



PARTNER IN CHURCHES TOGETHER IN SURBITON

Parish News

OUR LADY IMMACULATE PARISH

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“to give until it hurts”

A missionary who spent most of his life in a very poor village had developed a habit of giving everything he could to the poor who came to beg at the mission house. Sometimes it was a sick person; other times it was a single mum with a couple of children to feed. He was aware that this habit was not a solution to people's problems, but he did not know what else he could do. At the end of a visit from one of the regulars, he said something like, “I don't think my handouts are helpful to you anymore. Please find a different way of surviving.” The lady replied, “Father, I'm not telling you how to be a priest, don't tell me how to be a beggar”.

Possibly there are times when we feel like this missionary.

During Advent season we will be confronted by appeals of one kind or another. On the street corners people requesting for us to commit to a pound or two a month for charity, Christians singing carols with a hat in front of them seeking donations; on the internet 'Just-Giving' pages will pop up asking for donations to support friends doing “extraordinary” things to help the poor; the parish newsletter comes with its own appeals too, e.g. help victims of Hurricane Tomas in St. Lucia; and the list goes on.

Do we sometimes feel overwhelmed by these appeals? Or feel like saying “this kind of giving is not

helping?” Speaking from first hand experience as a “beggar”, I would like to assure you that most appeals are a life line for millions of people around the world and they do make a difference. Through the Parish Lenten Project, last year I appealed on behalf of a primary school in Tanzania to fund the construction of new classrooms. The Parish raised over £17,000 for various appeals, from which my appeal received £3,115 plus £900 raised on-line.



During my visit to the school in September, I found that the children had accumulated enough rocks for the foundation and had dug a 5km canal to bring water to the construction site. I visited one class during their lesson and found there were over a hundred pupils in one classroom. Then I understood why they had worked so hard. The foundations for nine classrooms were completed

last week and currently the walls are now under construction, thanks to your generosity.

Advent prepares us to receive the gift of a baby in a manger; Our Lord Jesus. It is God giving himself to us, and that is why it is the best time of the year for us to share with others whatever we can. It was Socrates who said “the unexamined life is not worth living”. We could also say “the un-shared life is not worth living”. Above all, giving is the expression of love. As the Blessed Mother Theresa put it, “This is the meaning of true love, to give until it hurts”.

Fr Arbo

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 4th/5th December 2010

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

Bible Sunday

- Sat 6.30pm People of the Parish
Sun 9am Edward Howe RIP (Sheila Howe)
11am Honora Miles RIP (Pat Parker & Family)
12.30pm Baptisms: Nerisha Trinity Fernando, Daisy Frances Peel & Joel Mensah
6pm John Frederick & Margaret Theresa Gowers RIP (FM)

Daily Masses 6th December to 11th December 2010

- Mon St Nicholas, bishop
7am Private Intention
9.30am Rachel & Family In Thanksgiving (Mary Ryan)
- Tues St Ambrose, bishop 7 doctor of the Church
7am Intentions of Holy Land Pilgrims (Eileen Mullin)
9.30am For Healing of Clemena Baudus (Berengere Barrau)
- Wed The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7am All Subscribers to OLI Church RIP (FM)
9.30am Wellbeing of Roger Morton (Anita Choi)
11am School Mass
- Thur Feria
7am Wellbeing of Fr Anthony on his 60th Birthday (Josie Espiritu)
9.30am Daming Peadar Cruz RIP (Frances Rodrigues)
- Fri Feria
7am Robert & Annie Eales RIP (FM)
9.30am Irene & Walter Parker RIP & All Deceased Family (Hazel Parker)
10am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
- Sat Feria
9am In Thanksgiving Nubio & George Carro 25th Wedding Anniversary

SATURDAY/SUNDAY 11th/12th December 2010

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

TOY SUNDAY

- Sat 6.30pm Deceased Members of the Kenny Family RIP
Sun 9am Repose of the Soul of John Michael Preston RIP (Lorna G Belen)
11am People of the Parish - Church Parade
12.30pm Baptisms: Evelyn Rose Loots & Luciano & Leonardo Letif
6pm John O'Shaughnessy (Mark & Katie Fagan)

Retiring Collection for MEO- Fr Tahir's Charity for Pakistan



We welcome into the Church Alyce Rose Gaskell, Sophie Proctor & Emily Green, who were baptised last weekend.

Last week's Offertory collection £ 1,885

St George's Cathedral £ 340

We thank you for your continued generosity

(Cash counters next week: Allan & Marie-Helene Cook)

READINGS:

This Week: Second Sunday of Advent (A)

First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10

Isaiah foretells the coming of the Messiah, who will bring justice, peace and the knowledge of God.

Second Reading Romans 15:4-9

Paul reflects on the sacred scriptures, and reminds us that they foretold that Christ would come to unite the Jews and Gentiles.

Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

As the divine Messiah is just about to begin his public ministry, John recalls the people to genuine repentance.

Next Week: Third Sunday of Advent (A)

First Reading Isaiah 35:1-6. 10

Isaiah brings encouragement to a weary people and announces the coming of God, who will bring freedom from oppression, and healing to those in need.

Second Reading James 5:7-10

James encourages the followers of Jesus to have patience and not to lose heart with one another or about the coming of the Lord.

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11

Jesus expresses his admiration for John, while his own actions reveal that he is the awaited one.

We pray for all the faithful departed who have recently died. We pray especially for **Georgios Daminos Andreadis**, father of Eugenia, **Baby Alexandra Elizabeth Caney**, **Bridget Mulvihill**, **Ann Joyce**, **Emma Coutinho**, **Peggy Howick** and **Francois Manac'h**, (younger brother of Bérengère Barrau). We pray for all those who mourn and those whose anniversaries occur at this time.

We remember all our **sick and elderly parishioners**, those in hospital, the housebound and those who care for them; Jo Jennings, Mary Smith, Roger Morton, Mary McDonnagh, Patrick Leightley, Fr Simon Peat, Baby Thomas Haley, Desolina Cavazzi, Anna Maria Maini, Veronica Heaton, Maureen Wilson, Bernard Mead, James Austin, Elizabeth Joège, Joan Lancaster, Stephen Fleming, Francis Nazareth, Sergio Della Grotta, Marie Bast, John Ingrassi, Baby Patrick Ferris, George Matthew, Odile Froger, Clint Samson, Jenny Sathirasegaram, Ann McNicol, Eileen Rosenberg, Bridget McNally, Brenda Flaherty, Rowan Wolsgrove, Marcus Bird, Charles Thurley, Sandra Burlinson, Sophie Burridge, Sam Hitchin, Rene Boffa, Richard Manche, Nicky Bushell, Shirley Enright, Tom Tyler, Baby Finn Jordan, Margaret Inskip, Giancarlo Palermo, John Gleeson, Fr Peter Sprague, Mary Linstead, Evan Day, Eva Hansford, Jeffrey D'Cruz, George Hayes, Michael Hoskins, Michael Byrne, Martin Dray, Kay Bridgland, Seema Day, Graham Taylor, Freda Sirmon, Samantha Nosalik, Bridie Fillmore, Manual Pillai, Fay Kearney, Richard Trutwein, Winna Duncan, Jennifer McIntyre, Carl Williams, Bridie O'Driscoll, Christine Keane, Josephine Bull, Vic Carrion, Pauline McGuire, Norma Latham, Mary Bastiampillai, Philip Rajanayagam and Gerard Murphy.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
(CONFESSIONS)

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



PARISH DINNER

28th January 2011 at The Sorrento Restaurant

Our annual Parish Dinner will be taking place this year at The Sorrento Restaurant, Ewell Road on 28 January 2011, 7.30pm for 8pm. Join us for a three course meal for £15 per head. Includes service charge. Drinks and coffee extra.

Numbers are limited, so please purchase your tickets as soon as possible by contacting Elaine at the Presbytery on 020 8399 9550 or email info@olionline.co.uk

Please arrange your own groups in advance if you would like to sit on the same table. Thank you.



CAROL SERVICE

CAROL SERVICE (please note revised start time):

After the huge success of the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols Service last year, we will be holding a similar event this year on **Monday 13th December at 7.30pm** with refreshments afterwards. A raffle will be held in aid of KCAH (Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness). Please put this date in your diary.

PRIEST VALIDATION FORM SIGNING FOR PRIMARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL ADMISSIONS 2011

Fr Anthony and Fr Arbo will be available to sign forms next week on **Tuesday 7th December from 3pm to 4.30pm** at the Presbytery. *Please note, there will be other dates for form signing each week, so please check the newsletter or website for details.*

The closing date for primary school applications is the **15th January 2011.**

CONFIRMATION 2011

If you are at least in year 9 and would like to consider receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2011, then please visit our parish website, go to the Sacraments "tab", click on Confirmation, and read all about the Sacrament and how it is administered in OLI. Having done that, please print off the application form and complete it. These forms will then need to be countersigned by either Fr Anthony or Fr Arbo. This week the priests will be available to sign these forms on **Monday 6th December from 4.30pm to 6pm and Saturday 11th December from 3pm to 4.30pm.** Look out for future dates in the next few newsletters. The closing date is Sunday 19th December - this date will not be extended, so please ensure you act before then. If you do not have a computer, application forms may be obtained from the Parish Office.

A PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS

by Fr Jilson Mathew V.C. (Angelicum University, Rome)
From 3pm to 8pm at Our Lady Immaculate Church on **Monday 20th December 2010.** Spiritual talks, Confession and Adoration. All parishioners of OLI are invited. Believe and you will see the Glory of God!
Note: Confessions will be heard in English, Hindi and Malayalam.

The UCM will hold their Advent Party on Tuesday 7th December in the Old Chapel at 8pm. (Husbands welcome.)
Please bring finger food. (Prizes for the raffle would be appreciated, if possible.)

GRAPEVINE PARISH MAGAZINE

Please note that copies of the Grapevine will be distributed after all Masses this weekend. These are free of charge, but any contribution will be gratefully received!

Children– look out for the 'Children's Corner' insert in the magazine.



WEBSITE UPDATES

➤ Holy Land Part 3 - Jerusalem (Gallery)

HOUSE TO LET

House to rent: 3 Bedroom house is available to rent for 2 years. The house contains 2 double bedrooms and one single bedroom with 2 bathrooms/wc. An insulated loft on the second floor can be used for extra storage space or an additional bedroom/children play room. It is situated 10min walk from Tolworth Train station, 7min by car/20 min walk from OLI. Call Berengere Barrau 0208 397 4901 for further details and to organise a viewing

PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

Please note that the new office opening hours are Monday Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays from 8.30am to 3pm.

The Parish Office will be **closed on Wednesdays.** The priests will still be able to see people on pre-arranged appointments on Wednesdays.



NOAH'S ARK
COFFEE MORNING

Noah's Ark Pre-school will be having a coffee morning on Thursday 9th December 2010 in the Old Chapel from 9am to 11am. Please come and join us for a chat, a coffee and/or tea and a treat.

ALL WELCOME!



Next Weekend- Retiring collection for MEO

After all Masses next weekend we will be having a retiring collection for Fr Tahir's Charity MEO (Maria Orsola Educational Organisation).

The winter months in Pakistan are extremely cold and the tents that so many of the flood victims have been living no longer provide sufficient shelter during this cold period. Money collected will go towards building two simple rooms for each family, and purchasing quilts, blankets and warm clothing. Such basic items are essential to help the elderly and children of Pakistan. Thank you so much for your continuing generous support.

If there is anyone in the parish who has had connections with a Brother Gabriel (Hooper) a Servite, please could they contact Fr Anthony. Thank you.

BIBLE SUNDAY- 5th December 2010

Today is Bible Sunday, where readers will be asked to renew their commitment to their ministry.

Appeal for St Lucia after Hurricane Tomas

We are appealing for the following items after the devastating effects of Hurricane Tomas. Please donate:-

Water containers, canned food, especially evaporated milk, dry foods, batteries, flasks, small transistor radios, lanterns or flash lights, sanitary wipes, hand sanitizers, blankets, bed sheets, sleeping bags, nappies (for both babies and adults), infant food and formula and toiletries.

The High Commission for St Lucia in association with the St Lucian community have also set up a charity called The National Committee for St Lucia Hurricane Relief, Charity No. 281188 to coordinate our response.

Please leave donations in the large box provided at the back of the church, or at the Presbytery. If you would like any further information, please contact Fr Arbo.

CHRISTMAS SERVICE & MASS TIMES

Booklets are now available at the back of the church. Please take one as you leave Mass this weekend.

TOY SUNDAY

Next weekend we designate as Toy Sunday. It is an opportunity for those who wish to donate one toy to a child who is less well off. The toys will go to some religious sisters who work with families who find it hard to make ends meet. They deliver parcels at Christmas time to these families and try to include a few toys. Please wrap up your gift in Christmas paper with a label that says Boy or Girl and the suggested suitable age. Gifts should be placed around the altar before Mass.



OLI 200 Club

The winners of the Autumn Draw are:

Mary Burrows (No. 76) £30

Elizabeth Kendal (No. 70) £25

Anne Sheridan (No.110) £20

Hazel Summers (No. 60) £15

The last Christmas Draw will be held in early December so the lucky winners will have plenty of time to spend it.

As numbers have been decreasing steadily in recent years, we have decided the time has come to call it a day. There will be no 200 club next year.

We would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the club over the years.

Gerry Hague and D Enright.

Admission arrangements for the academic year 2012/13
In accordance with The Education and Skills Act 2008 admission arrangements for the academic year 2012/13 are currently being consulted upon.

The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames will issue a public notice making details of consultation for community schools available in local newspaper and online. *These details will be displayed on the church notice board and in the newsletter once they are published.*

Our Lady Immaculate Primary School As this is a voluntary aided school, copies of documents and the response form are now available at the school office (0208 399 9854). Any response to these documents should be returned through that office by Friday 28th January 2011.