

2nd December 2012



OUR LADY IMMACULATE
TOLWORTH

Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER: Mr Tim Sheehan

It's the end of the world- again!

Against the advice of all the pundits, I did go to watch the film '2012' that came out three years ago. I quite enjoy science fiction films, and the director of this one had previously made fairly successful ones. The pundits were right- other than the all consuming special effects, the film was fairly dreadful. Its premise was based on the fact that the ancient central American civilisation of the Mayans had a 'long count' calendar which according to some calculations is due to run out on 21st December 2012. On this day, it was proposed the world would end in a suitably cataclysmic way. At the time the producers were criticised for setting up a marketing web site for the film that led some people to believe the world was actually coming to an end. Some apparently even threatened suicide. Here were echoes of Orson Welles's famous 1938 radio play of 'The War of the Worlds' which caused mass panic in the streets at what some really believed was an imminent invasion by Martians.

The extraordinary thing is that apparently rational and sophisticated human beings of the modern era were able to believe in this nonsense. If we are not in the habit of consulting Mayan records for anything else that is of importance today, why should we look to their obscure calendars? And yet already the French authorities are seeking to keep people away from the village of Bagarach which some people have envisaged as a kind of sanctuary from Armageddon on 21st December. There is something very powerful about the cry 'we are all doomed' which still tugs at the human subconscious. Usually it is dressed up with more sophistication by being linked to some current scare, whether it is global warming,

AIDS, or if your memory stretches back further, BSE and Chernobyl.

Of course we have reason to be apprehensive about some things, but that is not the same as irrational and even superstitious panic. The point has been well made that when people turn their back on Christianity, you do not get an absence of religion. Instead other

'religions' take hold, which make people vulnerable not only to moral degradation, but also to fear and anxiety.

Such was the pagan world before the gospel came to these lands, and to such they could revert again. Now of course we Christians understand that all material things come to an end.

During Advent we reflect on the end of all things, not just for ourselves, but for the whole Creation. We recall that the Lord foretold all these things, but that we would know neither the day nor the hour (Matt 25v13). We also recall that he warned us of false messiahs and prophets who would claim to know

such things and who would seek to mislead people (Matt 24v4). In Advent, we take a step back from the daily tasks of discipleship and pause to reflect on the bigger picture of God's purposes. As far as that is possible for limited human beings such as ourselves, we try to take a 'God's-eye' view of ourselves and the universe of which we are a part. We remind ourselves that our notion of time and dates is just a human construct- it is eternity which is the ultimate reality. This eternity subsists in God's own wonderful Nature, which was before all things and will continue after them. It is the unique belief of Christians that God in Christ personally shared our world of time and space, in order that we might be with Him in His eternity. In the light of that, there really is no need to panic on December 21st, or any other day for that matter.

Deacon Nicolas von Malaisé



SATURDAY/SUNDAY 1st/2nd December 2012

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

- Sat 6 .30pm** Deceased Members of the Kenny Family
(Alf & Maureen Kenny)
- Sun 9am** Ted Howe RIP (Sheila Howe)
- 11am** Mrs Ludwikagaj RIP (Lyn Sonahee)
- 12.30pm Baptisms: Oscar Church & Evie Florence Farley**
- 3pm** Comfort Service for the Bereaved
- 6pm** People of the Parish
- Retiring Collection for St George's Cathedral Maintenance*

Daily Masses 3rd - 8th December 2012

- Mon: St Francis Xavier, priest**
- 9.30am** Thomas Feeney RIP (Chris & Sheila Ennis)
- Tues: Feria**
- 7am** Maria Eaton RIP (Elizabeth Saunders)
- 9.30am** Servando RIP (Carl)
- Wed: Feria**
- 7am** John Frederick & Margaret Theresa Gowers RIP (FM)
- 9.30am** Michelle McCann RIP (Trish Collins)
- Thur: St Nicholas, bishop**
- 7am** James Keane RIP (Family)
- 9.30am** Peter & Ann Groves- In Thanksgiving
50th Wedding Anniversary (Rosemary Durkin)
- Fri: St Ambrose, bishop & doctor of the Church**
- 7am** Wilfred Corraya RIP (Leonora De Mello)
- 9.30am** Anthony Walsh RIP (Kathleen Kelleher)
- 10am** Exposition and Benediction
- 11am** (School Mass) Welfare of Pupils & Staff
- Sat: THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**
- 9am** All Subscribers to OLI Church RIP (FM)
- 1pm WEDDING: DAVID IRELAND and ABIGAIL FAZAL**

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 8th/9th December 2012

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

BIBLE SUNDAY

Readers to renew the commitment to their ministry

- Sat: 6.30pm** Domingo Peadade Cruz RIP
(Francisca Rodrigues & Family)
- Sun: 9am** George & Nubia Carro 27th Wedding Anniversary-
In Thanksgiving
- 11am** CHURCH PARADE
Private Intention (Lyn Sonahee)
- 6pm** People of the Parish

Last week's Offertory Collection

for the upkeep of the church : £ 1,931
Retiring Collection for Catholic Youth £ 487

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.30am to 10am and

Saturday 5.30pm to 6pm

READINGS

This week : 1st Sunday of Advent (C) Page 82

First Reading Jeremiah 33:14-16

Jeremiah sees the day coming when a righteous descendant of David will establish the people in integrity by virtue of his own example.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 3:12 – 4:2

Paul prays that the Thessalonians will continue to grow in love for each other and the whole human race as a result of the teaching he has given them.

Gospel Luke 21:25-28. 34-36

Jesus tells his disciples that in the end times, as the world descends into chaos, they will be able to face it all with confidence, knowing that their liberation is close at hand.

Next week: 2nd Sunday in Advent (C) Page 85

First Reading Baruch 5:1-9

The Jews in exile were in sorrow and distress, but the Lord restores them to Jerusalem and to joy.

Second Reading Philippians 1:4-6. 8-11

Paul rejoices in the Christian witness of this community and urges them to grow in the wisdom of Christ.

Gospel Luke 3:1-6

The preaching of John the Baptist is a call to make a clear highway in our lives, to receive the Lord.

We pray for all **the faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Jeremy Morton, Joan Lancaster, Clara De Litta** (mother of Sonia Di Libero), **Sheila Doyle** (sister of Philomena Olliffe), **Margorie Coleman, Fr Muradech Tuffy, Kathleen Feery, Yvonne Savage & Ethel Larkin**. 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:

Martin and Jane Estall, Maureen Kerr, Jack Hoey, Azita Sohadi, Evie Durkin, Clint Sampson, Ralph Cooper, Rouben Sarkissian, Francisco Dirago, David Moss, Linda Kirk, Bishop Patrick Lynch, Frank McCabe, Jan Lewandowski, Tom McGlone, Jean Studham, Emma Rees (daughter of Sue Rees), Elizabeth Gillman, Michael O'Brien, Rhian Knappgate, Brenda Killeen, Barbara Stevenson, Peter and Ann Groves, Baby Ella Hayes, Amandina Marsella, Mora Witton, Stephen Fleming, Derek Wells, Roisin Loftus, Theresa Keys, Maureen Dillon, Felicia Nazareth, Mary McDonnagh, Fr Simon Peat, Thomas Haley, Anna Maria Maini, Veronica Heaton, Elizabeth Joège, Francis Nazareth, Sergio Della Grotta, Marie Bast, George Matthew, Odile Froger, Jenny Sathirasegaram, Eileen Rosenberg, Bridget McNally, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, Charles Thurley, Sandra Burlinson, Sophie Burridge, Sam Hitchin, Rene Boffa, Nicky Bushell, Shirley Enright, Tom Tyler, Finn Jordan, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Palermo, John Gleeson, Jeffrey D'Cruz, George Hayes, Michael Hoskins, Michael Byrne, Martin Dray, Seema Day, Graham Taylor, Freda Sirmon, Samantha Nosalik, Manual Pillai, Fay Kearney, Winna Duncan, Jennifer McIntyre, Carl Williams, Bridie O'Driscoll, Christine Keane, Josephine Bull, Vic Carri-on and Norma Latham .

Primary School Priest Supplementary Forms

Please note that Fr Anthony & Fr Arbo will be available to sign the priest verification forms for **primary schools on Tuesday 4th December from 5.30pm to 6.30pm and Wednesday 5th December from 3pm to 4pm.**

Please note that there will be two signing sessions each week until the closing date.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2013

If your son or daughter is in year 9 or above, then they are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. The application form can be found on the parish website along with details of eligibility criteria (www.olionline.co.uk then go to Sacraments, then Confirmation - please read the criteria before printing off the form at the bottom of the page). The closing date for application forms -**which must be signed at one of the Priest Signing Sessions**- (below) is **Sunday 16th December**. Any queries, please call Andrew Richardson on 02083993466. Dates for form signing (each session lasting one hour so please arrive in plenty of time) are Wednesday 5th December at 7pm, Thursday 13th December at 7.30pm and lastly on Saturday 15th December at 11am. Additional information can be found on the application form itself.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Volunteers are needed for all the Christmas masses i.e. Christmas vigil, Midnight, 8.00, 9.15 and 11.00 am masses. We need readers, gift bearers, collectors, Welcomers, Eucharistic ministers and of course Altar Servers. If you can help please can you sign up on the relevant sheet in the RDJ room. Many thanks. Jacques Parish Master of Ceremonies

Union of Catholic Mothers:

We were delighted with the talk Deacon Nicolas gave about his spiritual journey, and his forthright response to the lively questions that followed. Our thanks to him for being with us.

Our next meeting will be our Advent Party at 8pm in the Old Chapel on Tuesday December 4th. Please bring some finger food and an item for the (free) raffle. And bring a friend. This will be our last meeting until the New Year. The committee wishes you all a happy and holy Christmas.

TOY SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER 2012

We will be collecting toys for needy families at all Masses next weekend. Please bring your wrapped gifts, and mark on the labels whether they are suitable for a girl or boy, and the approximate age range. Gifts should be placed around the altar before Mass. Thank you



PARISH DINNER

25th January 2013 at the Sorrento Restaurant

It's that time of year again! Our Parish Dinner will be taking place on Friday 25th January 2013 at The Sorrento Restaurant, Ewell Road, 7.30pm for 8pm. Join us for a three course meal for £15 per head. Includes service charge. Drinks and coffee extra.

Numbers are limited, so please contact Elaine at the Presbytery on 020 8399 9550, or email info@olionline.co.uk to purchase your tickets.

Please arrange your own groups in advance if you would like to sit on the same table.

WEBSITE UPDATES:

- ◆ Holy Land pictures and write up, part 2 (Gallery)
- ◆ New page for Parish Safeguarding (Our Par-

OUR LADY IMMACULATE PRIMARY SCHOOL Admission arrangements for the academic year 2014/2015

In accordance with The Education and Skills Act 2008 **admission arrangements for the academic year 2014/2015** are currently being consulted upon.

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames will issue a public notice making details of consultation for community schools available in local newspaper and online. *These details will be displayed on the church notice board and in the newsletter once they are published.*

As Our Lady Immaculate Primary School is a voluntary aided school, draft copies of the Admissions policy and the supplementary information form (SIF) for 2014 are

available at the school office (0208 399 9854) where there is a response form if required.

The draft Policy and SIF can also be found on the school website (*address on front of this newsletter*)

Any response to these documents should be returned through that office by Monday 21st January 2013.

Mothers Prayers. OLI School

Mum's, Nan's, Godmother's, Carers, Aunties.....

The next Mothers Prayers will take place on Tuesday 4th December. The OLI Mothers Prayer Group meet on the first **Tuesday of every month from 2.20pm to 2.50pm** in the **Lady Chapel**, just before you pick up your child/children from school. All mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunties and carers are warmly invited for half an hour of prayer. Spend some quiet time praying for the children in your lives.



CHRISTMAS DAY PARTY

The people of St Andrew's & St Mark's churches, Surbiton invite all do not wish to be alone on Christmas Day to a free Christmas Lunch Party with traditional food, presents and entertainment at the YMCA, Victoria Road, Surbiton.

25th December 2012 From 12-3.30pm

Fun, food and fellowship. Contact Sarah Stokes on 020 8399 2527. See poster at the back of the church.