

20th January 2013



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

Look on the Bright Side of Life

Eighteen years ago, after being ordained a deacon while studying at the Missionary Institute in London, I was sent to Pentonville Prison as an assistant to the chaplain. Among other duties, on Sunday, I would serve Mass in a fully packed chapel. It was a Mass like no other. It was full of excitement and spirits were always high. There were incidents of joy and sadness; some were hilarious while others were not so.

One day a brawl broke out between two prisoners as they fought to bring up the bread and wine for the offertory. Thank God the police were at hand to swiftly settle the matter. At another Mass the prison officers noticed something suspicious going on between two prisoners during the sharing of peace. They jumped on them, held them on the ground trying in vain to prevent one of them from swallowing a little package he had received while exchanging the sign of peace. When it came to singing, the prisoners never held back a thing. They were as loud as they could be, depending on the kind of song. It did not matter whether they sung in-tune or off-tune. At one Mass they started singing Louis Armstrong's song "Go down Moses" with a strong emphasis on the words "Let my people go!" The song was never allowed at Mass again.

All these incidents provoked a reaction from the chaplaincy and prison authorities. They were banned. At Masses, there were no more of offertory processions; no more sharing of peace; no more singing certain songs like "Go down Moses" or "We shall overcome," etc. Looking

back, I think that this was not the best solution. If things continued like this, sooner or later, the celebration of Mass was going to become similar to a military exercise.

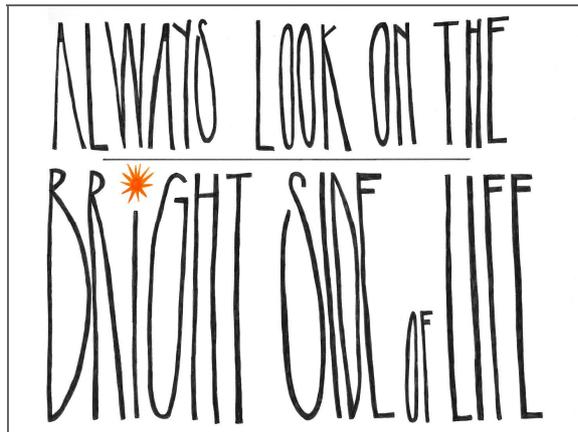
I believe that as human beings we are in general caring, good and loving beings. Yes, at times we may fail, be unkind, evil and hateful. It is true that there are individuals who commit unspeakable crimes against others and against God's creation, but compared by the amount of goodness shared by peace loving individuals, the perceived power of evil in our world is negligible. However, in the mass media, the negatives are always well highlighted, sometimes at the expense of the positives.

I sometimes wonder if God was to deal with us as the prison officers dealt with the prisoners at the celebration of Mass, what the world would be like. The overwhelming harmony of creation in relation to our lives is a powerful sign of God's desire to hold us in a positive light. As human beings we are always held back by our guilt of the past. We constantly highlight the dark side of our lives at the expense of the bright side. God guides creation towards his light rather than evil's darkness. Psalm 130 has a phrase which sums up my thought better:

"If you, Lord, should mark our iniquities, Lord, who would survive."

Always look on the bright side of Life.

Arbo Lekule



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)

Daily Masses 21st-26th January 2013

Mon: St Agnes, virgin & martyr

9.30am FUNERAL MASS: Ralph Cooper RIP

Tues: St Vincent, deacon & martyr

7am Patrick Kelly RIP (Family)

9.30am Jean Studham RIP (UCM & KSC)

Wed: Feria

7am Margaret Hegarty RIP (Colleen Culligan)

9.30am In Thanksgiving: Wedding Anniversary
(Mr & Mrs Amith Joy Philip)

Thur: St Francis de Sales, bishop & doctor of the Church

7am George & Patricia Buggie RIP (FM)

9.30am Alice Durkin RIP (Rosemary Durkin)

Fri: The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle

7am Welfare of Suthakaran & Family

9.30am Oliver Kelly RIP (Teresa Auty)

10am Exposition

Sat: SS Timothy & Titus, bishops

9am Deceased Members of the Qualter Family

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 26th/27th January 2013

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Education Sunday

Sat: 6.30pm Laurentia Tully RIP (Mary Taylor)

Sun: 9am People of the Parish

11am Theresa Ankianiec RIP (Fr Anthony)

12.30pm BAPTISM: Nakumbori Mongalla

6pm Minerva & Horatius Balint RIP (Monika Wolff)

Retiring Collection for the Catholic Education Service

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays- 9.30am to 10am

and 5.30pm to 6pm

Last week's Offertory Collection

for the upkeep of the church : £1,844

Society of African Missions £1,276

We thank you for your continued generosity .

(Cash counters this week: Tessa McLeod

Next week: George & Paul Hoskins)



We welcome into the Church **Stephen and Martina Hardy**, who were baptised last weekend.

READINGS

This Week- 2nd Sunday in OT (C)

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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.

Next Week- 3rd Sunday in OT (C)

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First Reading Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10

The prophet Ezra teaches the returning exiles the Law of God. As they listen and understand, their tears are turned to rejoicing.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Joined to Christ in baptism and filled with his Spirit, Christians share in a new way in each other's joys and sorrows, gifts and burdens.

Gospel Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21

At the start of Jesus' ministry he proclaims his good news of healing and liberation. In his person he fulfils the words of the prophets.

We pray for all the **faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Mora Witton, 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, Geoff Grenade (father of Debbie Dray), 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, 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 Burrigge, 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 .

Deacon Nicolas von Malaisé

Many congratulations to Deacon Nicolas on being ordained to the priesthood yesterday. Fr Nicolas will be celebrating his first Mass at Our Lady Immaculate **today at 11am Sunday 20th January**, which will be followed by a social event in the Catholic Hall. All welcome!

KINGSTON FOODBANK COLLECTION

Once again, a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us in our Foodbank collections so far. We had a great collection just before Christmas which included some lovely Christmas treats. Please be assured that all food donated goes to the Kingston Foodbank, which helps local people in crisis who need food (see website for more information www.kingston.foodbank.org.uk).

Our next Foodbank collection is due to be after all Masses next weekend (26/27 January) – so do please remember to bring donations, even if it is one item, it really does help to make a difference. We need new, in-date, undamaged, non-perishable food, and donations can be left in a box in the church porch.

Food currently needed is:

Tinned steamed puddings
Instant mash potato
Small packets of sugar
Vegetarian meals in tins (eg macaroni cheese, vegetarian chilli, vegetarian curry, ratatouille etc)

Many thanks for your help.
Helen Emmett, Jackie Murphy, Anne O'Brien, Ruth Oliver (OLI Foodbank Coordinators)

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.

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

Conversion of St. Paul 25th January



"Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (1 Corinthians 13:4-7).

Praying with Saint Paul:

Daily Reflections on the Letters of the Apostle Paul Edited by Peter John Cameron

The book was a response to Pope Benedict's call for "special publications of Pauline texts" to mark the Year of Saint Paul. According to the book's foreword, it is "not an academic study guide," but a handbook to help readers engage in the ancient practice of lectio divina, or "sacred reading." By the end of one year, readers "will have reflected systematically on some of the most significant passages from the corpus of Saint Paul, from the Letter to the Romans to the Letter to Philemon." Highly recommended.

EDUCATION SUNDAY -27 January

Our schools are a very significant way in which the Catholic community in England and Wales places itself at the service of society.

We are mindful that our educational institutions, many of which are among the very best in the country, depend on us for their success and their faithfulness to the evangelical mission to make disciples of all people. They depend first of all upon the support and cooperation of Catholic parents, who are the first teachers of their children. They depend on local parishes in whose mission and witness they share, and they depend on a great number of committed staff who reflect in their own lives the joy that knowing Christ brings.

Our Catholic schools and colleges are a great treasure. This treasure has been given to us and we must ensure that we hand it on to future generations. Education is in a time of great change. For some schools, this may mean working in new ways and in new relationships. Whatever the challenges that we face, now or in the future, let us remain focussed upon Christ in all that we do.

THANK YOU

Thanks to those who responded so generously to Father Slawomir Kielbasa's appeal on behalf of the Society of African Missions last week. You gave £ 1,276

