Keys, Maureen Dillon, Felicia Nazareth, Peter Ashdown, Anna Szymanska, Mary McDonnagh, Fr Simon Peat, Baby Thomas Haley, Anna Maria Maini, Veronica Heaton, Maureen Wilson, James Austin, Elizabeth Joège, Joan Lancaster, Francis Nazareth, Sergio Della Grotta, Marie Bast, John Ingrasci, Baby Patrick Ferris, George Matthew, Odile Froger, Clint Samson, Jenny Sathirasegaram, Ann McNicoll, Eileen Rosenberg, Bridget McNally, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, Charles Thurley, Sandra Bur-linson, Sophie Burrige, Sam Hitchin, Rene Boffa, Richard Manche, Nicky Bushell, Shirley Enright, Tom Tyler, Finn Jordan, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Palermo, John Gleeson, Eva Hansford, Jeffrey D'Cruz, George Hayes, Michael Hoskins, Michael Byrne, Martin Dray, Seema Day, Graham Taylor, Freda Sirmon, Samantha Nosalik, Manual Pillai, Fay Kearney, Richard Trutwein, Winna Duncan, Jennifer McIntyre, Carl Williams, Bridie O'Driscoll, Christine Keane, Josephine Bull, Vic Carrion, Norma Latham and Mary Bastiampillai.

**WANTED - NEW SERVERS**

Our parish is blessed with a great number of enthusiastic servers. If you wish to join them now is the time. All you need to qualify is to have made your First Holy Communion. Age is no barrier **young people and adults equally welcome**. We look forward to you offering yourselves for this important and vital ministry in our parish. If you are over 18 the necessary CRB checks will be arranged. Please give your contact details to Canon Anthony as soon as possible. Formation for new servers, begins on **Sunday 2nd October at 12.30** in the RDJ room and will last for about 45 minutes . There are about 8 sessions in all. So if you are interested in becoming an altar server please come along **on Sunday 2 October at 12.30**. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact myself or our Parish Master of Ceremonies, Jacques Lambert on 020 8397 2793 (evenings preferred) and we will be only too happy to help you.

Canon Anthony



We welcome into the Church **Russell & Harmony Miller** who were baptised last weekend.

## READINGS

**This Week: : 25th Sunday in OT (A)**

**First Reading** Isaiah 55:6-9

The prophet stresses God's utter transcendence and God's merciful love – these are complementary and not contradictory.

**Second Reading** Philippians 1:20-24. 27

Paul desires to die to be more fully with Christ, but it is God's will that he remain on this earth to carry out his mission.

**Gospel** Matthew 20:1-16

God cannot be measured by any human standards. As the source of everything that exists, the Lord can bestow his blessings according to his loving kindness.

**Next Week: 26th Sunday in OT (A)**

**First Reading** Ezekiel 18:25-28

God speaks to the prophet Ezekiel. Though the people of Israel accuse God of being unjust to them, it is they who commit injustice. Those who have sinned but repent and change their ways will have life.

**Second Reading** Philippians 2:1-11

St Paul calls his readers to be united. They must not compete but must think of others before themselves. Paul encourages them to try to be like Christ in their own minds.

**Gospel** Matthew 21:28-32

Jesus tells the story of a man with two sons, whom he asks to work in his vineyard. One says yes and does not go; the other says no but then does go. Jesus says that tax collectors and sinners are making their way to heaven ahead of religious people who heard but did not believe.

## HARVEST SUNDAY 25th September 2011

Next weekend we will be having our Harvest Festival. All donations will be going to the Manna Day Centre. Please bring non-perishable foods such as tinned food, dry pasta, pasta sauces, cereals, tea, coffee, toiletries, blankets and sleeping bags.

## EPSOM AND DISTRICT IRISH ASSOCIATION

We hold a dance once a month at the RHODRONS CLUB, Our next dance is on 23rd September at the RHODRONS CLUB, Rhodrons Avenue, Chessington KT9 1BA dancing from 8.30pm until 11.30pm featuring Finbarr & Bernie with local parking, a raffle and licensed bar. Tickets £5.00 on the door

All proceeds go to charity

## OLI FAIRTRADE STALL

As you come out of Mass please take a few moments to visit the Fairtrade Stall at the back of the Church. We are generally there after the 9 and occasionally the 11 o'clock Masses on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. We are currently selling a few items at half price. In addition we have Palestinian Olive Oil, of the best quality and some delicious biscuits. Everything has a very competitive price. OLI J&P Group

## 75TH ANNIVERSARY APF-MILL HILL MASS

11.30am Sunday 25th September 2011 at St George's Cathedral, Southwark All APF donors welcome

## PETERSBURG BLAGOVEST ENSEMBLE CONCERT IN OLI

Wednesday 28th September at 7.30pm in the church. Tickets £10 for adults or £5 for under 16s. Tickets can be purchased by cash or cheque (payable to Our Lady Immaculate) and left at the presbytery (please enclose a stamped addressed envelope).

## PRIEST VERIFICATION FORMS

### SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR 2012

Fr Anthony will be available to sign forms on Monday 19th September from 3pm to 4pm and on Tuesday 20 September from 6pm to 7pm. Dates and times for future form signing sessions will appear in each weekend's newsletter.

## HOME MISSION SUNDAY

On Home Mission Sunday we pray for the work of evangelisation in our countries and reflect on our response to the Lord's invitation to share our faith.

The theme this year is "Fresh Wind In Our Sails" which is what the Holy Father is reported to have said that his visit to the UK gave him. On this day we give thanks for the Pope's visit last year but also focus on the future, reflecting on where we are being called to set sail to, reinvigorated for our ongoing missionary journey in England and Wales.

Parishes are invited to have a second collection for the work of the Home Mission Desk of the Catholic Bishops' Conference which exists to support evangelisation nationally. The staff advise dioceses, parishes, movements and Catholic organisations and also offer a range of resources.

Please support the Home Mission Desk to help members of the Catholic community to witness more confidently to God's love and mercy.

"What we want to do on Home Mission Sunday this year is to say to people, 'Fill your sails again with fresh wind. Pick up that enthusiasm and excitement again and let it blow through, blow away some of the dust that has sort of settled into corners and blow away some of the tiredness and indifference and apathy that's crept into our own lives. Fill our sails again with that confidence and joy of being a Catholic.' And so the focus on Home Mission Sunday is not to lose that impetus."

### Bishop Kieran Conry

*Arundel and Brighton*

Chair of the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis

## THE NEW TRANSLATION— LORD I AM NOT WORTHY

As the priest invites us to receive Holy Communion, he will say 'Behold', rather than 'This is', 'the Lamb of God'. 'Behold' means 'to look at' and is our invitation to adore Christ who we about to receive in Holy Communion. We are used to saying 'Lord I am not worthy to receive you'... This will change to: 'Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed'. This is almost exactly what the Roman Centurion said when he came and begged Jesus to heal his servant. When Jesus says he will come to the Centurion's house, the man knows that Jesus doesn't need to do that, that just his word will be enough. The Centurion says: 'Lord I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word and my servant will be healed'. Our new reply changes only one word of the Centurion's speech— 'my servant' becomes 'my soul will be healed.'

### PRAYER SPONSORS NEEDED

We are looking for parishioners to be prayer sponsors for our First Holy Communion children. To be a prayer sponsor, you agree to pray for a child making their First Holy Communion next June. Please sign the form at the back of the church if you would like to become a prayer sponsor. Regular sponsors will be sent a form which they are asked to return as soon as possible so that they can be paired up with children. Thank you.

### ATTENTION- DATE CHANGE!!-

#### BLESSING OF THE SICK

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:-**This year's service for the Blessing of the Sick will take place in the church at **11am on SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER**

### PILGRIMAGE TO FATIMA

For 7 days by plane from Gatwick from 20 November to 26 November 2011. Full board including all excursions for £579. For further information please call Mrs R Mozzi on 020 8472 0843.

### Saint Matthew 21<sup>st</sup> September

Like the first Christian community, we too in the 21st Century face the same challenges to know who Jesus is for us and to understand how we are to live by the example of his teaching. We are called to be committed to the good of others especially to those marginalised in our society because of culture, race, disability or socio-economic circumstances. If we do this we are responding to the words of Jesus, spoken to his critics immediately after he called Matthew, the tax collector: "Go and learn what this means". "I desire mercy, not sacrifice". "For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." (Matt 28:20)

**Saturday 1st October: Are you in your 20s or 30s?** Want to meet new people and make some lasting friendships? Come and have a fun night out with the SW London 20/30s, a thriving social group which attracts Catholics from many surrounding parishes. They will be meeting at 7.30pm for a drink in The Alexandra pub, 33 Wimbledon Hill Road, SW19 7NE (a two minute walk from Wimbledon Station). For more info please contact Tim: 07849 693 400 / Clare: 07818 455 011

### SALE

House plants, fibreglass pots and sundries, due to business closure. Open day at 129 Elmbridge Avenue. For more information, call Magda on 020 83998174

### NEW TRANSLATION MASS CARDS

A number of these Mass cards were taken home by parishioners from the church last weekend. Please note that these belong to the church and **should be returned as soon as possible.** You may take home the BLUE sheets as we can copy more of these. Thank you.

### Reflection on the New Translation through Words and Music

Two sessions on the new translation of the Roman Missal, led by the Christian Education Centre Team and the Diocesan Liturgy Commission. Held at the Christian Education Centre, 21 Tooting Bec Road, London SW17 8BS on Monday 10th and 17th October 2011 from 7pm to 9pm. To book in or for more details please contact the CEC on office@cectootingbec.org.uk or phone 0208 672 7684

### Union of Catholic Mothers

Meeting **Tuesday 20th September at 8pm** in The Old Chapel

We are having A Welcome Back Evening with games. Please could members bring a small amount of finger food.

All ladies in the parish are very welcome to join us. We meet on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month except August.

## Our Lady of Walsingham

(Feast Day 24<sup>th</sup> September)

### Masses and prayers at the National Shrine

There are various ways to have Masses or prayers said for your intentions at the Shrine. These are arranged by Sister Berenice sm, the Shrine Sister or her assistant Sheila. To contact Sister Berenice or Sheila about getting Masses said at Walsingham there are four ways.



- ◆ In person at the Mass Office at the Slipper Chapel, in the cloister, near to the Holy Water Font and the Bookshop.
- ◆ By letter to: The Shrine Sister, c/o Pilgrim Bureau, Friday Market Place, Lt. Walsingham, Norfolk, NR22 6DB
- ◆ By telephone to the Shrine Sister at 01328 820 495 between 9.30 and 4.00 (7 days per week but not during Mass, 12.00 -1.00pm)
- ◆ By e-mail to prayers@walsingham.org.uk

Telephone and e-mail requests are usually followed up by a letter with specific details and in the case of a Mass, a donation.

On receipt of a donation, and the extra postage, Mass cards can be sent to pass on to the recipient of your concern.