

No: 3264 FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year B)

3rd May 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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This time next week, we should have a new government. At the moment I am writing this there is a lot of debate about coalitions, who will form a partnership with whom, what will they offer, will it affect votes. Perhaps this time next week the same debates will be happening.

It's a very dangerous thing to talk about party politics. In the past the Church has had her fingers burnt by appearing, on occasion, to prefer one party over another, or even supporting one party over another.

But that is party politics, and I have no intention of mentioning different parties or what they stand for. People choose a party because they believe in its policies and its leaders.

I want to encourage you to vote. If you have a vote, vote. Take part, research the local candidates over whom you have a choice, assess them, and according to your conscience, vote. "The Church respects and **encourages** the political freedom and responsibility of citizens" (CCC 2245).

We go into the polling office, we get our form, and then, in the secrecy and privacy of the booth, we mark a cross by the candidate we choose. For us who are Christian, the symbolism should not be lost. The cross is a symbol of choice, we take a stand. Jesus set his face toward the cross, he chose it, and lived it. In a similar way, choosing for ourselves, our community and our country, by voting we commit ourselves to a candidate, as the best for this moment, in this place.

Our political discourse is often driven by 'doing'. What will the government do? How much will it cost? Who will it affect? But, before we 'do', we always 'think'. Our actions are always based on our thoughts. As we peruse the election material put through our door, it would be worth considering "what does this candidate **think**?"

For example: does this candidate think of himself as serving the people, or lording it over the people? How does this party view individual human beings; as voters, citizens, workers, consumers? Does this party value the family as integral to society and human flourishing? Does this candidate recognise God as the author of life, and the creator of the world? Does this party see the creation and destruction of life as morally neutral?

On the 7th May let us vote as Catholic Christians, in the sight of God, and with his teachings in our mind and heart. And let us pray for ourselves, our communities and our countries:

Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your truth as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Fr. Tom Lynch

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 2nd/3rd May 2015
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)**

- Sat 6.30pm** People of the Parish
Sun 9.00am Deceased Migrants (K. Fox)
11.00am Paolo Pascale (Maria Simmons)
12.30pm Baptisms: Albert Raikes and James Moniz
6.00pm Pat Spooner RIP (H & G Trutwein)

**FIFTH WEEK OF EASTER
4th – 9th May 2015**

- Mon 4th** **The English Martyrs**
7.00am C.O. Joseph
9.30am Michael Maughan RIP
- Tues 5th** **Feria**
9.30am Mary, Jim and Tracey Maughan
- Wed 6th** **Feria**
7.00am Don O'Reilly
9.30am Lilian Bruce (U.C.M.)
- Thurs 7th** **Feria**
7.00am Thank You - St Anthony
9.30am Tim and Joan Wood RIP
- Fri 8th** **Feria**
9.30am Rosa Alexander (Josie Espiritu)
- Sat 9th** **Feria**
9.00am Margaret and Peter Crawford RIP

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 9th/10th May 2015
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR B)**

- Sat 6.30pm** Michael Hills (Nina Hills)
Sun 9.00am People of the Parish
11.00am Kathleen Persaud (Frank McGiven)
12.30pm Baptisms:
6.00pm Yvette Caution RIP (H & G Trutwein)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Saturdays 9.30am to 10.00am & 5.30pm to 6.00pm

Last Sunday's Collection **£1739.92**
St George's Cathedral **£296**
Thank you for your continued generosity - the money is used for the maintenance and upkeep of the church and parish.

Cash counters
This week: George and Paul Hoskins
Next week: Pam Ford and Vivian Phillips

SECOND COLLECTIONS
THIS SUNDAY 3rd/4th May - Diocesan collection for Ecclesiastical Education. This collection helps to meet the costs of training students for the permanent diaconate and students for the priesthood. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy. If you have a Gift Aid envelope please submit it with your donation.

**Next Sunday's Readings: 6th Sunday of Easter
Introduction**

Life is a matter of love. Nurtured in love, we bloom. Neglected in love, we die. The Lord, who is love, calls us to love one another.

First Reading Acts 10:25-26. 34-35. 44-48

Peter visits the house of a Roman, Cornelius, and learns that God does not have favourites.

Second Reading 1 John 4:7-10

It is through the experience of love that we can come to know God.

Gospel John 15:9-17

The Lord commands us to love and so to bless the world .

Please remember in your prayers those who have died and all whose anniversary falls at this time. We pray also for all those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

We remember and pray for the sick, the house-bound and all who care for them, we remember especially those within our own parish family:
Arthur Bailey, Josephine (Jo) Bull, Reynario Diaz, Martin Dray, Evie Durkin, Geoff Grenade, Thomas Haley, Ken Hammerton, Roisin Loftus, Philip Mooney, Simon Munnery, Canon John Naughton, Rouben Sarkissian and Chris Wade.

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.

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

Bible study: first Thursday of the month: 10.30am.
Coffee at 10.00 (RDJ Room, before the sacristy)

Library: last Sunday of the month - after all masses (RDJ Room)

Union of Catholic Mothers

Our next meeting is on Tuesday May 5th at 8pm in the Old Chapel when we will have a light hearted Question Time. Could those who would like to be enrolled at our next meeting on May 19th please come to our meeting tonight May 5th so that we can get your details. Thank

Bible study

Thursday 7 May after 9am mass. 10am Coffee & Tea.
10.30am DVD Quick Journey through the Bible.
11.15am to 11.30 Reflections

“ ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS

Altar Servers are needed for the Confirmation Mass on Saturday 23 May at 11.00 am. We need a good group of Servers for this Mass as it is a very important occasion for our parish. If you can help please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the RDJ room. You will need to be there by 10.00 am as there is a lot of preparation involved and jobs will be allocated on the day. Thank You in advance for your help. Jacques Lambert Parish Master of Ceremonies.”

Can the SVP help anyone you know?

If you know a local person who is in need and could benefit from a visit by a member of the parish's newly formed St. Vincent de Paul Society group then please pass their details to Fr. Edward. Please ensure that you have their agreement to do so beforehand. Who qualifies for a visit? Anyone in need regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinion.

OLI JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

Dates for Youth club (for children in Years 7 and 8) this term are: Friday 1 May, Friday 5 June, Friday 3 July - in the Parish Hall 7.15pm-8.45pm

LENTEN PROJECT

Bedding Plant Sale

"It is still not too late to order bedding plants but orders must be received by Wednesday 6th May.. There are some spare order forms at the back of the church. "

Parish Lenten Project 2015 Grand Raffle Draw

As in previous years we are seeking donations from parishioners and/or businesses they work for. If you are able to donate something suitable for the Grand raffle draw please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk

Request from a parishioner

Please help me pitch my e-learning idea to Richard Branson in the Virgin Media Business Competition. You can vote for my pitch here: <http://www.virginmediabusiness.co.uk/pitch-to-rich/new-things/thinktutor/>

MONDAY MAY 4th – Mass for Migrants

The annual Mass for Migrants, in honour of St Joseph the Worker, is being held on Bank Holiday Monday, 4th May at St George's Cathedral, with Archbishop Peter Smith and Cardinal Vincent Nichols con-celebrating. There will be a banner procession of representatives from London's diverse communities from the Amigo Hall at 10.30 and mass at 11am. All are most welcome to attend this vibrant event.

APPEAL FROM LIFE :

Double buggies are needed at our local LIFE Hounslow Care Centre. If you can help please contact Therese on 020 8390 1080 for collection. LIFE is a charity which helps mothers with crisis pregnancies by offering counselling and practical help.

All Saints Church, Market Place Kingston - Topical Lunch, Thursday 21 May. ‘High rise at Kingston’s Old Post Office – Yes or No?’ Introduced by Malcolm Wood, project director, and architect Dominic Chapman. Your opportunity to discuss and comment on this important and controversial proposal. Sandwiches from ASK's new *East End Cafe* from 12:00am – or bring your own. Discussion starts at 1:00pm; finishes 1:45pm.

‘Proclaim ’15:

BUILDING MISSIONARY PARISHES’ is the name of a new national Bishops’ initiative being launched in 2015 to support the development of parish evangelisation. It is inspired by Pope Francis’ writings and has five parts which include: the provision of free parish small group materials; the organisation of a National Catholic Evangelisation Conference in Birmingham on 11 July 2015 for 850 evangelisation representatives from across England and Wales; an invitation to parishes to host a parish Prayer Vigil on the night of 11 July 2015 with free prayer materials provided; the invitation to dioceses, deaneries and parishes to have their own Proclaim ’15 event in autumn 2015; the publication of new evangelisation resources as a fruit of the National Conference to equip local evangelisers. Please do get involved in what is a significant new step in service of the proclamation of the Gospel in our area. More information will be available over the coming months.

Website: www.catholicnews.org.uk/proclaim15

Facebook: [facebook.com/cbcew](https://www.facebook.com/cbcew)

Twitter: @catholicew #proclaim15

Email: proclaim15@cbcew.org.uk

Diocesan contact: Dr Mark Nash (at the Centre for Catholic Formation) 020 8672 7684

mnash@ccftootingbec.org.uk

Little Big Silence Weekend:

Friday 8 May - Sunday 10 May at House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB
House of Prayer Retreat team are running a taster silent residential retreat. Arrive on Friday in time for supper at 7pm and leave on Sunday at 4pm. Cost £140 – Advance booking essential. *Please contact us on: 020 8941 2313 or e-mail: houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk*

Theology in the Liturgy of Life,

Led by Dr Anthony Towey

Saturday 23 May: 10.00 am - 4.00 pm - House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB
Exploring Divine Wisdom through Exegesis, Experience and Eucharist. Cost: £20. Please bring a packed lunch. *Please contact us on: 020 8941 2313 or e-mail: houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk to reserve a place.*

The **Mass for New Catholics** is on **Saturday 9th May** at **11:00am** in St George's Cathedral. The Archbishop invites all those who have been Baptized or Received into the Church in the past year to attend this Mass, along with their godparents/sponsors, friends and fellow parishioners.

Spreading the Good News as an Encounter with Jesus Christ.

An Evangelization Seminar, led by John Huntriss (Clifton diocese Scripture Advisor), on **Saturday 16th May, 10:00am - 1:00pm** at the Centre for Catholic Formation, 21 Tooting Bec Road, SW17 8BS. All who wish to spread the Good News are invited to come to this Seminar. The CCF is by Tooting Bec tube station; there is also ample car parking. There is no charge, but please book at the CCF (020 8672 7684 or office@ccftootingbec.org.uk).

Annual Day for Catechists

Saturday 27th June from 11am at St George's Cathedral. I encourage all catechists to attend this day. Please let me know by the 30th May if you intend to go.

Celebrate Twickenham is happening on Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st June 2015 at St Mary's University, Twickenham.

The conference is a non-residential faith-filled event for all and the weekend programme includes 3 main talks, Praise and Worship, Theatre, Mass, Adoration, Prayer Ministry and a time for chatting over a cuppa. So that parents can really benefit from the weekend, there is a full programme for all from the age of 4 plus a warm welcoming crèche.

Booking forms are available from the presbytery. If you would like to find out more, please contact Anne D'Silva 07952 494120

LOURDES PILGRIMAGES

Please see Notice Board for details of the Diocesan and other pilgrimages to Lourdes.

The Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage is from 21st–28th August. This year is a special year for us in the Archdiocese of Southwark, as Southwark was raised to an "Archdiocese and Metropolitan See" fifty years ago. For details of the pilgrimage, please speak to Canon Edward Perera, the Southwark Pilgrimage Director.

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH SERVICES

Summer Youth Day - 20th June 2015

Aylesford Priory, Kent. 10am–7pm. £10pp. Yr7–Y11
To book contact: jean@scys.org.uk or 01227 272900

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.

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>

Evenings of Faith (hosted by the Faith Movement): 'Catholicism-hard questions'

All are welcome to our series of talks on 'Catholicism-hard questions' on selected **Tuesdays at 7:30pm**. 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

5 May The Church's teaching on sex; time for change?
Ryan Day

19th May Why a male priesthood? *Fr. Roger Nesbitt*

2nd June Clerical celibacy; should priests be married?
Fr. Stephen Brown

16th June The Four Last Things; truth or fiction?
Fr. Philip Miller

30th June Holy Communion; who can receive and why? *Fr. Tim Finigan*

7th July Is St John Paul relevant to the Family Synod's discernment? *Joanna Bogle*

Common Objections to Catholicism

Venue: the Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road SE1 7HR. *Time:* 7:30pm - 9:00pm

Thursday 7th May Dr Mark Nash (CCF Advisor)

"The Catholic Church is unbiblical"

Thursday 14th May Fr Ignatius Edet (Merton parish)

"An all-male priesthood is sexist and an anachronism"

Thursday 21st May Ms Marie Mann (CCF Advisor)

"The Catholic Church is stuck in the past"

No charge; please register at the CCF

(office@ccftootingbec.org.uk or 020 8672 7684)

Vacancy - Receptionist

St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls, Pound Street, Carshalton, Surrey

Receptionist for an immediate start. Application Form email recruitment@stphils.org.uk or Marsha Adams, Personnel Officer on 020 8642 2025 ext 202 or from website: www.stphils.org.uk Closing date: Noon 1st May