

27th January 2013



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

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

HEADTEACHER: Mr Tim Sheehan

Like many people, I enjoy watching nature programmes, and never cease to marvel at the great skill of the cameramen and film makers in acquiring their extraordinary images. It is wonderful that we have greater access than any previous human generation to the extraordinary complexity and variety of the natural world, which is particularly vivid to us who live in urban areas far removed from the scenes we observe with such amazement. Of course from the start, one of the ambiguities inherent in all nature films is the way we relate to animals. It seems the more we live apart from them in our urban communities, the more we are inclined to project our own feelings and sentiments onto animals, in a way that our agricultural ancestors could literally not afford to do. For a farmer a cow has to remain a cow which will probably one day go to slaughter. If he thought of his herd as a collection of surrogate human beings, he would soon go bust. But we, whose food is sanitised and packaged for collection in the supermarket, we are in the habit of seeing a beautiful animal on our screens and investing it with human feelings and characterisation. Interestingly, ugly or terrifying animals are rarely accorded this status by us: crocodiles are seldom the 'heroes' of these films. So it is always an issue for the makers of nature films as to how they present the creatures they are portraying to an audience that is inclined to view them as surrogate human beings with an expectation of human, or indeed Western responses in the behaviour of the animals. Recently I was introduced in a film to the strange and prehistoric looking East African shoebill bird. It is large and, as its name suggests, has a massive, ungainly looking beak with which it catches the big fish that live in the swamps it prefers to inhabit. However, we were then introduced to its nest, which was inhabited by two chicks, one very much larger than the other. The female returned



to the nest with food, and then stopped to observe the behaviour of her chicks. Soon the larger was pecking at the smaller one with considerable force. This then fled to its mother for protection. Now my human response was of course an expectation that the female would feed and protect the smaller chick and perhaps even give her other offspring a good swipe with that large beak to teach it a lesson. Not a bit of it. The female was watching to see which of the two chicks was the stronger. She completely ignored the smaller chick

and went to give all her food to the larger one. East African shoebills, it turns out, rarely have more than one surviving offspring, and the second chick is simply insurance in case something happens to the stronger one. It occurred to me that my aversion to this scene was based not merely on the projection of my human feelings, but the fact that I am rooted in the Judaeo-Christian tradition which from the beginning has utterly rejected infanticide. But

in fact in the course of human history, and in some cultures today, infanticide is very common. The ancient Greeks and Romans practised the exposure of infants that were unwanted or deformed, and it was not until after the Empire became Christian that this practice was banned. In many parts of the world female foetuses or infants are at greater risk of deliberate harm than their male siblings. Economic factors play a part, as can the desire for population control. In some pagan religions, the sacrifice of infants is seen as especially efficacious. It occurred to me that humanity is not so very far removed from the East African shoebill. There is nothing 'inevitable' about our Christian view of human life. Whenever other human beings become means to our ends, we join the shoebill. Sometimes nature programmes have unintended consequences: They can even remind us of the precious uniqueness of our Christian Faith.

Father Nicolas

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

Daily Masses 28th January - 2nd February 2013

Mon: St Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor of the Church

7am Noel Roche RIP (John Kayne)

9.30am Thomas Mulroe RIP (Kathleen Kelleher)

Tues: Feria

7am Fr Ambrose Mkenda (Rosemary Durkin)

9.30am Sr Kathleen & Patricia (Anne Sheridan)

Wed: Feria

7am Welfare of Oswald Plant (Rosemary Durkin)

9.30am Henry & Mary Joyce RIP (Mary Gray)

Thur: St John Bosco, priest

9.30am Mr P L Uthup RIP (Jomon Joseph)

12 Noon FUNERAL MASS: MORA WITTON RIP

Fri: Feria

7am Desmond Mooney RIP (Wayne)

9.30am Joe Johnson RIP (Mrs Lydon)

10am Exposition

Sat: The Presentation of The Lord

9am Pat Lynch RIP (Anne Farr)

2pm WEDDING: Maria Franekova & C Slater

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 2nd/3rd February 2013

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sat: 6.30pm John Flaherty RIP (Cruse Family)

Sun: 9am People of the Parish

11am Flavel Hutchinson RIP (Verna Hutchinson)

12.30pm BAPTISM: Eliza Jean Ismail

6pm John Morello RIP- Anniversary

(Pat & John Morello)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays- 9.30am to 10am

and 5.30pm to 6pm

Last week's Offertory Collection

for the upkeep of the church : £2,265

We thank you for your continued generosity .
(Cash counters this week: George & Paul Hoskins
Next week: Pam Ford & Vivian Phillips)

READINGS

This Week- 3rd Sunday in OT (C) page 130

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.

Next Week- 4th Sunday in OT (C) page 133

First Reading Jeremiah 1:4-5. 17-19

God promises to make Jeremiah strong in his vocation as a prophet.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 12:31 – 13:13

Paul tells us about the three great theological virtues of faith, hope and love. Love is the one that lasts for all eternity.

Gospel Luke 4:21-30

Jesus is rejected in his home town of Nazareth as he preaches the universality of the Good News.

We pray for all the **faithful departed** who have recently died. We pray especially for **Lorna Cooley, Mora Witon, 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, Jim Spillane, 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 Burrige, 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 .

KINGSTON FOODBANK COLLECTION

Just to remind you that we having a Foodbank collection after all Masses this weekend (26/27 January)

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 continuing help.

Helen Emmett, Jackie Murphy, Anne O'Brien, Ruth Oliver
(OLI Foodbank Coordinators)

Education Sunday

Churches across the country will be using 2013 Education Sunday, 27 January, to pray and work towards new ways of reaching out to those who are easily overlooked in the education world.

Martin Luther King Jr once said that "Before you finish eating breakfast in the morning, you've depended on more than half the world". We can't live independently of others, and there are many ways in which this happens in the world of education. The concepts of community and interdependence are fundamental to a Christian understanding of education.

St Paul's words in the first letter to the Corinthians were addressed to the Church in Corinth, where he was concerned about the divisions amongst the people. The image of a body of people being like the parts of the human body might also help us to think about how those involved in education might be part of developing better educational communities. Each person in a school, college or university is an important part of the whole body. The whole would not be the same if one part of it were taken away. There will always be those who seem to attract more attention than others – the particularly bright student, the inspirational teacher, the ultra-efficient administrator, but no community can thrive with only these people. We are told that "we cannot do without the parts of the body that seem to be weaker, and those parts that we think aren't worth very much are the ones which we treat with greater care" (1 Corinthians 12.22-23). Jesus, in the reading from Isaiah, reminds us that the Kingdom of God will turn the worldly orders upside-down. The poor and oppressed are as much part of God's Kingdom as those who have all the appearance of success.

Greg Pope, Deputy Director of the Catholic Education Service said "Education Sunday is an opportunity for parishes and schools to come together in their support of Catholic Education. "

Education Sunday is a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education. For more than 100 years there has been an annual recognition of Education Sunday in England

WEBSITE UPDATES:

◆ Pictures and write up from Fr Nicolas' Ordination & First Mass

Holocaust Memorial Day 2013 Communities Together: Build a Bridge



Imagine waking up to find that the neighbours you have known all your life and even sat next to at school, now walk past you without stopping, now forbid their children from playing with yours, now spit at you and even attack you.

On Holocaust Memorial Day – 27 January 2013, we're asked to remember and stand by those who were forced to live through these experiences. We're asked to honour those communities which were destroyed in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur.

To learn more, or to get involved visit www.hmd.org.uk

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 **7.30pm** on Saturday **2nd February**. The theme will be "*The ineffable Mystery of God*", . Refreshments will be served followed by a short DVD on Catholicism. All

St. Thomas Aquinas 28th January

By universal consent, Thomas Aquinas is the pre-eminent spokesman of the Catholic tradition of reason and of divine revelation. His greatest contribution, his wealth of writing. He is remembered as one of the great teachers of the medieval Catholic Church. We can look to Thomas Aquinas as a towering example, and we should be determined anew to exercise the divine gift of reason in us, our power to know, learn and understand.

Presentation of the Lord February 2nd



Simeon had waited all his life to see Jesus. The Holy Spirit had promised him that he would live long enough. When Mary and Joseph presented the baby at the temple, Simeon said, "Now, Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples."

Seeing Jesus satisfied Simon's life. We are prompted to ask what would satisfy us in our lives. Are the goals we set worth a lifetime of wanting, as Simeon's was?

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.



LENTEN PROJECT 2013 EVENTS CALENDAR- SO FAR

Saturday 2 February)
Sunday 3 February) Distribution of Lenten Boxes
Saturday 9 February)
Sunday 10 February)

Saturday 16 Feb **UCM CAKE SALE**
(after 6.30pm Mass)
Sunday 17 February **UCM CAKE SALE**
(after morning Masses)

Saturday 23 February **QUIZ NIGHT**
Sunday 3 March **TABLE TOP SALE**
Sunday 10 March **APPLE PIE SALE**
Saturday 23 March **HELEN O'BRIEN MEMORIAL
SPONSORED WALK**

Saturday 23 March **KSC/UCM JUMBLE SALE**
Saturday 6th April **SOUTH INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL
& CULTURAL EVENING**

Weekends 6/7 April)
13/14 April) Collection of Lenten Boxes
20/21 April)

FLAT AVAILABLE TO RENT

2 bedroom ground floor flat, in a prime central location- on one of the river roads in Surbiton. Close to station. Recently refurbished with communal gardens. £1,200 per month, excluding bills. Please call Thelma on 07961 513 652 if interested.

The British government will soon publish the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill which, if passed, will fundamentally alter the meaning of marriage.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales are launching a postcard campaign entitled 'Speak Out for Marriage'. Postcards for parishioners to send to their local MPS, which should be available in every Catholic Church in England and Wales by next Saturday 26 January. At the time of writing we have not yet received them at Our Lady Immaculate The Bishops are also encouraging people to write personally to their MPs voicing opposition to the Bill.

The text of the postcard reads:

"Dear Member of Parliament,

As a concerned constituent I urge you to vote against the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill.

Marriage between a man and a woman is the foundation of the family and provides the best circumstances in which to raise the next generation. This is why society has recognised marriage as having an identity distinct from any other relationship, however much love or commitment may be involved; marriage is about the common good.

No mainstream political party promised such a radical change in its last election manifesto. There is therefore no mandate for it. Please vote against it and let me know your views."

The Bishops point out that the law helps shape and form social and cultural values. A change in the law would gradually and inevitably transform society's understanding of the purpose of marriage.

They write:

"The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill will:

-Change the meaning of marriage for everyone; -Break the fundamental connection between marriage and child-bearing; -Disregard the importance of male and female complementarity and creativity; -Reduce the meaning of marriage solely to the commitment of the two people involved; Impact religious freedom; -Have numerous unintended consequences, for example for schools, in the workplace, in one's personal life, for inter-faith relations, and many other areas."

The Bishops write: "British public, as a whole, did not seek this change. None of the mainstream political parties promised it in their last election manifestos. Nor when the government launched its consultation did it ask whether the law should be changed; instead it asked how the law should be changed.

"In publishing this Bill the Government has ignored the views of over 626,000 people who signed a petition opposing the change, and the submissions of many others to the consultation. In its response to the consultation, the Government even chose to ignore many of the findings therein.

"There is no mandate for this change and the government appears to be rushing the Bill through Parliament against the strongly held views of the public, and without pausing to properly think about the consequences of such a change.

"This is a major constitutional change and the British public should and must be consulted. We must make our views known to our MPs and 'Speak Out for Marriage'."

Finally the Bishops appeal for prayers and say: "Please act now. Please help preserve the meaning of marriage for future generations."

Source: Bishops Conference of England and Wales