

No: 3254 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)

22nd February 2015



Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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My dear people

Each day we make all kinds of journeys—to work, to study, to socialise, to comfort and care for others, just to name a few, and, of course, to church to pray and to celebrate the Eucharist. Journeys are always wonderful experiences as we encounter known and strange situations and people.

Last Wednesday we started a another season in our liturgical calendar, the season of Lent. We began the season of Lent with ashes on our foreheads. One of the responses we heard when we received the ashes on our foreheads was, “Remember thou art dust and to dust thou shall return.” Receiving the ashes on our foreheads and these words are a reminder that our lives come from God and that without God we are nothing.

As we begin this season of Lent, I remember the two wonderful books I read so many years ago, by Scott Peck, “The Road Less Travelled” and the follow up book, “Further Along the Road Less Travelled.” Both books deals with human reality of suffering and pain, and issues that challenge us in life in the modern world, and how facing them help us to change, no matter how difficult the journey is. Well, I know, and I hear you say, it is easily said than done! But that is in a sense the invitation of Lent for each and every one of us.

On Ash Wednesday we heard the wonderful reading from Prophet Joel— “Even now says the Lord, come back to me with all your heart..... Return to the Lord your God, for gracious and merciful is he, slow to anger and rich in mercy.” We sing these words in that beautiful hymn, No. 842 in our hymn books. For me, personally, these words, are a passionate invitation from the Good God who loves us so much, to come to the very heart and presence of Him, deep within us. But as human as we are, we are fearful and reluctant to make that journey.

Lent invites us to us to make that personal journey into the very core of our being—to the very heart of our lives so that we can experience the loving presence of God. It is a place we very often do not want to go to.

I found this wonderful prayer and I like to share it with you all. I am sure, that this prayer said each day, will help us all to make that journey without any fear, so that we will be able to experience the immense love and mercy and compassion of our loving God. Will you join me in saying this prayer each day?

*Dear God,
I know that every journey
begins with a first step.
Be with me today
as I take another step
in my Lenten journey.*

*I began this journey
with the sign of ashes
on my forehead
reminding me
that this is no ordinary walk.*

*Today, I move one step nearer
to the promise of your light.
Today, with your help,
I will find new meaning
in the Easter that awaits us all.*

*Thank you, Lord.
Amen.*

Thank you for your kindness and generosity in accepting the invitation from God to ‘Come Back To Him’, and, I wish you all a fruitful and a prayerful Lenten journey.

God love you all.
Canon Edward Perera

**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)

Daily Masses

23rd February 2015— 28th February 2015

Mon 23rd Feria
9.30am Molly O'Brien (Mr & Mrs Phil Hayes)
Tues 24th Feria
9.30am Maria Falzon RIP & Family RIP (Manche Family)
Wed 25th Feria
7.00am Roy Rogers RIP & Carol Marsella RIP (Pauline Rodgers)
9.30am Maggie Gander (Bernadette Quilter)
Thurs 26th Feria
7.00am Health of Connors & Doherty Families
9.30am Ernie Brown (Schwarz Family)
Fri 27th Feria
7.00am Nina Paoletta RIP (Ann Meeks)
9.30am Vincent John Burrows RIP
Sat 28th Feria
9.00am Ken Stacey & Nellie Walmsley RIP (Mary Stacey)

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 28th/1st March 2015
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Sat 6.30pm Bert O'Connor & Jacqueline Mallett (Keely Family)
Sun 9am People of the Parish
11am Peter Groves RIP (Jacques Lambert)
12.30pm **No Baptisms**
6.00pm Holy Souls

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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

Stations of the Cross— during weekdays in Lent

Stations of the Cross will be conducted after the 9.30am mass.

Last Sunday's Collection £1699

Second Collection for Poor Parishes £285

Cash counters

Thank you for your continued generosity - the money is used for the maintenance and upkeep of the church and parish. This week: Alan and Marie Helene Cook
 Next week: Tessa McLeod and Lynette Confait

**Next Sunday's Readings:
Second Sunday of Lent**

Introduction

Are we prepared to encounter the glorious risen Christ? It is not easy for us to look upon the splendour of the resurrection. To do so we are also called to embrace the cross

First First Reading Genesis 22:1-2. 9-13. 15-18

God pours blessings upon those who trust.

Second Reading Romans 8:31-34

God holds nothing back in love for us.

Gospel Mark 9:2-10

Jesus appears in glory to Peter, James and John. The disciples do not know what is happening, but Jesus tells them to tell nobody about this until after the resurrection.

Please remember in your prayers those who have died, especially those who have died recently;

Margaret Menning, Cathy Bartlett (daughter of Carmel and Mike), Mary Smith (mother of Anita Jordanous), Ernie Brown (Cindy Owen's father), Mr Paulose.

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Change of date of meeting. Unfortunately we have to postpone the proposed meeting from Wednesday 11th March to Thursday 12th March at 7.30pm in the RDJ Room. I hope this will not cause too much disruption or disappointment. Thank you for your understanding. Kieran Knights, SVP Central Council Recruitment Officer for Southwark will also be present to meet every-

Lenten Resources

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:

3rd Sunday of every month after the 9am mass.

Afternoon Tea and Chat

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2pm in RDJ Room

Church Cleaning Rota

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

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.

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

LENTEN PROJECT

CUP CAKE SALE

The cupcake sale last Sunday was so popular that all of the delicious cakes were sold before the 11 o'clock Mass. An amazing £403 was raised for the Lenten Project. Very well done to all who worked so hard baking and selling cupcakes.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS CAKE SALE

UCM will be holding a Cake Sale **this weekend**, 21st and 22nd February in aid of the Lenten Project.

TABLE TOP SALE

This year's Table Top Sale will take place after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses on **Sunday 15th March**. Items sold will include delicious home-made jams, plants, toys, books and games and much more! All proceeds will go to the Lenten Project.

Do you have any unwanted goodies that you can donate to the sale? We are looking for items to sell and use as raffle prizes (eg unwanted gifts, good bric a brac, jewellery, household items, toiletries and chocolates). Teas, coffees and cakes and biscuits will also be on sale and it will be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and support the Lenten Project.

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.

Baptisms in the Parish

Many parishioners want to know how to get their children baptised in the parish. The practice in the parish is that all parents who want to have their children baptised are expected to follow the Baptism Preparation Sessions. These sessions are held on the First and Second Sunday of the month (except in the month of August) between 10.00am – 11.00am in the Old Chapel (in April the preparations are on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays as Easter falls on the 1st Sunday of the month). Before following the preparation sessions please be good enough to speak to the priests and register for the sessions, so that the Catechists can be informed the names of those who are attending. Parents need to attend both sessions. Once they have completed the preparations, the parents can discuss the date of the baptism and fill in the Baptism Registration Forms. If the God Parents are attending Mass in another parish please collect the form to be signed by their parish priest. For more details please speak to one of the priests.

CAFOD

LENT FAST DAY

Lent Fast Day is this Friday 27th February

Please pick up a CAFOD envelope from the back of the church for your donation. **These envelopes must be used for collections this Lent Fast Day** in order to take advantage of the UK Governments offer **to match every pound you donate** up to a total of 3.5 million.

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.

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.

PARISH MEAL

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

Thank You

"Dear Canon Edward and Father Tom and all the lovely parishioners who came to my aid when I fell last Saturday morning. I have had phone calls, cards and flowers.

Father Tom brought me Holy Communion on Sunday morning, Aideen looked after me, came to the hospital and bought me home.

God Bless you all. Such a caring parish.

Yours sincerely Rosemary Durkin"

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@redow.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.

**LOVE HEALS
BODY MIND AND SPIRIT TEAM**

Welcome you to come on a one day Retreat of quiet Reflection on Saturday 28th February 2015 10:30am – 4:00pm at The Catholic Church of our Lady of Assumption & St Gregory, Warwick Street, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR
Nearest Tube Stations: Piccadilly Circus exit 2
(Down Regent Street, Turn right into Regent Place)
Please see poster for programme of the day
(Please bring your own lunch, Tea & Coffee available)

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

**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*

Women's World Day of Prayer

Praying for the Bahamas - Friday 6th March
10.30am John Bunyan Church, Cromwell Rd, Kingston.
Speaker: Revd Carole Bourne. Choir: St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.
7.30pm Emmanuel Church, Grand Avenue, Tolworth.
Speaker: Mrs Becky Whiting.
Refreshments will be served after each service.

Three-parent IVF

Three-parent IVF will be debated in the House of Lords on 24th February 2015. See handout at the back of the church for more information or go to website www.stopgm3parentbabies.com.

**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

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.

Common Objections to Catholicism

A series of talks addressing popular objections to, and misconceptions about, the Catholic faith
Thursdays 16th April– 21st May 2015 from 7.30-9pm at Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral.

Mass for New Catholics

Saturday 9th May 11:00am
St George's Cathedral

Annual Day for Catechists

Saturday 27th June from 11am
at St George's Cathedral

**Pilgrimage & Day of Celebration
for People with Differing Needs**

Sunday 5th July from 12.00 noon
at The Friars, Aylesford

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

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