



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

27 October 2019

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year C)

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG

Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: tolworth@rcaos.org.uk www.olionline.co.uk **Parish Office:** Mon-Fri from 10am to 2pm

Parish Priest: Fr. Ignatius Edet + **Curate:** Fr. Joseph Edem + **Deacon:** Rev. Al Callan + **Secretary:** Mrs Denise Kidd

School: Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School + **Headteacher:** Mrs. Frances Robertson

MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS		
THIRTIETH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
26 Sat Vigil	18.30	The Success & WB of Bryn
27 Sun	9.00	Tony Chesney – RIP (<i>B & D Marley</i>)
	11.00	Archbishop Michael Bowen – RIP
	18.00	Blanka-Rosa Zuluaaga – RIP (<i>Jurado Family</i>)
WEEKDAY MASSES		
EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
28 Mon <i>Ss. Simon and Jude</i>	9.30	Anne Hogan - WB
29 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Alberto D Reyes – WB (<i>C. Kasilag</i>)
	19.00	Elizabeth Reilly - RIP
30 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Mariyamma Thomas – RIP – (<i>S. Mathew</i>)
	19.00	Joseph Edet – RIP (<i>SVP Conference OLI</i>)
31 Thurs <i>Feria</i> Vigil Mass of All Saints	7.00	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	9.30	Nancy & Noel Ryan – RIP (<i>M. Tett</i>)
	19.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
1 Fri ALL SAINTS Holy Day of Obligation	7.00	<i>Private</i>
	9.30	John Davis – RIP <i>Pro Populo</i>
2 Sat <i>The Commemoration of all The Faithfull Departed</i>	7.00	Joseph Edet – RIP (<i>C. Yapp</i>)
	9.00	Sheliagh Connolly – RIP
	12.00	The Faithful Departed
THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR		
2 Sat Vigil	18.30	<i>Pro Populo</i>
3 Sun <i>Remembrance Sunday</i> Blessing of Graves	9.00	Peter Fox – RIP (<i>K. Fox</i>)
	11.00	Roman Szymanski – RIP (<i>Szymanski Family</i>)
	18.00	Mary McDonagh – RIP (<i>Bridie, Colin Keane & Family</i>)
OTHER SERVICES		
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.15pm	
St Anthony of Padua	Tuesday: after AM & PM Masses	
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Wednesday: after PM Mass	
Our Lady of Fatima	1st Saturday of the month	

THE POOR PERSON CALLS AND THE LORD HEARS

Today's Gospel is a continuation from last Sunday's in which Jesus taught the disciples (us) how "to pray continually without losing heart." Interestingly, in the parable of the unscrupulous judge and the importunate widow, inter-personal relationship was used to draw out a lesson for divine-human relationship, while in today's parable of the praying Pharisee and Publican, divine-human relationship is employed by Jesus to teach a lesson about humility. Of course, pride has repercussions for our relationship not only with God but also with other human beings. This is evident in today's Liturgy of the Word.

The Old Testament contains many instances of God's so-called *preferential option for the poor*. Primarily, the election of Israel as God's *chosen people* is an expression of this divine solicitude and love. "If Yahweh set his heart on you and chose you," Moses asserts, "it was not because you outnumbered other peoples: you were the least of all peoples" (Deut 7:7; see 10:18). The people of Israel were particularly enjoined to imitate God in this regard (see Ex 22:22-27; Deut 24:17-22). Why does God hear the poor person's prayer?

The Franciscan friar and preacher for the papal household, Father Raniero Cantalamessa, offers an insightful explanation in this regard in his commentary on the first beatitude, *blessed are the poor in spirit*. He warns that we "should not think this beatitude is dealing with the working class or the so-called 'people of the land' in Judaism of the time." "The true gospel poor," as he explains, "are those who depend on God and have staked everything on him in faith. In Judaism of that time, the word *poor* was practically synonymous with *holy (Hasid) and pious*. The Fathers of the church made 'poor in spirit' almost a synonym for *humble*" (*Beatitudes: Eight Steps to Happiness*, p.2).

Humility. That is the key word. According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (no. 2559), without humility there can be no true prayer because in prayer we do not raise our heart and mind to God from "the height of our pride and will," but "out of the depths" of a humble and contrite heart." Therefore, humility is not only "the foundation of prayer" (no. 2559), but also "a prerequisite for righteous and pure prayer" (no. 2631). For, as the *catechism* explains, "a trusting humility brings us back into the light of communion between the Father and his Son Jesus Christ and with one another, so that 'we receive from him whatever we ask.'" Unarguably, this is clearly demonstrated in the divine vindication of the humble Publican vis-à-vis the rejection of the self-righteous and proud Pharisee in the Gospel. To be sure, the prayer of the Publican is answered – in fact, the Publican himself finds favour with God – as Father Cantalamessa explains, not because God favours his sinful state, but because he is open to and "capable of reformation while the self-righteous are not."

What then do we make of St Paul who seems, on the face value, to be *sounding his own trumpet* in the second reading, like the Pharisee in the Gospel? "My life is already being poured away as a libation... I have fought the good fight to the end; I have run the race to the finish; I have kept the faith; all there is to come now is the crown of righteousness reserved for me..." Whereas the Pharisee in the Gospel is revelling in self-righteousness and therefore inward-looking, Paul is witnessing to what the grace of God has achieved in and through him – and so he says, "the Lord stood by me and gave me power" – without overlooking his own contributions – "so that through me the whole message might be proclaimed to the pagans to hear." So, Paul's *boast* is not in his own achievements, but in *God's accomplishments through him*. Indeed, Paul himself already says so emphatically in Philippians 3:1-11: "I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts...but I want only the perfection that comes through faith in Christ..." (v.9; see also 1 Co 1:26-31). Like the Gospel poor, Paul has staked everything on God in faith on account of which he would be rewarded. This is lesson for all of us. © IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Wisdom 11: 22 – 12:2
2ND READING	Second Thessalonians 1: 11 – 2:2
GOSPEL	Luke 19: 1-10

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died Joseph Edet Effiong, Carmela Arbia, Antionette Staunton, Tony Chesney, Derrick Butt, Stafen Ciesla, Shelia Anderson, Bernard Furlong, Archbishop Michael Bowen and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time; and all those who mourn the loss of loved ones. May they rest in peace. Amen
	Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those within our own parish community: Vanessa Andrew, Martin Dray, Anthony Durkin, Sue Ewen, Pauline Ferrara, Ann Groves, Thomas Haley, Eileen Pearce, Heather & George Trutwein, Yvonne Norman, Esme Mills, Sharon Kelly, Nan Healy, Mary Ryan, Betty Harte, Michael Emmett, Frances Sullivan, Sally Sheridan Loughrey, Michael Pearson, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Frances Powell, Angelica D'Agostino Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders, Marie Turpenny. & Thomas O'Connor

WEEKLY COLLECTION	
	LAST WEEKEND Cash: £852.75 Gift-aid: £768.87 Total: £1,621.62 2 nd Collection – MISSIO Total: £611.77 2nd Collection Today – CAFOD <i>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</i>

INFANT BAPTISM	
	Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. Next course: 3 & 10 November, at 10am in the Old Chapel.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	
	1. Next Children's Session: Saturday, 9 November, Main Hall, 10.30-11.30am 2. Next Parents' Session: Monday, 18 November at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020	
	If you have a son / daughter in school year 9, and they would like to be included in the programme next year, then please download an application form from our website (under Sacraments) and follow the directions on the covering letter. The final date for applications for next year is Sunday 3rd November , which will not be extended. Important dates are contained in the application form, so please do not delay downloading it! Those older than Year 9 should speak with the PP

† ARCHBISHOP MICHAEL BOWEN – RIP	
The Funeral Arrangements for Archbishop Michael Bowen – RIP are as follows:	
1. Sunday 3rd November: 5 pm: Reception into St George's Cathedral 6 pm: Cathedral Mass: Archbishop Kevin McDonald to preside. 8 pm: Vigil Service, <i>after which the Cathedral will close.</i>	
2. Monday 4th November: 7 am: Cathedral opens 7.30 am: Cathedral Mass 12.30 pm: Funeral Mass: Archbishop John Wilson to preside. Burial in the Cathedral Crypt at the end of the Mass <p style="text-align: right;">Archbishop John Wilson</p>	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Just one world</i></p> <p>We will hold a second collection this weekend 26/27 October for this very worthwhile cause. CAFOD thanks you for your continued support.</p> <p>SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND – 2 & 3 November For the Archbishop's Fund for Diocesan Administration. This collection helps meet the cost of the central administration of the diocese.</p> <p>ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS MASSES Please note the extra Masses in bold on the front of the newsletter.</p> <p>NOVEMBER LIST BOX is available in the narthex. Please place names of departed loved ones in it for prayers & Masses.</p> <p>ANNUAL BLESSING OF GRAVES This will take place on Sunday 3 November: 2.00pm at Surbiton cemetery and 3.00pm at Kingston Cemetery.</p> <p>DEANERY MASS FOR DECEASED DEANERY CLERGY. All parishioners are invited to the Requiem Mass for deceased clergy who have served the parish and deanery on 13 Nov at 7pm.</p>
	<p>The Parish Lenten Project has been running successfully for 48 years. The aim of the Project is to give the parish a charitable focal point during Lent and give everyone (all groups, clubs and societies) in the parish the opportunity to take part in fundraising for projects in the developing world. The Lenten Project AGM will be held on Sunday 24th November 2019 at 7.15pm in the Old Chapel. At that meeting we will select the charities which we will be supporting during Lent 2020. We are now actively seeking parishioners to nominate suitable charities. If you have a charity you would like the parish to support in Lent during 2020 then please complete the charity nomination form which can be found at: http://www.olionline.co.uk/community/lenten-project/ You can also find blank copies of the form at the back of Church or obtain one from the Parish Office.</p> <p>The deadline for forms will be advertised in the newsletter. Once you have completed the form please either email it to tolworth@rcaos.org.uk or place it through the Presbytery letter box. If you would like any more information please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or via Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk.</p> <p>FOODBANK DONATIONS There will be a collection for Kingston Foodbank at each Mass on this weekend. Please leave your donations in the box provided at the back of the church. Thank you for your ongoing support. URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS: instant mash, longlife milk, tinned soup, veg, fish & fruit, pasta sauce and coffee.</p> <p>PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) will hold its next meeting on 1 December 7.00pm for 7.15pm start in the Old Chapel.</p> <p>OLI SCHOOL FOUNDATION GOVERNOR RECRUITMENT The Governing Body of Our Lady Immaculate Primary School are looking for new members. Working in partnership with the school to ensure that our children achieve the very best education. We are looking to recruit a new Foundation Governor; If you can spare five to ten hours each term to support the Governors and Headteacher please email Rachel Reid (Clerk to the Governing Body) on governors@oli.rbsch.org to find out more information. Please respond by Friday 8th November</p> <p>CAMINO DE SANTIAGO TRAIL - In September, OLI parishioner Ahu Guray walked 111km for 5 days in silence along the Camino de Santiago trail in support of African Vision Malawi. Should you wish to donate to her cause please either get in touch with Ahu on 07415 401 717 or contribute at: https://africanvisionmalawi.charitycheckout.co.uk/pf/ahu-camino</p>
† BERNARD FURLONG (1948-2019) – RIP	
Please pray for the repose of the soul of Bernard Furlong (brother of Chris Furlong) who died on 15 October. His funeral will take place on 29 October at 12.00pm.	