



No: 3346 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4th December 2016

# Parish Newsletter

PARTNERS IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG Tel: 020 8399 9550 Email: info@olionline.co.uk website: www.olionline.co.uk

**PARISH PRIEST: Canon Edward Perera**

**Deacon: Rev. A Callan**, 59 Princes Avenue, Tolworth KT6 7JL Tel: 020 8399 9862

**OUR LADY IMMACULATE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

399 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG Tel: 020 8399 9854 Fax: 020 8399 8582 www.oli.kingston.sch.uk  
**HEADTEACHER: Mrs Frances Robertson**



**Parish Office Open on Monday—Friday 10am– 1.00pm**

**3rd/4th December 2016  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)  
Bible Sunday**

- Sat 6.30pm** John & David Doyle (Kathleen & Mary Doyle  
Ted Howe (Sheila Howe)
- Sun 9.00am** Holy Souls
- 11.00am** Peter Groves RIP (Ann Groves)
- 12.30pm** **Baptisms:** No Baptisms
- 6.00pm** People of the Parish

**SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT**

**5th November– 10th December 2016**

- Mon 5th** **Feria**  
**9.30am** John Frederick and Margaret Gowers
- Tues 6th** **Feria**  
**9.30am** Lindford Fuller (Louise Lewis)
- Wed 7th** **Saint Ambrose**  
**9.30am** Intention of Puthawathy
- Thurs 8th** **The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
**9.30am** Margaret Aitken (Schwarz Family)
- Fri 9th** **Feria**  
**9.30am** For Amy (Kathy Jankowski)
- Sat 10th** **Feria**  
**9.00am** Holy Souls

**10th/11th December 2016**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)  
Gaudete Sunday**

- Sat 6.30pm** Holy Souls
- Sun 9.00am** Vera Hutchinson (Kathy Jankowski)
- 11.00am** Maria Simmonds (Kathy Jankowski)
- 12.30pm** **Baptisms:** No Baptisms
- 6.00pm** People of the Parish

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION THIS WEEK  
Saturdays 9.30-10.00am and 5.30 to 6.00pm**

**Last Sunday's Collection: £ 1385.62  
Thank you for your continued generosity.**

**Next Sunday's Readings:**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 35:1-6. 10

**Second Reading:** Letter of St James 5:7-10

**Gospel** Matthew 11:2-11

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

**Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those within our own parish community:**

Vanessa Andrew, Arthur Bailey, Christina Beyer, Jim Creighan, Martin Dray, Anthony Durkin, Jenny Elborough, Robert Estall, Tony and Mavis Fisher, Geoff Grenade, Anne Groves, Thomas Haley, Fr David Hutton, John Keane, Jan Leightley, Roisin Loftus, Frances Powell, Simon Munnery, Pat Parker, Lewis Penn, Cecelia Russell, Genny Santhirasagarum, Rouben Sarkissian, Cerys Sullivan, Roman Szymanski, Chris Wade and Mrs Wallace.

**REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH**

**SVP** meet fortnightly on Wednesdays at 7.30pm.  
**Next meeting:** 7th December  
**To contact SVP** please ring **07427922420**.  
**Junior SVP** meets at 6.30pm.

**Justice & Peace Group** meet on the second Monday of each month at 7.45 in the RDJ Room, except July, August and December.

**St Vincent de Paul Coffee/Tea in the Old Chapel**  
Every 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 fourth Saturday of each month at 3.00pm.

**Library:** last weekend of the month - after Saturday 6.30pm and Sunday 9am Masses.

**Union of Catholic Mothers** meet on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8pm.

**Knights of St Columba** every 3rd Monday at 8pm in RDJ Room.

**Cafe:** Every Wednesday after the morning mass.

**Afternoon for Adults** meets 2-4pm on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays every month, in RDJ room.

**The Kingston Franciscan Fraternity** meet in the Pastoral Centre on 3rd Saturday of the month at 3pm.

**Living a life of Mercy**

(Matthew 11:28-30)

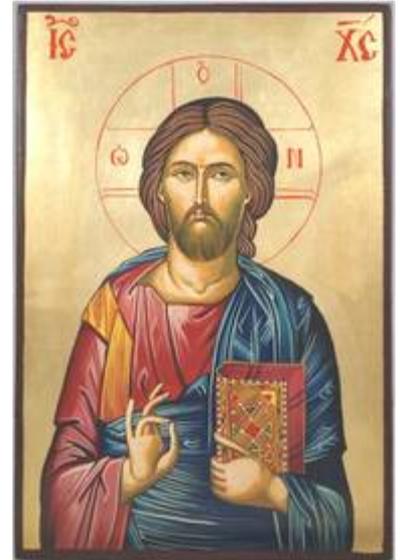
With the closing of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, we aim not to leave mercy behind us with a sigh of relief so we can return to ordinary time and our usual hesitant regard for others. Our real challenge is to live a life of mercy: to shelter those in need of kindness, to reach out to those enclosed in hurt, to forgive those hedged in by past mistakes.

As we move into a new liturgical year with Matthew as our guide, we will hear Jesus speak about himself as the gentle-hearted teacher:

“Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened and I will give you rest. Shoulder my yoke and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. Yes, my yoke is easy and my burden light”

Jesus has a merciful word for all who are bowed down by an interpretation of the Law that leaves them mugged into senselessness. While Jesus has not intention of doing away with the Law, he refuses to support the lawyers who spend their time manufacturing new burdens for broken people. Jesus offers all those who struggle an invitation, “Come to me...learn from me...and you will find rest for your souls.” Jesus makes himself the centre of his own teaching.

God has chosen Jesus to be the one who embodies the fullness of revelation and the new Law of Christ, a law characterised by mercy. As that mercy governs the hearts of his disciples. The year of mercy is always ahead of us, not behind us.



Christ the Teacher (detail)

**“But Mercy is above this sceptre sway;  
It is enthroned in the hearts of kings,  
It is an attribute to God himself;  
And earthly power doth then show likest God’s  
When mercy seasons justice.”**  
*William Shakespeare, The Merchant of Venice, Act IV, scene i*

**PRAYER**  
You are merciful to all, because you are almighty, you overlook people’s sins, so that they can repent. Yes, you love everything that exists, and nothing that you have made disgusts you, since, if you had hated something, you would not have made it...No, you spare all, since all is yours, Lord, lover of life!  
*Wisdom 11:23-24. 26*

**ADVENT PRAYER**

Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations  
for Christmas.

We who have so much to do,  
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things,  
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways,  
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy,  
seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people, walking in darkness,  
yet seeking the light.

To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”

*(Henri Nouwen)*

**Daily Reflections for the Season of Advent**

The Diocesan Spirituality Commission offers daily reflections during Advent. To receive these reflections email [southwarkdsc@gmail.com](mailto:southwarkdsc@gmail.com)

**Novenas to Saint Anthony and Our Lady of Perpetual Help**

Novena Prayers to Saint Anthony each Tuesday after morning mass and at 6.30pm.

Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help each Wednesdays at 6.30pm.

**Knights of St Columba—Special Request to help Erect the Crib**

For over 40 years, the local Knights of St Columba have erected a large crib scene at the front of the Church, on the roof over the Repository. This scene has helped demonstrate the real meaning of Christmas to all who pass along the Broadway.

Unfortunately, there are now not sufficient fit and able local Knights to continue this valuable work, and whilst we have recruited some willing helpers, we would welcome further offers of help on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December for about an hour after Saturday morning Mass.

The Knights also erect the crib inside the Church, and will be doing this on the following Saturday (17<sup>th</sup> Dec) again after Mass. Whilst we feel we can deal with this less strenuous task this year, if you feel you could also help, then we would welcome offers.

If you feel you could help, please contact Mark Draper on 020 8399 0446

**WELCOME**

This weekend we welcome Fr. Innocent Ezeonyeasi to Our Lady Immaculate Parish. He has just completed his work as the Chaplain to the Nigerian Chaplaincy. In next week’s newsletter he will introduce himself in more detail.

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## SACRAMENTS and LITURGY

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### **BAPTISMS IN THE PARISH**

Parents who want to have their children baptised are expected to follow the two Baptism Preparation Sessions held on the 1st & 2nd Sunday of the month (except in of August) between

10.00am –11.00am in the parish hall.  
**Please speak to the priests first and register as early as possible.**

**RCIA** - continues 5th December at 6.30pm.

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION '17**

Next meeting for First Holy Communion parents is on Monday 5th December at 7.30pm in the parish hall. Next Preparation for Children is on Saturday 10th December at 10.30am.

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## more PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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### **Union of Catholic Mothers**

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 6th December at 8pm in the Old Chapel. We would like you to tell us what brought you to live in Tolworth or the surrounding area.

### **“Help Needed for all Christmas Masses**

—Volunteers are needed for all our Christmas Masses i.e. 6.00 pm Christmas Eve, Midnight, 8.00 am, 9.15 am and 11.00 am on Christmas Day. We need Altar Servers, Readers, Gift Bearers, Collectors, Welcomers 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 and thank you in advance for your assistance. Jacques Lambert Parish Master of Ceremonies.”

### **Toy Sunday—11th December**

Please bring to all masses wrapped new toys and games suitable for under 5s and 5- 10 year olds marked boy or girl with the appropriate age. They will be given to Kingston and Richmond Homestart, and Refugee Action Kingston, both of whom support families in need in this borough. With thanks for your generosity. Any questions please call George Hoskins 07949334349

### **OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE**

The OLI Christingle Service will take place on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm in the Church. This Service is a special Church Service that is held for children during Advent and celebrates Christ, who is the Light of the World.

Children (and adults) are invited to bring a Christingle to the Service. A Christingle consists of an orange, decorated with a red ribbon, sweets and / or dried fruits, in which a small candle is placed. (Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website (<http://www.olionline.co.uk>). A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service).

### **SVP Christmas Lunch**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon. If you would like to come please speak to Fr Edward or one of SVP members.

The St Vincent de Paul Society have launched their Christmas Time Appeal. Although they always need and welcome financial donations, they're also asking parishioners to give a little of their time to help others by joining our parish SVP group. As you



plan your Christmas celebrations, spare a thought for those who dread the festival season. For many it's a time of profound loneliness and solitude, while for others it means not being able to afford the family presents or delicious food that the rest of us take for granted. But giving a little of your time or money (or both) to help those in need could transform someone's bleak Christmas. It might be the best gift you've ever given. To find out more please contact a member of your parish SVP group.

### **♪♪ Singing is good for you! ♪♪**

Come and sing with our choir at the 11am Sunday Masses. More details from Rosemary (07557057083) or Mary (020 8399 8013)

We are also looking for a competent pianist who would be interested in learning to play the organ.

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## DEANERY /DIOCESAN /SCHOOL/ LOCAL EVENTS

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### **OLI School Christmas Bazaar**

Many thanks for your support at last Saturday's Bazaar. Congratulations to the lucky winners of the Grand Draw, who were as follows :

- 1) £1,000 Cash:  
Philip Jeganathan
- 2) Play Station 4 With Games:  
Barbara de Rennes
- 3) £200 Amazon Voucher:  
Katy Ishmail

### **Christmas Tree Sale in support of OLI PTA**

Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December after morning masses. Quality non-drop trees all sizes. Prices from £15. Free Delivery. If you would like to pre-order your tree, please call 07415 014166  
**Our Lady Immaculate Catholic**

### **Primary School Admissions Arrangements for the school year 2018**

#### **Proposed Changes to Admissions Arrangements – Consultation Period**

The governors at Our Lady Immaculate are intending to remove from the admissions policy 2018, the clause in criterion 2 relating to siblings resident in other parishes.

The draft admissions arrangements can be found on the school website (<http://www.oli.kingston.sch>) or hard copies are available from the school office along with a response form if required. It is intended to remove from the policy the section

highlighted in yellow on both the Draft Admissions Policy 2018 and the accompanying Draft Supplementary Information Form 2018.

The consultation period lasts from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 to Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017 and responses must be received by then. Please respond via email to: [admin@oli.rbksch.org](mailto:admin@oli.rbksch.org) or post to: Annie Goodman, Clerk to the Governing Body, Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, 399 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surrey KT6 7DG.