



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

**22 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**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

21 Sat Vigil	18.30	Alexius Yap - RIP
22 Sun <i>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</i>  <b>Baptism</b>	9.00	Chris McColter – RIP ( <i>Seamus &amp; Irene</i> )
	11.00	Betty Konneh – WB
	12.30	Ryan Nichols
	18.00	Pro Populo

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:** Monday – Friday at 8.30am

23 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Delores Williams – RIP ( <i>A &amp; T Callan</i> )
24 Tues	9.30	Lewis & Graham ( <i>L. Lewis</i> )
24 Tues <b>Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord.</b>	18.30	Katherine Dunseath
	23.00	Pro Populo
25 Wed <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b>	8.00	Pro Populo
	9.15	Freda Cantwell
	11.00	Freda McKeon
26 Thurs <i>St. Stephen</i>	9.30	Eileen & Terry Sullivan – 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
27 Fri <i>St. John</i>	7.00	
	9.30	Beverly Aitken – RIP ( <i>V. Hutchinson</i> )
28 Sat <i>The Holy Innocents</i>	9.00	Joseph Joseph – RIP ( <i>S. Matthew</i> )

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH**

28 Sat Vigil	18.30	Francie Marley – RIP ( <i>S &amp; I Houston</i> )
29 Sun <i>Holy Family</i>	9.00	Pro Populo
	11.00	Alexio Muzariri – WB
	18.00	Eddie Savage – RIP ( <i>J. Savage</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

**WHO IS JESUS? WHERE IS HE FROM?**

*Pope Benedict XVI*

Jesus' provenance is both known and unknown, seemingly easy to establish, and yet not exhaustively. In Caesarea Philippi, Jesus will ask his disciples: "Who do people say that I am? ... Who do you say that I am? (*Mk 8:27ff.*). Who is Jesus? Where is he from? The two questions are inseparably linked.

The four Gospels set out to answer these questions. They were written to supply an answer... For Matthew, two names are of key significance if we are to understand Jesus' provenance: Abraham and David... Both the genealogy and the history that it recounts are largely structured around the figure of David, the king to whom the promise of an eternal kingdom had been given: "Your throne shall be established for ever" (*2 Sam 7:16*). The genealogy that Matthew puts before us is steeped in this promise. It is constructed in three sets of fourteen generations, at first rising from Abraham to David, and then rising from Solomon to the Babylonian captivity, and then rising again to Jesus, in whom the promise comes to fulfilment. The king who is to last for ever now appears – looking quite different, though, from what the Davidic model might have led one to expect.

This threefold division becomes even clearer if we bear in mind that the Hebrew letters for the name "David" add up to fourteen: even in terms of number symbolism, then, the path from Abraham to Jesus bears a clear imprint of David, his name and his promise. On this basis one could say that the genealogy, with its three sets of fourteen generations, is truly a Gospel of Christ the King: the whole of history looks toward him whose throne is to endure for ever.

Matthew's genealogy traces the male line, but in the course of the it, prior to Mary who appears at the end, four women are mentioned by name: Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and [Bathsheba] the wife of Uriah ... none of these women were Jewish. So through them the world of the Gentiles enters the genealogy of Jesus – his mission to the Jews and Gentiles is made manifest.

Yet the most important of all is the fact that the genealogy ends with a woman: Mary, who truly marks a new beginning and relativizes the entire genealogy. Throughout the generations, we find the formula: "Abraham was the father of Isaac ..." But at the end, there is something quite different. In Jesus' case there is no reference to fatherhood, instead we read: "Jacob [was] the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ" (*Mt 1:16*). In the account of Jesus' birth that follows immediately afterward, Matthew tells us that Joseph was not Jesus' father and that he wanted to dismiss Mary on account of her supposed adultery. But this is what is said to him: "That which is conceived in Mary is of the Holy Spirit" (*Mt1:20*). So the final sentence turns the whole genealogy around. Mary is a new beginning. Her child does not originate from any man, but is a new creation conceived through the Holy Spirit.

The genealogy is still important: Joseph is the legal father of Jesus. Through him, Jesus belongs by law, "legally," to the house of David. And yet he comes from elsewhere, "from above" – from God himself. The mystery of his provenance, his dual origin, confronts us quite concretely: his origin can be named and yet it is a mystery. Only God is truly his "father." The human genealogy has a certain significance in terms of world history. And yet in the end it is Mary, the lowly virgin from Nazareth, in whom a new beginning takes place, in whom human existence starts afresh.

**Benedict XVI, *Jesus of Nazareth: The Infancy Narratives* (Bloomsbury, 2012), pp.4-8.**

<b>NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS</b>	
<b>1ST READING</b>	Ecclesiasticus 3: 3-7, 14-17
<b>2ND READING</b>	Colossians 3: 12-21
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	<b>Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died</b> Janaki Jebamalai 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>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b> There will be Exposition of the Blessed and Holy Hour from 10pm, before Holy Mass at 11pm on New Year's Eve to welcome the New Year 2020. The Mass will be followed by a reception in the Catholic Hall. We would need some volunteers to organise both the liturgy and the reception after the Mass.	
	<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 and Una Midford.	<b>PARISH MAGAZINE</b> The Parish Magazine, <i>The Grapevine</i> is back in circulation and was distributed last weekend – one free copy per family. Some copies are still available. Donation towards production cost is most welcome. The Parish Communication Committee is grateful to all contributors to the present issue, and to Marielen & Allan Cook for their work in editing it. Please, kindly send a feedback as requested in the inside back page.	
WEEKLY COLLECTION		<b>VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES</b> Thank you to all who have so far volunteered for different ministries in all our Christmas Masses. Except for readers, more volunteers, especially servers, are still needed for the 8.00am, 9.15am & 11.00am Masses on Christmas Day. If you can help at any of these Masses, please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ Room.	
	<b>LAST WEEKEND</b> <b>Cash:</b> £679.67 <b>Gift-aid:</b> £662.47 <b>Total: £1,342.14</b>  <i>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</i>	<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 on the first Saturday of every month after the 6:30 pm Mass and on the first Sunday after the 11 am Mass. It is open every Sunday after the 9 am Mass, excluding school holidays.	
INFANT BAPTISM		<b>CRIB OFFERING 2019</b> This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donated to the Crib will be given out via these grants.	
	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>THE NEW VOTIVE LIGHT STANDS</b> 1. Please <b>FOLLOW</b> the instructions posted beside the stands. 2. Kindly make use of the candles provided 3. Use the <b>lighters</b> provided to light the candles after placing them in the glass socket 4. <b>DO NOT</b> move the glassware for any reason. 5. <b>DO NOT</b> place any other candles or votive lights on them.	
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION		<b>FOODBANK DONATIONS</b> There will be a collection for Kingston Foodbank at each Mass next weekend – 28 & 29 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:</u> INSTANT MASH, LONGLIFE MILK, TINNED SOUP, VEG, FISH & FRUIT, PASTA SAUCE AND COFFEE.	
	1. <b>Next Children's Session:</b> Saturday, 11 January 2020 - 10.30-11.30am 2. <b>Next Parents' Session:</b> Monday, 3 February 2020 at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	<b>THE LENTEN PROJECT 2020</b> The AGM was held on Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2019. At this meeting the charities proposed for support from the Parish during Lent 2020 were chosen. A copy of the minutes is on the parish Website (Community/Lenten Project). There was a discussion regarding all projects nominated and information circulated. As always, it is difficult to choose between such worthwhile causes. A vote was taken and the four Charities with the most votes were: 1. Antonypuram (Sri Lanka). 2. Divya Chhaya Society Subir, Gujarat (India) 3. Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pilgrimage Centre (Nigeria) 4. Let the Children Live (Colombia) If you would like to organise or participate in an event during Lent 2020 please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk	
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020		<b>CHRISTMAS OFFERING</b> By custom in the diocese, the Christmas offering will be your personal gift to Father Ignatius and Father Joseph. Envelopes are available in the Narthex if you would like to use them. Together with the Easter offering, the Christmas offering constitutes the main income of priests who serve in parish ministries.	
	<b>Candidates Meeting:</b> Tuesday 14 January at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.		
MORNING PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH 9.00AM – MONDAY TO FRIDAY			
	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.		
CHRISTMAS MASSES			
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		
New Year's Day	9.30am		
CHRISTMAS WISHES!			
On behalf of Fr Joseph and Deacon Al, I want to wish you all and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and journey mercies to all who are travelling during Christmas! <b>Fr Ignatius</b>			