

No: 3253 THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year B)

15th February 2015



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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Holiness

Last Wednesday, in our weekly RCIA meeting (for those adults desiring to receive full initiation into the Catholic Church), we were discussing the saints, who they are, what they did and why they are now honoured and revered as saints.

In this front page, I want to talk a little about holiness. Holiness is so important, we're all called to become saints, we are called to imitate Jesus, which means to become holy. "Be holy as I am holy" (1 Peter 1:16)

But, just as we all have different ideas about God, so we all have different ideas about holiness.

So, before you continue reading, just ask yourself "what do I think the holy person is like? What are they like to talk to, to be with?"

Some of us might think that holiness means being in church all day. Praying day in and day out, waking up going to Church, going home when the Church is shut. Never being seen without a rosary in our hands.

Some others of us might think that holiness is about doing heroically good deeds. For example, selling all my possessions and building orphanages, or soup kitchens.

Now, for a minority of people that is their path to holiness, but not for the majority of us. We couldn't be good mothers or fathers to our children, we couldn't be good spouses, or good workers, or good friends, if we never left the Church, or if we sold our houses from under the feet of our families.

Some of us might think that holiness is about being odd. We hear stories about saints such as St. Christina the Astonishing, who could smell the sin on people, and so avoided them by flying and somersaulting to the Church rafters (she's the patron saint of gymnasts).

Or we might have an idea of holiness that it is a

form of cruelty. Seeing the faults in others, the saint becomes judge. Their way of living condemns everyone else. They are holy, we are not.

But who wants that sort of holiness? The Church teaches that "holiness is the perfection of Charity", (and charity of course is self-giving love). (cf. Lumen Gentium 39, CCC 2013). Let's think about that. **Holiness is the perfection of charity.**

If we can love, then we can be holy ... and we can all love, and we can grow in love. At every moment of our lives there will be someone to love. We can love God, but also, with the same love, we can love our family, our friends and even the stranger in the street. (Matt. 22:36-40). We can want their good, we can desire their happiness, we can help them, and spend ourselves helping them, and we can challenge them to be better people, true love also challenges.

Actually, this is why the saints had great followings and attracted so many people to God and his Church, because love is attractive, it draws us, it inspires us.

Now, we'll soon be in lent. Lent is the time we're given to focus on, and prioritise our relationship with God.

I'd like to encourage you this year, to really think about what to do for lent. Yes, giving something up, but also taking things on.

I want to suggest this: do those things which help you to love God and your neighbour. And give up those things which hinder your love.

Brothers and sisters, I pray that you have a great lent, a holy lent. Pray for me too, that we can all, little by little, move toward the perfection of charity.

Fr. Tom Lynch

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 14/15th February 2015
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)
(Day for the Unemployed)**

Sat 6.30pm	Ellen Whelan
Sun 9am	People of the Parish
11am	Julie Shaw (Pat Fulford & Helen Emmett)
12.30pm	Baptisms: Finlay Winter and Jessica Clarke
6.00pm	Ryan Wrathall (Conchi Bullen)

Daily Masses

16th February 2015—21st February 2015

Mon 16th	Feria
7.00am	Thanksgiving—Sheridan Family (Anne Sheridan)
9.30am	George and Molly Ryde RIP
Tues 17th	Feria
9.30am	Eddie & Sheila Walsh (Anne Sheridan)
Wed 18th	ASH WEDNESDAY
7.00am	Holy Souls
9.30am	Molly O'Brien (Mr & Mrs Sparrow)
8.00pm	Ernie Brown (Jackson Family)
Thurs 19th	Feria
9.30am	Cathy Bartlett (Pat Buchanon)
Fri 20th	Feria
7.00am	Nuala O'Kane (Sue Staveley)
9.30am	Patrick Gowers
Sat 21st	Feria
9.00am	Alexius Yap RIP (Catherine Yap)

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 21st/22nd February 2015
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Sat 6.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun 9am	Francescantonio D'Agostino & Giuseppa Gelormini RIP (Mrs D'Agostino)
11am	Pierre Bourdet RIP (Jacques Lambert)
12.30pm	No Baptisms
6.00pm	Patrick O'Kane (Sue Staveley)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9.30am to 10am and 5.30pm to 6pm

**TODAY—Second Collection for Poor Parishes
(formerly the 'Needs of the Diocese'). This collection enables the Archbishop to make grants to some of the smaller parishes in the Diocese.**

Last Sunday's Collection **£1804**
Thank you for your continued generosity - the money is used for the maintenance and upkeep of the church and parish.

Cash counters

This week: Eileen Kaye and Elizabeth Christmas
Next week: Alan and Marie Helene Cook

Next Sunday's Readings:

First Sunday of Lent

Introduction

Sundays in Lent are like milestones on a journey. They mark our progress, and they tell us how far we still have to travel. Our Lenten journey always begins with an account of Jesus' testing before his ministry began. These accounts help us reflect on our journey through this season.

First Reading Genesis 9:8-15

God tells Noah of a covenant, a binding agreement that will exist between God and Noah – and Noah's descendants.

Second Reading 1 Peter 3:18-22

At the start of Lent we are reminded that the innocent Christ died for the guilty, to lead us to God. This passage links the waters of the flood in Noah's time to the waters of baptism by which we come to life in Christ who died for us.

Gospel Mark 1:12-15

This experience undergone by Jesus after his baptism is not so much a temptation as a time of "testing". Unlike Matthew and Luke, Mark does not describe the testings.

Please remember in your prayers those who have died, especially those who have died recently; Sadie Merrifield (mother of Janet Mulholland), Nuala Ennis (mother of Kevin Ennis), Ernie Brown (Cindy Owen's father), Mr Paulose, Cathy Bartlett (daughter of Carmel and Mike), Margaret Menning, and Mary Smith (mother of Anita Jordanous)
We pray for all those who mourn and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We remember all those who are sick, those in hospital, the housebound and all who care for them: Josephine (Jo) Bull, Reynario Diaz, Martin Dray, Evie Durkin, Geoff Grenade, Thomas Haley, Roisin Loftus, Philip Mooney, Canon John Naughton, and Chris Wade.

ASH WEDNESDAY

This Wednesday is Ash Wednesday Please note there are three masses in the parish on the day. We thank all those who brought last year's palm crosses to prepare the ashes.

Stations of the Cross— during weekdays in Lent

As is the past volunteers are needed to lead Stations of the Cross after the 9.30am mass. Please sign the sheet in the RDJ room. Thank you for your help.

Lenten Resources from Redemptorist Publications for young and old are now available in the repository. Please make use of them as we journey through Lent.

Coffee and Tea in the Old Chapel today after the 9am mass (3rd Sunday of every month)

Parish Library The Parish Library will be open after all masses on the weekend of 21/22 February.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON - LENT GROUPS begin next week. Please see notice board for dates and venues.

LENTEN PROJECT

We will continue distributing boxes this weekend, 14th & 15th February. As usual please collect the boxes from the RDJ Room (far right corner) towards the end of Mass.

SPONSORED EVENT FOR THE LENTEN PROJECT

This year, the Tolworth Tornadoes are joining up with the Tolworth Trekkers for a joint sponsored event to raise money for the Lenten Project. The Tolworth Tornadoes will cycle from Canterbury back to Our Lady Immaculate Church, which is a distance of over 70 miles (!) The Tolworth Trekkers, led by Fr Tom, will, over the weekend of 21 / 22 March, walk the 60 mile (!) route from St George's Cathedral, Southwark to Canterbury. More details of both events and how to sponsor us will follow shortly. Please contact Elspeth (Elspeth.casey@rbs.co.uk) if you are interested in taking part in the walk.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS CAKE SALE
UCM will be holding a Cake Sale next weekend, 21st and 22nd February in aid of the Lenten Project.

DELICIOUS HOMEMADE CUP CAKE SALE
Special Valentine's weekend treat! There will be a sale of beautifully decorated delicious home made cup cakes after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses this Sunday (15th February). Prices are £2 per cupcake or £10 for 6. All proceeds will go towards the Lenten Project

Church Cleaning Rota

Very many thanks to all the ladies who carry out this necessary work. The roster for 2015 will be available in the RDJ Room this weekend.

As we have lost some of our volunteers it would be very helpful to have some new people involved, and also someone to take over the roster. Anyone interested please ring Gerry Hague on 020 3565 3142 for more details.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS:

Shrove Tuesday February 17th. Everybody calls it Pancake Day. What does it mean to you? Share your memories and recipes for the perfect pancake. We shall be talking about the different ways people celebrate this day and why it is important to us as Catholics. All ladies welcome to join us at 8pm in the old chapel.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Thank you to all those who have shown interest in re-starting St Vincent de Paul Society in the parish. There will be a short meeting on Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm in the presbytery. Look forward to seeing you all on the 11th.

PARISH MEAL

Our annual Parish Meal will take place on Friday 24th April. Please keep the date free. More details to follow.

CAFOD Diary Dates

LENT FAST DAY

Lent Fast Day is on 27th February

Storms, droughts and floods worldwide are having the greatest impact on our poorest brothers and sisters around the world right now.

CAFOD works with local expert organisations to ensure affected people are not only able to survive, but to thrive.

Every pound you donate to CAFOD during Lent will be matched by the UK Government up to a total of 3.5 million. Parishes will be issued with envelopes which must be used for collections this Lent Fast Day in order to take advantage of this chance for your generosity to go twice as far.

Saturday 24th April

J & P Spring Assembly "From prayer to action and back again - learning and doing together" 10.30am - 4pm in the New Barn, Aylesford Priory, ME20 7BX

Sunday 7th June

Pedal Against Poverty. Annual Pedal Against Poverty sponsored bike ride through the beautiful Lee Valley.

PASSIONATE ABOUT INSPIRING YOUNG PEOPLE?

Help children and young people learn about social justice with CAFOD Are you passionate about inspiring young people to get thinking and acting on global justice issues? CAFOD are looking for volunteers to visit schools in this area, to deliver assemblies and lead classroom workshops. We provide training, the next dates being 23 February and 30 March in Waterloo. So if you are interested, please contact us now on 020 8466 9901 or southwark@cafod.org.uk for more information and an application form. All School Volunteers are required to undergo a DBS criminal record check.

Welcome Ministry

Thank you to all those who came along for the first of the two evenings looking at the Welcome Ministry. I look forward to seeing you all at the next session on 2nd March at 7.30pm. I hope all those who couldn't attend the first session will come along for the next session.

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE EVENTS

March 19th: Prevention of Young Suicides

Suicide is a leading cause of death among young people. This event is for those helping and caring for those at risk. As well as clergy, it is aimed at teachers and chaplains, youth workers, catechists and Safeguarding coordinators. Venue: Vaughan House, next to Westminster Cathedral Cost: £10. To book (essential) by email: family@rcdow.org.uk or phone 020 7931 6064

April 25th: Marriage MoT Enrichment Day

All married couples, no matter how long ago you were wed are invited to this day from 9.45am to 4.30pm at Holy Cross School, New Malden. Donation: £25 per couple. To book (essential) email: marriage2014@virginmedia.com or phone 020 8651 2477

Marriage Preparation Courses

Please see notice board for dates and venues

Annual Marriage Mass at St George's Cathedral
June 20th.

Kingston NCT Branch Nearly New Sale

Good quality Baby and Toddler clothes, books and equipment will be on sale.

Date and Time: Sunday 22nd March 2015 from 3pm to 5 pm (Doors open 2:45pm for NCT members).

Venue: Tolworth Recreation Centre, Fullers Way North, Tolworth. Cost - £1.50 per adult.

St Joseph Vaz, Apostle of Sri Lanka and son of Goa- PRESENTATION

You are invited to a Presentation on the life and work of this recently canonised missionary priest;

Place: St Catherine of Siena Church, 100 Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey. KT9 2HY

Date: Monday 16 February 2015

Time: 7.30 pm.

By : Cecilia Suarez

Ample parking is available. Refreshments in Sacristy from 7 p.m. All are welcome.

Contact Parish Office; 0208 397 4499

email office@stcatherineofsiena.org.uk.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje this Easter.

Departing 1st April with British Airways, 7 nights Half Board accommodation, guide and transfers for £499. Or join 50,000 young people for the Medjugorje Youth Festival departing 30th July. Contact Jonathan on 02032892627

St. Philomena's Catholic School for Girls

Pound Street, Carshalton, Surrey, SM5 3PS

Teacher of English

The Governors at St Philomena's are seeking to appoint Teacher of English for September 2015. For details / application form contact; recruitment@stphils.org.uk or Marsha Adams on 020 8642 2025 ext 202 or download from www.stphils.org.uk

Examination Invigilators—Immediate Start

Examination Invigilators required throughout May and June 2015 to invigilate public exams at St. Philomena's. The position would suit mature, responsible and flexible individuals. Contact: Marsha Adams on recruitment@stphils.org.uk

Vacancies at The Laurels School

Head of Science

required for September 2015.

The successful candidate will lead the school's science provision from KS3 to A Level.

Director of Music

required for September 2015

The successful candidate will encourage and develop girls in instrumental playing, singing, manage peripatetic staff, organise concerts and school visits and coordinate musical groups. This position may suit a teacher who has recently completed his or her induction as well as those with more experience.

The deadline for applications is Monday 16th March Further details from Lara McManamon, Headmistress' PA, on 020 8674 7229 or email: administration@thelaurelsschool.org.uk

EVENTS / COURSES RUN BY CENTRE FOR CATHOLIC FORMATION

21 Tooting Bec Road, London, SW17 8BS

Tel: 020 8672 7684 Email: office@ccftootingbec.org.uk

Website: www.ccftootingbec.org.uk

Bookshop: bookshop@ccftootingbec.org.uk

The Rite of Election & Call to Continuing Conversion will be celebrated on Saturday 21st February at 12.30pm at St George's Cathedral.

Dementia & Disability At the Heart of the Church

A day of study and reflection on disability and inclusion for parishioners, carers, Eucharistic ministers, those who suffer and their loved ones. Saturday 14 March from 2-5.30pm at Our Lady of Crays, 312 High St, St Mary Cray, Orpington BR5 4AR

Church and State

A conference to mark the signing of the Magna Carta. 27th March, 11am—3.20pm at CCF. £5 includes lunch.

Preambles to Faith

Two talks exploring the importance of reason and philosophy in the New Evangelization. Mondays 23rd Feb and 2nd March 7.45-9pm at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, 1 Montem Rd, New Malden, KT3 3QW.

KINGSTON FOODBANK COLLECTION

Our next Foodbank collection is due to be after all Masses next weekend (21/22 February) – 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 they particularly need at the moment is milk (long life or powder), fruit juice (long life or squash), vegetarian meals (tins of macaroni cheese, vegetable curry, vegetable chilli, ratatouille etc), noodles (packets or pot noodles) and steamed puddings.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Lantern Arts Centre presents **The Crucible** by Arthur Miller. 7.30pm Tues 17th—Sat 21st March. Sat Matinee at 3pm.

Faith Movement London Talks: 'The Church and other beliefs'

All are welcome to our series of talks on 'The Church and other beliefs' on selected Tuesdays at 7:30pm from 13th January 2015. Talks are held in the basement of 24 Golden Square, London W1F 9JR (Tube: Piccadilly Circus). Details and titles are below and at www.faith.org.uk/events/evenings-of-faith

Tuesday 24th February Can I love Christ but not the Church? *Sr Andrea Fraile*

Tuesday 10th March The cosmic meaning of the Eucharist. *Fr Roger Nesbitt*

Tuesday 24th March Should the Church impose lifestyle choices? *Edward Hadas*