

No: 3256 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year B)
8th March 2015



Parish News

PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON



OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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My dear people

At the beginning of Lent I wrote about the season of Lent as a journey. This journey we have begun is not an ordinary journey. This journey we make is at the invitation of God, and this journey has its important moments of taking time to pause, to reflect and to make adjustments if we have diverted from the path towards God.

It is no secret that today not many of us use an A to Z to find our way around. It seems it is a thing of the past. Though we still have an A to Z in our possession, we have today satellite navigation systems to guide us. Most of the newer cars have 'sat-navs' (as they are known) installed, and most of the mobile phones too are equipped with them.

One of the good things about the 'sat-nav' is that when you go off the track or if take a wrong turning, the voice command tells you that you have gone the wrong way and instructs you to turn round at the earliest opportunity.

Just as a 'sat-nav' reminds us to turn round when we lose our way or diverted from the road we need to take, we have a spiritual 'sat-nav' with us to help us follow the right path. But unfortunately we do not make use of the spiritual 'sat-nav' or resist it and go our own way. This spiritual 'sat-nav' that guides us all is the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

This week-end our young people who are preparing for the celebration of First Holy Communion made their first Reconciliation. I hope that all the parents of the children too made use of the opportunity. My prayer and hope is that this first Reconciliation will not be the first and the only Sacrament of Reconciliation in the life of the children.

I know that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is not very popular today. But the Church has given us this wonderful Sacrament to help us so that we

may journey along the right path towards God. In the Sacrament God invites us to come just as we are, so that we may experience the loving embrace of God. I take this opportunity to invite all to our annual Lenten penitential service which will be on Friday 27th March. There will be visiting priests to help us with the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Time to pause is to wait. Henri Nouwen said that ninety eight percent of our lives we spend in waiting. That is amazing! We wait at bus stops and railway stations, airports and taxi ranks, check-out counters and in queues. We wait for so many things and people. And so we wait and wait and wait. But this waiting is not without hope.

Lent is also a special season given to us to realise that we wait for something higher. Waiting as Henri Nouwen said is to be in the present moment. Each day in Lent we are invited to pause and to see where we are going. If we listen to the inner small voice within us, we will be able to realise whether we are on the right path or not. Let us make use of the spiritual 'sat-nav' and turn back that we may walk and follow Jesus our Lord and Master, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

God love you all.

Canon Edward Perera

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 7th/8th March 2015
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Sat 6.30pm	Liam Devitt
Sun 9am	Joe Cullinan RIP
11am	Denis Deasy (Cummins family)
12.30pm	No Baptisms
6.00pm	People of the Parish

Daily Masses

9th March 2015 – 14th March 2015

Mon 9th	Feria
7.00am	Maureen Smith RIP (Perry family)
9.30am	Norbit Lynch (Ian Broderick)
Tues 10th	Feria
9.30am	John Richard Cullen (Eileen Cullen and family)
Wed 11th	Feria
7.00am	Wellbeing of Ron & Joan Frost (Rose)
9.30am	Holy Souls
Thurs 12th	Feria
9.30am	Stephen Fleming RIP (Susan and family)
Fri 13th	Feria
7.00am	Muriel Rogers RIP (Pauline Rogers)
9.30am	Holy Souls
Sat 14th	Feria
9.00am	Beitrice Singh (Louise Lewis)

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY 14th/15th March 2015
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)**

Mothers' Day

Sat 6.30pm	Francis Wright (Eileen Kaye)
Sun 9am	People of the Parish
11am	Christine Brett RIP (Jacques Lambert)
12.30pm	No Baptisms
6.00pm	Mary Langton and Mary Campbell RIP (Maria Campbell)

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

£1640

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

CAFOD Fast Day Collection £835

Thank you for your generosity.

Cash counters

This week: George and Paul Hoskins

Next week: Pam Ford and Vivian Phillips

Next Sunday's Readings: Fourth Sunday of Lent

Introduction

Rejoice! That is the message for this fourth Sunday in Lent – "Laetare" Sunday. As we gather together, with all our different struggles and blessings, we prepare to hear God's Word and meet the Lord in the Eucharist.

First Reading 2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

Such was the persistence of God's people in pursuing their own way and ignoring the Lord's that they found themselves exiled from the land promised to them. But the Lord worked through Cyrus, a Gentile, to restore his people to their land and relationship with him.

Second Reading Ephesians 2:4-10

The great gift of God's boundless love and grace comes to us in Jesus, and fills our everyday lives in the Spirit. When we hand ourselves over to the Lord's love, he recreates us as his works of art.

Gospel John 3:14-21

Nicodemus has come to Jesus by night. In the shadows of this conversation of wondering and searching, Jesus speaks of the love of the Father and the healing that is made possible for all people through the gift of his own life and his sacrifice on the cross.

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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

This coming Thursday, 12th March, at 7.30pm there is a meeting in the RDJ Room for all those interested in forming a SVP conference within the parish. Kieran Knights, SVP Central Council Recruitment Officer for Southwark will also be present to meet everyone.

Repository

Easter cards and Lenten reading matter and books for children are now on sale in the repository. First Holy Communion goods will be on sale in early May.

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.

Please do come and meet fellow parishioners over a cup of tea or coffee at both the above.

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. We need a lot of people to ensure these masses are successful so please help if you can.

ALTAR SERVERS PLEASE NOTE:

Holy Week Practice is on Sunday 29 March at 12.30 pm in the Sacristy if you have volunteered for any of the Holy week services you need to attend this practice and jobs will be allocated then.

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.

PARISH MEAL

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

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-redsouthwark.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

LENTEN PROJECT

TABLE TOP SALE : NEXT SUNDAY 15th MARCH after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses

Items sold will include Mother's Day presents, 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). Please leave at the Presbytery.

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.

JUMBLE SALE - Saturday 21st March:

Doors Open 1.30pm : Admission £1

Once again the KSC and UCM are jointly organising this ever popular fund-raising event to support the Parish Lenten Project. They would be most grateful for donations of any of the following items, in good condition, clothing, shoes, handbags, kitchenware and utensils, cutlery, crockery, glassware, books, pictures, children's toys and games, and general bric-a-brac.

Note: The organisers are sorry they are NOT able to accept any furniture.

Please bring items to the Hall on the morning of the sale between 9-11am. If you wish to have it collected during the week prior to the sale please contact Leo 020 8390 2500 or Peter 020 8390 0431. Please encourage your friends to come on the day.

SPONSORED CYCLE AND WALK EVENTS FOR THE LENTEN PROJECT

Please please sponsor us! We desperately need your support! The Tolworth Trekkers are joining up with the Tolworth Tornados for a joint sponsored event to raise money for the Lenten Project. Fr Tom is training hard for his epic 60 mile (!) walk. Full details are attached to the newsletter, which show how you can sponsor us. Many thanks in advance for your kindness and generosity.

Syro Malabar Community invites all the parishioners for their annual retreat on March 16th and 17th, 4.00pm to 10.00pm here at Our Lady Immaculate Church. The retreat will be lead by Fr. Joseph Vellamunningal.

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

ST PATRICK'S DAY SUPPER

A family celebration - 14th March 7.00pm

In Alexander House, (the Parish Centre next St. Raphael's Church, Kingston). 2 courses. Bring your own wine and drinks tickets cost £10 adults £5 Children.

All proceeds to our Lenten Project "Grief to Grace"

For tickets and more information, please contact St. Raphael's Parish Office on 0208 541 4999 or email straphaelparishoffice@googlemail.com

Ecumenical Memorial Service on the anniversary of Archbishop Oscar Romero's martyrdom.

Saturday 21st March, 11 am at St Martin in the Fields, Trafalgar Square. Preacher: Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

A Day With Mary

Saturday 21st March 2015. Westminster Cathedral.
Please see notice board for details

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.

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.

**SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE
TO LOURDES
(with the 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

**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

**The Sacred Heart Parish Chorus
perform in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support**

WA Mozart Missa Brevis in C ('Coronation') K317
Vesperae solennes de Confessore K339
on Saturday 14th March 2015 at 7.45pm
Adults £15 or 2 for £20. 65+ £10.
Under 18's Free admission. Students £5
Please see notice board for further details

**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 10th March The cosmic meaning of the Eucharist. *Fr Roger Nesbitt*
Tuesday 24th March Should the Church impose lifestyle choices? *Edward Hadas*