

9th December 2012



OUR LADY IMMACULATE  
TOLWORTH

# Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



## OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG Tel: 020 8399 9550 Fax: 020 8399 3291 Email: [info@olionline.co.uk](mailto:info@olionline.co.uk)

[www.olionline.co.uk](http://www.olionline.co.uk)

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

I was a scout for a short time before I went away to school. Our motto was "be prepared"

In the Scouting Handbook Barden Powell explained what he meant by this. "Be prepared in mind by having disciplined yourself to be obedient to every order, and also by having thought out beforehand any accident or situation that might occur, so that you know the right thing to do at the right moment, and are willing to do it.

Be prepared in body by making yourself strong and active and able to do the right thing at the right moment, and do it. "

The cry of John the Baptist is a little different. We are asked to prepare for the Lord and get ready for the coming of Christ as Saviour. This is an encouragement for us to think about how we prepare for Christmas time. This is our spiritual preparation. Depending on our approach to Christmas, we have our lists of things to do and we also will find that there seems to be an increasing number of events that we are asked to participate in, such as children's Christmas productions, carol concerts, office parties, staff lunches or dinners. Then there are those annual Christmas activities of writing cards and buying presents. But what of our spiritual preparation?

Here are some simple suggestions. Sorry it is another list!

### A. Go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Confession a great sacrament to healing. It enables us to open our hearts to Christ present in our lives. Times are published to the Christmas leaflet this week

### B. Use the advent wreath as the centre piece of your family table.

It is not always easy to pray together as a family. The advent wreath can be a great focus. We can say a prayer as we light a candle before our family meal.

### C. Use the Advent booklet "Living Word"

Today is Bible Sunday when we affirm the importance of the Word of God in our lives and our

relationship with God. The Living Word gives a reflection each day on the readings of the Day. You can also buy a copy of "Bible Alive" which comes out monthly and is a similar publication. There are other Advent booklets in the Repository which is open on Sunday mornings after Mass.

### D. Take a copy of Wednesday Word from the church.

The children at Our Lady Immaculate School receive this each week. An adult version is available at the back of the church and helps us reflect and pray on the following Sunday's gospel.

### E. Decide as a family to give some money to a local charity.

Perhaps give to Crisis which provides shelter, food and clothing for those who are homeless at Christmas. Their website is <http://www.crisis.org.uk>

On Christmas Day we might want to volunteer to help with the Christmas meal being provided for those who might be on their own. Details are on a poster at the

back of the church.

### F. Consider giving some time to visit someone living on their own.

That person may be a neighbour or a relative. We value our time and giving something that we value to another willingly is a real gift.

### G. Pray for the people of Bethlehem.

It has now become surrounded by the security wall and it is difficult for people to earn a living because of the severe restrictions on movement. Remember especially the Christian minority that live there.

### H. Sit silently for five minutes each day.

In the silence we invite God to speak to our heart. We could say the Advent word, "Maranatha" to ourselves which means "Come Lord Jesus"

Enjoy the Christian season which ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which this year we celebrate [on 13th January](#).

Anthony Charlton



**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 8th/9th December 2012**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C) TOY SUNDAY**  
**BIBLE SUNDAY**

*Readers to renew the commitment to their ministry*

**Sat 1pm WEDDING: DAVID IRELAND and ABIGAIL FAZAL**

**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)

**12.30pm Baptisms:**

**6pm** People of the Parish

**Daily Masses 10th - 15th December 2012**

**Mon: Feria**

**9.30am** Dennis Brennan RIP (Eileen Pearce & Family)

**Tues: Feria**

**7am** In Thanksgiving (John & Family)

**9.30am** Mary Joyce RIP (Mary Gray)

**Wed: Our Lady of Guadalupe**

**7am** In Thanksgiving for All Blessings (Jenny)

**9.30am** Honora & Geoffrey Miles RIP (Pat Parker & Family)

**Thur: St Lucy, virgin & martyr**

**7am** Christopher Jones RIP (Family)

**9.30am** Mary Martin RIP (Gerry Harvey & Family)

**Fri: St John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church**

**7am** Welfare of Enid Fergie & Evie Durkin  
 (Maureen & Rosemary Durkin)

**9.30am** Gerard Costello RIP (John Costello)

**10am** Exposition and Benediction

**Sat: Feria**

**9am** Ottavio D'Agostino RIP (Mrs D'Agostino)

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 15th/16th December 2012**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)**

**Sat: 6.30pm** Emma Maria Coutinho RIP (Joseph Coutinho)

**Sun: 9am** People of the Parish

**11am** Joan Lancaster RIP (Choir)

**6pm** John Cruse RIP (Family)

**Last week's Offertory Collection**

**for the upkeep of the church : £ 1,766**  
**Maintenance of St George's Cathedral £ 316**

We thank you for your continued generosity .  
 (Cash counters this week: Gerry Hague & Tessa McLeod  
 Next week: Rob Estall & Roman Szymanski)



We welcome into the Church **Oscar Church & Evie Florence Farley** who were baptised last Sunday.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

**Saturday 9.30am to 10am and**

**Saturday 5.30pm to 6pm**

**READINGS**

**This 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.

**Next week: 3rd Sunday in Advent (C) Page 88**

**First Reading** Zephaniah 3:14-18

The Lord takes away all fear and brings us great joy.

**Second Reading** Philippians 4:4-7

Our prayers will bring the peace of God to guard our hearts.

**Gospel** Luke 3:10-18

John the Baptist announces the coming of the one who will baptise with the Holy Spirit and fire

We pray for all **the faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Jean Studham** (whose funeral is on Tuesday 18th December at 11am), **Patricia Howard, Jeremy Morton, Joan Lancaster, Clara De Litta** (mother of Sonia Di Libero), **Sheila Doyle** (sister of Philomena Olliffe), **Marjorie 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, 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, Emma Rees (daughter of Sue Rees), Elizabeth Gillman, Michael O'Brien, Rhian Knapgate, 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 McDonagh, 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 Carrion 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 11th December from 6pm to 7pm and Wednesday 12th December from 3pm to 4pm.**

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

### Deacon Nicolas von Malaisé

Congratulations to Deacon Nicolas who is being ordained to the priesthood on Saturday 19 January 2013 at 12.30pm at St George's Cathedral. He will then celebrate his first Mass at OLI on Sunday 20th January 2013 at 11am. Deacon Nicolas (Father Nicolas) will then be with us until Easter, when he will receive his appointment.

### THANK YOU

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to last week's Foodbank collection. We had a fantastic response and collected 68 bags of food.

Thank you so much for your overwhelming generosity - this will really make a difference, especially at this time of the year. (This is our last collection for this year; our next collection will be the weekend of 26/27 January.)

### 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

### 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 21<sup>st</sup> January 2013.**

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Please put Saturday **12th January 2013** in your diaries for a retreat day. To be held at the House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Rd, East Molesey KT8 0PB. From 11am to 4pm. Invite to follow shortly.

### 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.olonline.co.uk](http://www.olonline.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 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 SERVICE TIMES

Please take a leaflet from the back of the church listing the times of all Christmas Masses and services.

### LENTEN PROJECT

On Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November at the AGM there were 12 nominations for the Lenten Project in 2013.

Those present heard a summary of the work each charity undertook in various countries before voting for 4 projects to support next year. It was a very difficult decision as all the nominations were worthy of support and are doing such important work under often very difficult circumstances. The charities chosen are:

**Friends of the Holy Land:** This project deals directly with 3 parishes in the Bethlehem area.

The three Parish Priests meet to distribute food and clothing vouchers, blankets, heaters and medicines. The vouchers are "spent" at shops owned by local Christians. The Priests ensure that only the most needy receive support.

**Emmanuel International:** This project in Tanzania is providing expertise and engineers to provide a clean water supply to a Secondary School in Furahia. The local community provide the labour etc. At present their supply comes from a sand river bed some distance away and is both unsafe and unhygienic.

**Asha Ashram:** The CMI missionaries provide shelter for those physically and mentally challenged tribal people of the Jagdalpur area of Chattisgarh State in India who are often abandoned on the street. At the shelter they receive food, treatment, education & training.

**Loreto Day School Calcutta:** Sr Cyril, who founded the school enlists the help of older children (aged 10 to 12 years) to scout their neighbourhoods and discover where younger children are working. These very young children are growing up in factories and shops deprived of the most basic rights of food, medical care and sleep. The owners are then persuaded to release the children for a few hours to attend the school to receive that care. The hope is that these children will gain some education/ training to help themselves out of their predicament.

A number of events have already been planned but we are looking for new ideas for fund raising. Please e-mail Phil Townsend ([PhilipTownsend@stchris.org.uk](mailto:PhilipTownsend@stchris.org.uk)) if you have any suggestions. Many thanks.  
*Parish Project Committee 2013*



### Peace in the Holy Land – Bishops write to the Foreign Secretary Rt Hon William Hague.

In the light of recent happenings in Israel / Palestine and Gaza two senior bishops, one Anglican and one Catholic, have written a public letter to Foreign Secretary William Hague urging fresh thinking about Israel-Palestine. The Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Exeter and the Church of England's lead bishop on international affairs, and the Rt Rev Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton and chair of the department for International affairs for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, describe the UK government's recent decision to abstain from supporting the Palestinian bid for non-member observer state status at the United Nations as "regrettable".

They write: "the Palestinian bid to upgrade its status at the UN represented a legitimate and creative non-violent attempt at breaking the current political impasse. As such, it deserved wide support." *The letter, in full, reads as follows:*

To: Rt Hon William Hague MP  
Dear Foreign Secretary

The UK Government's regrettable decision to abstain from supporting the Palestinian bid for non-member observer state status puts into stark relief the broader problems facing the peoples of the Holy Land and the stalled political process that is supposed to bring them peace, an issue which remains of fundamental importance to the region whatever the new pressures of the 'Arab Spring'.

Indeed supporting those seeking dignity and democracy in the Arab world inevitably re-focuses attention on the failure to resolve the Palestinian issue. The traditional structure of the long sought-after resolution of that issue has long been regarded as the two state solution, as the only way to meet the national aspirations of the two peoples involved. The viability of that approach is now coming under increasing pressure, not least from relentless settlement building in the occupied territories which will soon render a contiguous Palestinian state unviable. That would be a tragedy for Palestinians and Israelis alike, since whatever the difficulties of establishing two states there do not seem to be any valid alternatives other than continuing conflict. Against this background the Palestinian bid to upgrade its status at the UN represented a legitimate and creative non-violent attempt at breaking the current political impasse. As such, it deserved wide support.

This conflict has gone on too long, and its continuing human cost is clear, not only in the recent sad loss of life on both sides during the recent Gaza-related violence, but in terms of the insidious burden the current situation places upon both occupied and occupier, and in the loss of potential, especially amongst young people. These are the poisoned fruits of a political stalemate. Merely seeking to manage this frustrating stalemate and to contain the inevitable fallout is no longer a viable strategy and will if persisted with, only result in additional human suffering.

What can be done? The resource of faith, above all the common monotheistic ethic of reverence for life, does provide hope and religious leaders from all communities are working to build bridges of understanding. That slow, difficult work deserves greater support and recognition, not least from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Such efforts can serve as a way of refocusing attention back to the key struggle – the need to respect the civil, religious and political rights of all those – Jew, Christian, Muslim, Arab and Israeli – caught in the conflict.

The strong have a particular obligation and Israelis needs to be true to their ethical tradition. But all parties must refocus on respecting the sanctity of the human person, and the inalienable rights that flow from that, if peace is ever to be possible.

Yours sincerely

+ Rt Rev Michael Langrish, Bishop of Exeter and the Church of England's lead bishop on international affairs  
+ Rt Rev Declan Lang, Bishop of Clifton and chair of the department for International affairs for the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales  
December 2012.

### Books wanted for the new Parish Library



#### Donations of recent spiritual books (adults and children) in good condition

would help in building up the new Parish Library in OLI. Please bring them to the RDJ Room\*, in a bag with a clear label: "For the Parish Library"

We would also like to raise funds by selling any kind of books in reasonably good condition or CDs and DVDs; if you want to get rid of some, please leave them in a bag labelled: "For Sale" in the RDJ Room\* (\*The RDJ Room is on your way to the Sacristy - right hand side at the top of the church )

#### Special Coffee Morning:

Sunday 16 December after 9am and 11am  
Masses in the Old Chapel.



**Book sale** to raise funds for the new Parish Library

A young Catholic couple are looking to rent a two bedroom house in the local area. They can supply you with references. If you can help please contact Natalia on 07578 880 742

### OLI CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

Our Lady Immaculate church is pleased to invite all its parishioners and friends to a lovely Christmas carol service, this will be held on **Wednesday 19th December at 5:30pm** in the church. This concert is being organised in aid of, and to raise awareness for the Fircroft Trust. All donations will go to Fircroft. The Fircroft Trust is a charity which supports adults living in the community with mental health problems and/or learning disabilities. The organisation enables people to maximise their potential through positive action for mind and body.

This year's carol service will see all 3 OLI choirs, the folk group, the 11 am church choir and the Angelpop choir teaming up as one to bring the best and loved Christmas carols to life. As Our lady Immaculate is a very multicultural community this year we are bringing some international songs right here at OLI. We are sure to have most of you going down memory lane and remembering some childhood Christmas carols. We look forward to seeing you at this free event and invite you to join us afterwards for mince pies and mulled wine or fruit punch for the younger audience in the RDJ room. For further information please contact Gia on [gia.borgdarcy@gmail.com](mailto:gia.borgdarcy@gmail.com)