



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

8 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		
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>
WEEKDAY MASSES		
<b>EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:</b> Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
9 Mon <b>Solemnity</b>	9.30	<b><i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i></b>
	<b>20.00</b>	<i>Mary Celine Yeow – WB (R. Lee)</i> <i>Pro Populo</i>
10 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Carleta Fernandes – RIP ( <i>J. Fernandes</i> )
	19.00	Marie Fahey - WB
11 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Robert & Annies Eales – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
	19.00	
12 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Gerry Ryan – RIP ( <i>B. O'Connell &amp; Family</i> )
	9.30	Guilietta & Romano Jankowski – RIP ( <i>K. Jankowski</i> )
13 Fri <i>St. Lucy</i> <b>Funeral</b>	7.00	Joseph Edet - RIP
	9.30	
	<b>11.30</b>	<i>Ivy Demello - RIP</i>
14 Sat <i>St. John of the Cross</i>	9.00	
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT		
14 Sat Vigil	18.30	Violet & Laurence Seager and Gwen & Kenneth Batty – RIP ( <i>Bev &amp; Sandra Batty</i> )
15 Sun	9.00	Ottavio D'Agostino ( <i>F. D'Agostino</i> )
	11.00	Peter & Jessie Dzvimbo – WB
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>

OTHER SERVICES	
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.15pm
<b>St Anthony of Padua</b>	Tuesday: after AM & PM Masses
<b>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</b>	Wednesday: after PM Mass
<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>	1st Saturday of the month

**PREPARE A WAY FOR THE LORD**

How times flies! We are already in the second Sunday of Advent. Today, the Gospel (Matthew 3:1-12) introduces us to a very prominent figure, after Mary and Joseph, in the infancy narrative of Jesus – *John the Baptist*. Through announcing a message of repentance – “Repent, for the kingdom of God is close at hand” – John prepared the people of Israel for the coming of Christ. His own personal witness drew many, including the generally self-righteous Pharisees and Sadducees, from all over Judea, to be baptised by him at the river Jordan as a sign of repentance. He also challenged them to live a new life in view of the coming of the One who would baptise them with the Holy Spirit and fire – *Jesus*. His person and message, therefore, remind us of the quasi penitential character of Advent. Though not as severe as Lent, Advent is also a season of repentance, conversion, renewal and reconciliation. This resonates well with the identification of John the Baptist and his mission with the prophecy of Isaiah: “*A voice cries in the wilderness: ‘Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight.’*” This invitation is extended to all of us always, especially this Advent. How are we preparing for the Lord? What are the crooked paths in my life, family, community etc. that require straightening, so that the grace of God may abide, grow, blossom and radiate in and through me? Indeed, through baptism, each of us is *called and sent*, like John the Baptist, to go out and help others prepare a way for the Lord too. This is an underserved privilege and a sacred duty rooted in our identity as *missionary disciples of Christ*. As we strive, with the help of God, to respond to this call, I would like to recommend the following notes to you. ©IAE

**WHAT IS ADVENT, AND WHAT SHOULD WE LOOK OUT FOR?**

We are now in the season of advent. The word “Advent” is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming.” In the 6th century, Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ, but the “coming” they had in mind was not Christ’s first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ’s first coming at Christmas.

As you look around the church, and take part in the Church’s liturgies, you will have noticed some changes. We have an **advent wreath**. Also known as the Advent Crown, it symbolises the four weeks of advent. It is circular, representing God’s infinite love, and decorated with evergreen leaves which represent the hope of eternal life. Sundays 1, 2 and 4 have violet coloured candles, rose for the third Sunday, and white for Christmas Day, representing the joy of Christ’s birth, and of course white also being a festive liturgical colour. The vestments the priest wears are **violet or purple**, representing sorrow and penitence, and the patience we must have during this season of preparation for the birth of Our Lord. There should be no **flowers** within the sanctuary as we have embarked on a solemn season of preparation for Christmas, and for similar reasons, there should be no additional incidental **organ music**: like the sanctuary decorations, it is stripped back to only that which is needed to accompany the singing. People will ask, “*Why are we not singing Christmas Carols?*” “*They are playing them on the radio!*” Christ’s birth in the liturgy is celebrated on 25th December (24th for vigil Masses) so it would not make any sense whatsoever to be preparing for his coming on the one hand and celebrating his arrival (early) on the other hand!

Finally, you will see another change next week as the colour purple gives way to rose and we celebrate **Gaudete Sunday** (we also have the rose-coloured candle on the wreath). The word comes from the entrance antiphon for this Mass, which is ‘Rejoice!’ This Sunday gives us a little bit of a break about midway through the season which is otherwise of a penitential character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord’s coming (a limited number of flowers are permitted to be used, and the music will also reflect this effective “light relief” half way through our Advent preparations).©AR

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS	
<b>1ST READING</b>	Isaiah 35: 1-6, 10
<b>2ND READING</b>	James 5: 7-10
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 11: 2-11

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	<b>Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died</b> 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	<b>COLLECTION FOR FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS</b> There will be a second collection this weekend for flowers for the decoration of our Church at Christmas.	
	<b>Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those within our own parish community:</b> 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.	<b>NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT</b> 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.	
<b>WEEKLY COLLECTION</b>		<b>PARISH FEAST DAY: 8 DECEMBER</b> All parishioners are welcome to the parish celebration in the Catholic Hall after the 11am Mass on Sunday, <b>8 December</b> , to mark the feast of the Immaculate Conception – the patronal feast of our parish.	
	<b>LAST WEEKEND</b> Cash: £842.17 Gift-aid: £768.34 <b>Total: £1,610.51</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – <u>This Weekend</u></b> - Christmas flowers <b>TOTAL COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 2019</b> Cash: £3,349.28 Gift-aid: £2,849.85 Direct Debit: £850.00 (includes Gift-aid) <b>Total: £7,049.13</b> <i>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</i>	<b>SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION</b> Because the 8 <sup>th</sup> of December falls on a Sunday of Advent, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to the next day, <b>Monday, 9 December</b> . <i>It is a Solemnity &amp; our parish feast day.</i> <b>Two Masses to be celebrated in the parish: 9.30am and 8.00pm.</b> <b>ADVENT EVENTS:</b>	
<b>INFANT BAPTISM</b>		<b>1. TOY SUNDAY</b> - 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.	
	Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. <b>Next course:</b> 5 and 12 January 2020 at 10am	<b>2. PARISH CAROL SERVICE</b> – Thursday 12 Dec at 7pm. Followed by a Reception in the Main Hall.	
<b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION</b>		<b>3. ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE - Friday 13 Dec at 7pm.</b> <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. <b>NB:</b> 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.	
	<b>1. Next Children's Session:</b> Saturday, 14 December 1 <sup>st</sup> Reconciliation - 10.30-11.30am <b>2. Next Parents' Session:</b> Monday, 3 February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	<b>4. OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE</b> -- Wednesday 18 <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. Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website <a href="http://www.olonline.co.uk">http://www.olonline.co.uk</a> . A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service.	
<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020</b>		<b>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES</b> 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.	
	<b>Candidates Meeting:</b> Tuesday 14 January at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	<b>REPOSITORY NEWS</b> Christmas is nearly here, and we are stocked with 2020 calendars, Christmas cards and many gift products such as beautiful pins, ornaments and nativity set. Please come visit us. The repository is open the first Saturday of every month after the 6:30 pm mass and the first Sunday after the 11 am mass. It is open every Sunday after the 9 am mass, excluding school holidays.	
<b>MORNING PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH</b> <b>9.00AM – MONDAY TO FRIDAY</b>		<b>NEW VOTIVE LIGHT STANDS FOR SACRED HEART &amp; ST JOSEPH SHRINES:</b> More information in next week's newsletter.	
	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.	<b>4TH TOLWORTH AIR SCOUTS</b> The Beaver, Cub and Scout Sections have had another busy and fun-filled term. The girls and boys have learned new skills & gained many badges. There are spaces available in each Section to join us in January 2020. We meet at Our Lady Immaculate Parish Hall (behind the Church). Beavers (5 ¼ - 8 years) Wednesday 6-7pm. Cubs (8 - 10 ½ years) Wednesday 7-8:30pm. Scouts (10 ½ - 14 years) Thursday 7-9pm. Please contact Scout Leader, Pat Askey (07952 967930) for more info. Adult Helpers are also welcome.	
<b>† IVY DEMELLO - RIP</b>		<b>CHRISTMAS MASSES</b>	
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		Christmas Eve	6.30pm, Carols:10.30pm, 11.00pm
		Christmas Day	8.00am,9.15am & 11.00am
		Boxing Day	9.30am
		New Year's Eve	11.00pm