



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

1 December 2019

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

30 Sat Vigil	18.30	Mary Gloria – RIP (<i>Mary-Stella</i>)
1 Sun	9.00	Michael Simmonds – RIP (<i>M. Simmonds</i>)
	11.00	David Emmett – Happy Retirement (<i>H. Emmett</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>

WEEKDAY MASSES

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

2 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Suresh – B'Day (<i>Mary</i>)
3 Tues <i>St. Frances Xavier</i>	9.30	Florence Stroud & Family (<i>FM</i>)
	19.00	
4 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Edward Howe – RIP (<i>S. Howe</i>)
	19.00	D'Souza, Middleton & Tremenheere Families – RIP (<i>Tremenheere</i>)
5 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	John & Margaret Gowers – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	9.30	Linford Fuller (<i>L. Lewis</i>)
	13.30	Funeral: Marie Turpenny - RIP
6 Fri <i>Feria</i>	7.00	
	9.30	Burnard Furlong – RIP (<i>Szymanski Family</i>)
7 Sat <i>St. Ambrose</i>	9.00	Brendan Walsh – WB
	12.30	Memorial Mass - Bertha D'Costa, 1 st Anniversary

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7 Sat Vigil	18.30	John & David Doyle – WB (<i>Doyle, Hall Family</i>)
8 Sun	9.00	Subscribers to Church Building Fund (<i>FM</i>)
	11.00	Pius & Petronella Muzariri - WB
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</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

STAY AWAKE ... STAND READY!

We begin today a new liturgical year. The Church's New Year! It wouldn't be out of place, then, to say to one another, 'Happy New Year.'

Fittingly, the Church's year begins by focusing our attention on the twofold coming of the Lord: the celebration of his first coming, his birth in Bethlehem (the feast of the Nativity of the Lord at Christmas) and the expectation of his second coming at the end of the time (*the Parousia*). The first season in the Church's year takes both its name – *Advent* – and spirit and orientation from this twofold coming of Jesus Christ. Advent is, therefore, a season of waiting with expectation and hope. As St Paul proclaims in the second reading (Romans 13:11-14), "*the time' has come; you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were first converted.*" Particularly, in relation to the second coming, because we know neither the day nor the time, the Gospel (Matthew 24:37-44) reminds us *to stay awake and stand ready* always.

How can we stay awake? How do stand ready? We turn again to St Paul in the second reading for inspiration and direction in this regard: "*let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy.*" In one word: REPENTANCE! This reminds us of quasi penitential nature of Advent. Though not as severe as Lent, the season of Advent provides us a good opportunity *to return to the Lord* through repentance and reconciliation, to respond, as it were, to the salutary words of the Prophet Isaiah in the first reading (Isaiah 2:1-5), "*O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.*"

My dear sisters and brothers, this call is a loving invitation addressed personally to each and all of us personally and as a community of disciples of Christ here in our parish. Through prayer, reading of and meditation on the Sacred Word, the liturgy and sacraments especially the sacraments of reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist, we can grow and deepen our relationship with the Lord during this Advent and afterwards. Determination is required if we want to take seriously this loving invitation as we strive to turn to the Lord "*that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths*" this Advent.

This year, the beginning of Advent coincides with the commencement of the Year of the Word which was inaugurated recently on the feast of St Jerome on the theme, *The God Who Speaks*. Let us take this twin opportunity to be open to the *Eternal Word* who became human in the mystery of the Incarnation as we prepare to celebrate his birth at Christmas by reading, reflecting on, celebrating and sharing the Word of God.

A few initiatives (to be announced in due course) will take place here in the parish during this year-long programme. However, for now, I would like to invite those who are able to attend to a weekly *Word Café* in the Old Chapel after the 9.30am Mass. It is going to be a semi-informal forum for reading, reflecting on and sharing of the Sacred Word in a friendly atmosphere, with tea and coffee etc. If possible, come with a copy of the Holy Bible. All are warmly welcome. Bring along friends and neighbours!








Entrusting ourselves to the maternal intercession of the Immaculate Virgin, the patron of our parish, may this Advent be a period of renewal for all of us and our parish and community.

Wishing you all a grace-filled Advent and happy new Church year!

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NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 11: 1-10
2ND READING	Romans 15: 4-9
GOSPEL	Matthew 3: 1-12

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died Carmela Arbia, Antionette Staunton, Tony Chesney, Derrick Butt, Stafen Ciesla, Shelia Anderson, Bernard Furlong, Archbishop Michael Bowen, Father Tom Creagh-Fuller, Sally Sheridan Loughrey, Frances Powell, Eileen Pearce, Marie Turmpenny, Ivy Demello 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	COLLECTION FOR FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS There will be a second collection next weekend for flowers for the decoration of our Church at Christmas.	
	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, , Heather & George Trutwein, Yvonne Norman, Esme Mills, Sharon Kelly, Irene Keane, Frances Cox, Mary Ryan, Betty Harte, Michael Emmett, Frances Sullivan, Michael Pearson, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Angelica D'Agostino Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders,. Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, & Ron Malone.	NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT Please <u>NO</u> flowers to be brought to the Lady Chapel or anywhere throughout the Church until after Christmas day due the quasi penitential nature of Advent and then the Crib being erected. Thank you.	
WEEKLY COLLECTION		PARISH FEAST DAY: 8 DECEMBER To mark the feast of the Immaculate Conception, there will be a parish celebration in the Catholic Hall after the 11am Mass on 8 December . All are welcome to bring something. A list is available in the Narthex for Parishioners to indicate in advance what they would like to share.	
	LAST WEEKEND Cash: £796.57 Gift-aid: £654.61 Total: £1,451.18 2nd Collection Total: £545.16 2nd Collection – <u>Next weekend</u> - Christmas flowers <i>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</i>	FOODBANK DONATIONS There will be a collection for Kingston Foodbank at each Mass this weekend – 30 Nov & 1 Dec. Please leave your donations in the box provided at the back of the church. Thank you for your ongoing support. <u>URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS: INSTANT MASH, LONGLIFE MILK, TINNED SOUP, VEG, FISH & FRUIT, PASTA SAUCE AND COFFEE.</u>	
INFANT BAPTISM		ADVENT EVENTS:	
	Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. Next course: 5 and 12 January 2020 at 10am	1. TOY SUNDAY - Sunday 8 Dec at 11am Mass. You are invited to donate a wrapped new toy for a disadvantaged child. Please label the gift with age and if it is for a boy or girl. Thank you.	
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION		2. PARISH CAROL SERVICE – Thursday 12 Dec at 7pm. Followed by a Reception in the Main Hall.	
	1. Next Children's Session: Saturday, 7 December at 10.30-11.30am 2. Next Parents' Session: Monday, 2 December at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	3. ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE - Friday 13 Dec at 7pm. <i>The Sacrament of Reconciliation allows us to draw near to the Father with trust to have the certainty of his forgiveness" (Pope Francis)</i> . The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the important spiritual preparations that we can and should make during Advent in view of the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord and his Second Coming at the end of time. Visiting priests will be available to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. NB: Even if you are unable to go to Confession, please feel welcome to the service; you will also have an opportunity of having a conversation with and receiving a blessing from the priest.	
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020		4. OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE -- Wednesday 18 th 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. Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website http://www.olonline.co.uk . A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service.	
	Candidates Meeting: Tuesday 14 January at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES Volunteers are needed for all our Christmas Masses i.e. 6.30pm & 11.00pm Christmas Eve; 8.00am, 9.15am & 11.00am on Christmas Day: <i>welcomers, readers, altar servers, collectors, gift-bearers, and extraordinary ministers of holy Communion</i> . If you can help at any of these Masses, please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ room.	
MORNING PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH 9.00AM – MONDAY TO FRIDAY		UCM BABY CLOTHES APPEAL Thank you to everyone who donated baby clothes and equipment for the local Life Care Centre. These have been delivered. The young mums were delighted with them and appreciate your continued generosity.	
	Please join us every morning at 9.00am, from Monday to Friday, to pray the Morning Prayer of the Church, from the Divine Office, during the daily Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction before Mass.	EVENING BIBLE RETREAT AND HEALING SERVICE You are invited to join The Divine Retreat Centre from Ramsgate for an Evening Bible Retreat and Healing Service on Thursday 5 December, 7pm-10:30pm at Our Lady Immaculate.	
PRIMARY SCHOOL APPLICATION FORM SIGNING		SVP & YSVP CHRISTMAS PARTY The St Vincent de Paul and Youth St Vincent de Paul Society cordially invites all parishioners to their Christmas Party on the 7 th of December from 2pm to 4pm in the Catholic Hall. There will be live music provided by Baz and Dave, and a buffet dinner will be served. Tickets are not required, but donations will be accepted for their charitable works.	
Parents please bring your school forms together with your child to see Fr. Ignatius on Monday 2 December from 3pm – 5pm.		† MARIE TURNPENNY – RIP	
Please pray for the repose of the soul of Marie Turnpenny who died on 22 November. Her funeral will take place on 5 December, 1.30pm. Our heartfelt condolences to Andrew, Kate, Alex and family.		† IVY DEMELLO - RIP	
		Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ivy Demello who died on 22 November. Her funeral will take place on 13 December, 11.30am. Our heartfelt condolences to Mike, Sabrina and family.	