



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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My dear people

Season of Lent is almost over and I recall the prayer I shared with you at the beginning of Lent. "Dear God.....be with me as I take another step in my Lenten journey.....I begin with the sign of ashes on my forehead reminding me that this is no ordinary journey.....and with your help I will new meaning in the Easter that awaits us all."

On this Palm Sunday, we hear these words at the beginning as the palms are blessed—"for five weeks of Lent we have been preparing, by works of charity and self sacrifice, for the celebration of our Lord's paschal mystery".

I do pray and hope that this Lenten journey you undertook on Ash Wednesday has helped you to walk with Christ our Lord and Saviour and experience the silent growth within you experiencing the love, the mercy and compassion of God.

In the first Gospel, we hear how Jesus sends two disciples to untie and bring a donkey no one has ever ridden, and, he tells them that if anyone asks what they were doing to say that the Master needs it and will return it. For me these are very powerful words and I believe we often miss the deeper significance of these words. We never lose what we give to God. God will always return them back to us!

We watch processions for coronations, triumphant welcomes we give to celebrities and heroes, and, perhaps join the crowds to experience the atmosphere. Imagine our hero, celebrity entering the city in ordinary clothes and riding a donkey—no decorations, no flags and no banners etc. If that was the case we, I am sure, will not give a second look! Jesus' leadership and kingship is not domination or authority but rather humility and service. This is what we hear in the second reading of the Mass from the Letter of St. Paul to Philippians.

It is difficult for us to understand and comprehend this idea. Holy Week in a way invites us to reflect on this paradox of the One who is all powerful and created the world, yet is in need and dependent! This is not new. We see this all through His life. But we forget and do not get the point. Jesus the divine teacher had to borrow the boat of fisherman to teach. He borrowed the bread and the fish from a young boy to feed the multitude. He had to borrow a cave to be born into this world and at the end had to borrow a tomb to be buried before rising from the dead. And today we hear how he had to borrow a donkey to enter into the city. Imagine it!!!

As we celebrate Palm Sunday and enter into this wonderful week—Holy Week— I like to place before you a simple thought. Will it be possible for Our Lord to borrow us—you and me—so that He could bring His love and His mercy, His compassion and forgiveness to our families, our communities and the world?

I wish you all a prayerful Holy Week.

God love you.

Canon Edward Perera

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 28th/29th March 2015
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD
(YEAR B)**

Sat 6.30pm	Wealth and health of Eva and Noel McFadden (Manche Family)
Sun 9am	Michael McDonagh (Mary McDonagh)
11am	Mary Hunt RIP (Lucy & Ralph Smallwood)
12.30pm	No Baptisms
6.00pm	People of the Parish

HOLY WEEK

30th March 2015— 4th April 2015

Mon 30th	Monday of Holy Week
7.00am	Intention of Elizabeth Lee (Elizabeth Lee)
9.30am	Int. of Ann Groves (Rosemary Durkin)
Tues 31st	Tuesday of Holy Week
9.30am	Alice Swords (Margaret Bradford)
Wed 1st	Wednesday of Holy Week
8.00am	Intention of Donor
11.00am	Chrism Mass - St George's Cathedral
Thurs 2nd	Maundy Thursday
8.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper Intention of Donor/ Holy Souls Watching until mid-night with Night Prayer at 11.45pm
Fri 3rd	Friday of the Passion of the Lord
11.00am	Children's Stations of the Cross
3.00pm	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
8.00pm	Stations of the Cross

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 4th/5th March 2015
EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF
THE LORD (YEAR B)**

Sat 4th	Holy Saturday
8.00pm	Easter Vigil People of the Parish
Sun 9am	Keith Haran (R. Durkin)
11am	A.S. Bastiampillai (Mr Bastiampillai)
12.30pm	Baptisms: Louis Stanley Archer
6.00pm	Health and Welfare of Jimmie and Pauline Doyle (Manche Family)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays 9.30am to 10.30am**

Last Sunday's Collection

£1709

Thank you for your continued generosity - the money is used for the maintenance and upkeep of the church and parish.

Cash counters

This week: Rob Estall and Roman Szymanski
Next week: Elizabeth and Ray Lewry

**Thursday of the Lord's Supper – Evening Mass
Introduction**

Tonight's liturgy celebrates the institution of the sacraments of holy orders and the Eucharist

First Reading Exodus 12:1-8. 11-14

The first Passover was an image and prophecy of the true Passover, completed by Jesus in his life, death and resurrection.

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

St Paul reminds us that he received the sacred words of institution from the Lord, and, as an apostle, he passes them on to the Church.

Gospel John 13:1-15

By washing their feet, Jesus initiates his apostles into his high-priestly sacrifice, and symbolises their share in his priesthood

**Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
Introduction**

Mary Magdalene was the first witness of the resurrection of Jesus. Yet resurrection is also a part of our own daily lives if we have the open eyes and hearts to accept the good news

First Reading Acts 10:34. 37-43

Peter proclaims the death of Jesus as a prelude to the resurrection.

Second Reading Colossians 3:1-4

We are now living a new life because of the resurrection of Jesus.

or 1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Through the sacrificial death of Jesus on the cross, we have become new dough, the "unleavened bread of sincerity and truth".

Gospel John 20:1-9

Mary Magdalene, the first witness to the resurrection, found it hard to convince the apostles. It was only when Peter and John saw the empty tomb for themselves that they believed her words.

Please remember in your prayers those who have died, especially those who have died recently; Margaret Henning, Cathy Bartlett (daughter of Carmel and Mike), 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: Arthur Bailey, Josephine (Jo) Bull, Reynario Diaz, Martin Dray, Evie Durkin, Geoff Grenade, Thomas Haley, Roisin Loftus, Philip Mooney, Canon John Naughton, Rouben Sarkissian and Chris Wade.

Repository

Easter cards are on sale in the repository.

First Holy Communion goods will be on sale in early May.

Monthly in the parish

Coffee and Tea in the Old Chapel:

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

Afternoon Tea and Chat in the RDJ Room

2nd & 4th Tuesday of each month at 2pm.

Monthly Syro Malabar Mass is on the third Monday of each month at 5.30pm

HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers are needed for all our Holy Week Services i.e. Maundy Thursday 2 April @ 8.00 pm, Good Friday 3 April @ 3.00 pm and Holy Saturday 4 April @ 8.00pm. We need Altar Servers, Gift Bearers, Collectors, Welcomers/Ushers and Eucharistic Ministers. If you can help at any of these masses please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ room.

Parish Dinner Friday 24th April

Thank you to all the many people who have expressed an interest in the annual (although belated) Parish Dinner. This is always a popular event, and is a great opportunity to socialise with other members of the parish at Sorrento's Restaurant.

We're now taking bookings. If you'd like to book a table, or a seat, please post your name and your contact details, and £15.30, in an envelope marked "Parish Meal" through the presbytery door. The cost includes a full three course meal, but does not include the price of drinks.

LENTEN PROJECT

SOUTH INDIAN FOOD FESTIVAL AND CULTURAL EVENT: 11th APRIL

A wonderful time for all the parish, and a way to support the Lenten Project, as all the proceeds go to the Lenten charities. To book a table please phone Roy Joseph on 07538 582971 or Sheba Varanant on 07891 866687.

60 MILE SPONSORED WALK

Last weekend, 6 intrepid Tolworth Trekkers, led by Fr Tom, completed a **60 mile (!) walk** from St George's Cathedral, Southwark to Canterbury. One other parishioner bravely managed to walk 30 miles of the route, despite being in very great pain.

Congratulations to all the Tolworth Trekkers for this amazing achievement. If you would like to sponsor them and raise money for the Parish Lenten Project, please either leave your sponsorship money at the Presbytery, or use our Justgiving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/OLITLentenProject>.

Jumble Sale

The KSC and UCM thank everyone who participated in the Jumble Sale last Saturday. The parish produced a lot of good material for sale, the weather was perfect and everyone had an enjoyable day, raising a splendid £646 for the Lenten Project.

Bedding Plant Sale

There will be a sale of bedding plants again this year for the Lenten Project and that order forms will be available after Easter.

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.

SYNOD OF THE FAMILY

Ahead of the forthcoming Ordinary Synod on the Family in October 2015, Pope Francis has asked us all to reflect with 'true spiritual discernment' on the themes relating to marriage and family life that emerged from the extraordinary meeting of bishops held in Rome in October 2014. Please visit <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/reflect-on-marriage-and-family-2015>

A pamphlet entitled 'The Call, the Journey and the Mission - An Invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales to Reflect on the Gift of Marriage and Family Life' offers background information, Scripture passages and quotes from Pope Francis and presents a series of questions to stimulate discussion and response on the key issues.

Those questions are as follows:

- What are your joys and hopes of marriage and family life today?
- What are your struggles and fears of marriage and family life today?
- How can we better understand marriage as a vocation?
- How does your marriage enrich you?
- How does your family life enrich those around you?
- In what way, through the abiding presence of God, is your family "salt of the earth and light to the world," and a place of and for handing on our faith?

You have the opportunity now to offer your views and feedback on these questions by visiting the website: <http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Featured/An-Invitation-to-Reflect-on-the>

CAFOD

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.

Stewardship and the challenge of Pope Francis

A day of reflection for priests and people who have begun to engage with Stewardship

Speaker: David Wells (Plymouth Diocese)

Friday 24th April, 10 for 10.30am—2.00pm
(lunch is provided)

Venue: Amigo Hall, Lambeth Road, London SE1 7HY

RSVP to fatherjohn@finance-rcdsouthwark.org
by Monday 13th April

“In this period of crisis today, it is important not to turn in on ourselves, burying our own talent, our spiritual, intellectual, and material riches, everything that the Lord has given us; but, rather to open ourselves, to be supportive, to be attentive to others.

Set your stakes on great ideals, the ideals that enlarge the heart, the ideals of service that make your talents fruitful.

Life is not given to us to be jealously guarded for ourselves, but is given to us so that we may give it in turn.”
Pope Francis to an audience on April 24, 2013

Divine Mercy Sunday Sunday 12th April 2015

2pm at St Joseph's Catholic Church, Kingston Rd New Malden

3pm at St Raphael's Church, Portsmouth Road, Kingston

Please see notice board for details.

St Joseph's Catholic Church holds a Divine Mercy devotion hour at 3pm every First Sunday of the month (except in August and November).

Hustings

“Churches together in Kingston and Surbiton have organised an Election Hustings to take place on Friday 17th April at 7.30pm at St Mark's Church, Surbiton. The Liberal Democrat, Labour, Conservative, UKIP and Green Parties prospective parliamentary candidates will attend. All are welcome to put any questions that they may have.”

MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE EVENTS

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 - See notice board

Head Teacher Vacancy

"Marist Catholic Primary, a vibrant two form entry school in West Byfleet, Surrey is seeking to appoint a **Headteacher** for September 2015. Closing date : 15th April. Further details and Application pack can be obtained via www.marist.surrey.sch.uk/recruitment/”.

PILGRIMAGES TO LOURDES 2015

Arch Diocese of Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (with Catholic Association)

Pastoral Theme—“Lourdes, the Joy of Mission”
21—28 August 2015

Basic Price from £770 by Air, £705 by Train

Young helpers (17-25) £513 by Coach

Contact John Toryusen on 01227 272900

info@scys.org.uk

In conjunction with Tangney Tours 01732 886666

Visit: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/lourdes.htm

For further information and booking forms,

please contact Southwark Diocese Lourdes Pilgrimage

Director Canon Edward Perera on 020 8399 9550

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 22nd – 29th May 2015

Come and join Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark Kevin Macdonald leading the Annual Pilgrimage of the Sick of the Society of Our Lady of Lourdes together with Fr Tom Lynch and others from OLI.

Doctors, nurses, and general helpers especially welcome

Pilgrims requiring medical assistance and their carers stay in the Accueil Notre Dame opposite the Grotto, under 24 hr care

Cost of flight + accommodation: those staying in Accueil £686.50 (financial help available)

those in hotels from £722.50

registered helpers £572.50 or less (contact the Society)

Contact Society of Our Lady of Lourdes 020 8848 9833 or Allan Cook 020 8399 4368.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes with HCPT

at Hosanna House 12 – 19 June 2015

The cost of this trip works out at £590 per head for 7 days (12th to 19th) or £470 per head for 5 days, (14th-19th). The cost includes air fares, accommodation and meals. This programme includes a special retreat (between 15th and 19th) conducted by Fr. Perry Gildea, (Doctor of Moral and Pastoral Theology, and is a former lecturer and chaplain of university and of HCPT).

28th August to 4th September 2015

An opportunity to join our group of doctor, priest, nurses, carers and helpers and people with special needs.

Come and share the experience of Lourdes with us.

Please contact Emil Kumar (or Carol Ellis) on

0208 398 9222 or email

jeslourdes@emkumar.com for further details.

Mass for New Catholics

Saturday 9th May 11:00am at 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, 12.00 noon at The Friars, Aylesford