

13th January 2013



OUR LADY IMMACULATE
TOLWORTH

Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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HEADTEACHER: Mr Tim Sheehan

Plunged into eternal life

I was baptised two days after I was born. This was a baptism in emergency as there was a bug going round the hospital. Later I was brought to the church in Larkhall Lane where the ceremonies were supplied. In other words they celebrated the Rite of Baptism without baptising me again. Obviously my parents believed it was vital that I should be baptised as soon as possible. I have heard also of grandparents who when hearing that their grandchildren might not be baptised, took it upon themselves to baptise the child, often without the parents knowledge. They desired more than anything that their grandchild should have the gift of everlasting life.

In many cases today there is no longer that sense of urgency with parents. Some parents wait one or two years before they bring their child to be baptised. Some have put off baptism until they have enough money for a party or all the key people are able to come or until the weather is warmer so that they can have a celebration outside.

On the feast of the Baptism of Our Lord it is good for us to reflect on the importance and the necessity of baptism for all people. From the beginning of the Church the Apostles and the followers of Jesus took seriously Jesus' command to go out and make disciples of all the nations baptising them. It was not only adults that were baptised but whole families. Infant baptism was something that was routinely carried out from the beginning of the Church. Baptism has never been merely a naming ceremony or a ritual for giving thanks for the birth of a child. The sacrament of baptism is much more profound. We only have to look at the Rite and listen to the words that are spoken by the priest or deacon to realise that the moment of baptism is a moment when a child or adult is changed for ever.

Every child born into this world is loved by God. If God did not love the child then it would cease to exist. God loves every child in a much more profound and deeper way than any parent could love their child. If that is the case then what is the purpose of baptising a child? When parents bring their child for baptism they are offering that child the most precious gift—eternal life.

They are giving their child the opportunity to come to know God's love and to experience that love within the family of God—the Church. The effectiveness of baptism does not depend on the faith of the child. Some Christians believe that you need to make a declaration of faith in Jesus before you can be baptised. We believe that the gift is given to the child at baptism but it needs to be nurtured and fed and watered if that gift is to blossom and to be fruitful.



In the Gospel today Luke recounts that John the Baptist said "I baptise you with water, but someone is coming, someone who is more powerful and I am, and I am not fit to undo the strap of his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and Fire." John made it clear that when he baptised people it was a symbol of their turning to God and an act of repentance. The baptism that Jesus would offer is different. When we are baptised we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit and we are filled with the fire of God's love. John the Baptist plunged people into the water as a sign of con-

version. Jesus plunges us into the living water of the Holy Spirit, immersing us deep in the life of God.

"It is in the sacrament of baptism that the individual meets Jesus the Baptiser. The community of the Church is central to the meaning of baptism. It is through being plunged into the Church that we are plunged by Jesus into his life with the Father in the Spirit." (Bishop Michael Evans)

The day I was baptised in the nursing home in South London was the most important day of my life, more important than my day of ordination to the priesthood. For me that day was the beginning of eternal life. Today let us thank God that our parents brought us to the font to be baptised. For us this was the beginning of a life of pilgrimage. We began a lifelong journey to eternal life with God. Every day we need to say a deeper and deeper "Yes" to all that our baptism means, and live every moment of our lives "baptised in the Spirit" plunged deep in the life of God.

Anthony Charlton

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 12th/13th January 2013

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (C)

- Sat 6.30pm** David Doyle RIP (Kathleen Doyle & Family)
Sun 9am People of the Parish
11am Sidney D'Souza RIP (Lourdes D'Souza)
6pm Mr & Mrs Jebamalai (Gowthaman & Family)

Please note that this weekend (12th/13th January) we will be having a special appeal on behalf of the Society of African Missions given by Fr McGuire.

Daily Masses 14th-18th January 2013

Mon: Feria

9.30am Thomas Chacko Mattam RIP (Rosamma)

Tues: Feria

7am Emma Maria Coutinho RIP (Joseph Coutinho)

9.30am Mary Clifford RIP (Dominic Clifford)

Wed: Feria

7am Welfare of Michael Hopkins

9.30am Winnie Donovan RIP (Mary Gray)

Thur: St Anthony, Abbot

7am Peter Wilson Coldham RIP (Family)

9.30am Elizabeth Mills & Family (Anne Sheridan)

Fri: Feria

7am Florence & Ethel Eales RIP (FM)

9.30am Roy Welch RIP (Mrs Garry)

10am Exposition

Sat: Feria

9am Patrick Farmer RIP (Farmer Family)

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 19th/20th January 2013

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sat: 6.30pm Maurice Felton RIP (Mary Felton)

Sun: 9am People of the Parish

11am Arthur Wurr RIP (Sheila Wurr)

6pm Nixon RIP (Gowthaman & Family)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays- 9.30am to 10am

and 5.30pm to 6pm

Last week's Offertory Collection

for the upkeep of the church : £1,994

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

READINGS

This Week- Baptism of the Lord (C) page 119

First Reading Isaiah 40:1-5. 9-11

The messenger of God announces that the Lord is coming with power.

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

God has saved us through the cleansing waters of baptism.

Gospel Luke 3:15-16. 21-22

Jesus is baptised and receives the Holy Spirit and his Father's acknowledgment.

Next Week- 2nd Sunday in OT (C) page 124

First Reading Isaiah 62:1-5

The prophet speaks of Jerusalem's glorious future, when the Lord will address her as "My Delight" and her land as "The Wedded".

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There are many gifts and many ministries, but one God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – is at work in them all.

Gospel John 2:1-11

At a marriage feast in Cana of Galilee, Jesus gives his first "sign" and begins to reveal himself.

We pray for all the **faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Ralph Cooper** (husband of Maggie Cooper), **Jean Studham, Patricia Howard, Jeremy Morton, Joan Lancaster and Clara De Litta** (mother of Sonia Di Libero). 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:

Maureen Kerr, Jack Hoey, Azita Sohadi, Evie Durkin, Clint Sampson, 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 Knappgate, Brenda Killeen, Barbara Stevenson, Peter and Ann Groves, 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 Carrion and Norma Latham .

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.

There are still a few places available, 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.

Italian Mass at OLI

We will be having an Italian Mass here at OLI on Sunday 10th February at 3pm by one of the Scalabrini Fathers. Please bring a plate of food to share in the Old Chapel afterwards.

Domenica 10 febbraio alle 15,00 si terra' una messa in italiano presso la chiesa Our Lady Immaculate 401/403 Ewell Road Tolworth Surrey KT6 7DG

Dopo la messa ci sara' la possibilita' di socializzare nei locali adiacenti alla chiesa. Portare del cibo italiano o inglese da condividere con i presenti.

Please contact Maria on mar_iacuzio@hotmail.com for any further information.

Union of Catholic Mothers

A Happy New Year to all our members and friends. Our first meeting for 2013 will be on Tuesday January 15th at 8.15pm in the Old Chapel. Please note the later time of 8.15pm. By popular request a Beetle Drive is on the agenda. We look forward to seeing you and our guests from New Malden. Any ladies of the parish who would like to join us will be most welcome

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.

URGENT HELP NEEDED

We need at least 2 adults, Male or female to help Jacques our parish master of ceremonies with our altar servers guild. He needs help on some Sundays/ Saturdays and with the training of the servers in order to meet current legislation criteria. All volunteers will need to be CRB checked and Jacques will provide the necessary training of the adult volunteers. We need to have the volunteers in place for just after Easter, so in order to get the CRB checks done in time we need volunteers to come forward as soon as possible. If you can help or would like to know more please contact Jacques on 020 8397 2793. Many thanks. Jacques Lambert

Deacon Nicolas von Malaisé

Deacon Nicolas is being ordained to the priesthood on Saturday 19th January at 12.30pm at St George's Cathedral. Fr Nicolas will be celebrating his first Mass at Our Lady Immaculate the next day at 11am Sunday 20th January, which will be followed by a social event in the Catholic Hall.

REPOSITORY- CHURCH SHOP

I shall be ordering goods for the Repository in a few weeks time. If anyone has a request, please let me know as soon as possible, and I will do my best to obtain it.

Pat Buchanan 020 8399 2300

Our Lady Immaculate Lenten Project 2013

Can you help?

Our Lady Immaculate Parish Lenten Project has been running successfully for over 40 years. Over the years we have raised in excess of £300,000 for countries in the third world. The 2012 Project raised over £18,000.

This year we have set a target to raise over £20,000 for good causes in India, Africa and the Holy Land.

We are planning to have a **Grand Raffle Draw** as one of the planned activities. We have already had some very generous donations to offer as prizes (more details to follow). We are looking for Parishioners who are able to donate prizes for the Grand Draw or one of the many small raffles which take place at the various events.

Do you work for a company who might be willing to assist with the printing costs for the Draw booklets?

Similarly, do you work for an organisation who might be able and willing to offer a prize?

If you are able to help please contact Phil Townsend on Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk on 8399 3481. Thank you.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Your new rotas are available for collection from the RDJ Room. Please ensure you collect them, as the new rota runs from next weekend.

Thank you.

Soul Waves Radio *Serving Ireland and Beyond.*

Soul Waves Radio supplies over 30 local and community radio stations throughout Ireland with news, reaction stories and features. Each week, three interviews, edited and ready for transmission, are broadcast and posted to the Soul Waves website, reaching an estimated audience of 300,000. Topics are of a religious and social nature and can fit into a number of categories: Church Year, Calendar Year, Faith/Spirituality, Current Topics, Social Issues, Third World Issues, and Human Interest Stories. You don't have to live in Ireland to enjoy these interviews, simply log on at www.soulwaveradio.ie and 'click' to listen.

CATHOLIC PARLIAMENTARY AND PUBLIC POLICY INTERNSHIPS

For the last ten years the Catholics Bishops Conference has organised Parliamentary and Public Policy Internships for recently graduated Catholics. This year we are looking to offer at least 6 internships: Three interns will be placed with Christian MPs at Westminster, two in public policy with CAFOD and one in a media internship in Archbishop's House Westminster.

All internships will run from September 2013 - July 2014 and include accommodation and subsistence allowances. Full details and an application form can be found on our website: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/catholic-internships>

Completed application forms must either be emailed to interns@cbcew.org.uk or posted to: Michaela Kelly, Head of HR, 39 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1BX. The closing date is 9am on 25th February 2013 and Assessment days will be 25th and 26th March 2013.

If you know anyone who may be interested in this opportunity, please encourage them to apply.

Turn your Christmas cards into trees!

Please help the Woodland Trust to create more woodland in 2013 by taking this year's Christmas cards to your local Marks and Spencer during January.

From up until January 31st 2013, specially-marked Christmas card recycling bins will be placed in over 300 participating Marks and Spencer stores across the UK. For every 1000 Christmas cards brought into store, Marks and Spencer will plant a tree with the Woodland Trust.

The Marks and Spencer scheme is different to most kerbside recycling schemes because, at the same time as making sure vast quantities of card are recycled, it supports the Woodland Trust by paying for thousands of extra native trees to be planted in the UK each year.



YEAR OF FAITH SOCIAL EVENT

You are all warmly invited to our second monthly social for the Year of Faith in the Catholic Hall from **7pm** on Sunday **3rd February**. Refreshments will be served

followed by a short DVD on Catholicism. All welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th – 25th January



This year's theme encourages us to look beyond our differences and walk in solidarity with our brothers and sisters across the globe. That might seem a lofty call but there's still lots we can do in practical terms.

The organisers have planned eight days of practical suggestions, prayer and Bible studies. There's something for everyone. We're encouraged to answer simple questions such as 'who do we include in our conversations and why do we exclude others? In what ways do we look after our planet? How do we break down barriers between Christians of other denominations, and how, as Christians do we engage with other religions.

Churches Together in Surbiton

Surbiton Hill Methodist Church will be holding a Covenant Service this **Sunday 13 January** at 6.30pm. Everyone welcome.

The next Churches Together in Surbiton meeting is being held on **Monday 21st January** at Emmanuel Church, 1 Grand Avenue, Berrylands.

Lent Study Courses for Churches Together in Surbiton

This year's course is entitled '**Discovering our Place in the Body of Christ**' by Karen Bell. There are 6 sessions:

Image
Being Different
Disabled Christ
What is Healing?
When Healing Doesn't Happen
The Body

Sessions usually take place in local homes and this is an excellent opportunity to meet with our ecumenical neighbours and enter into lively discussion. Please think about leading one of our groups this Lent. New faces and fresh insight would be most welcome!! If you are interested, please pop into the Presbytery, or email us your details.

Recommended Reading.

Looking After Yourself By Len Kofler

After Christmas the supermarket shelves are packed with new 'get fit' DVD's and magazines full of advice on getting trim and making new resolutions, but here's a book with a difference.

Drenched in an abundance of learning, Fr Len Kofler brings together for the first time an impressive range of practical tips and guidelines for working on your own body, mind and spirit. Using easy-to-digest theory and engaging 'try it yourself' suggestions, he enables you to make quick, positive changes to the way you look after yourself. Every area of life is an opportunity for growth, and Len Kofler's gentle style will shepherd you on a journey towards a fully human life in a truly Catholic sense, using Jesus of Nazareth as your model. The journey is one towards greater freedom, fulfilment, happiness and healing.

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