



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

29 December 2019

## THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH (Year A)

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		
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH		
28 Sat Vigil	18.30	Francie Marley – RIP ( <i>S &amp; I Houston</i> )
29 Sun	9.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11.00	Alexio Muzariri – WB
	18.00	Eddie Savage – RIP ( <i>J. Savage</i> )
WEEKDAY MASSES		
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
30 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Geoffrey Cains – RIP ( <i>J. Sarabia</i> )
31 Tues	9.30	Thanksgiving ( <i>Tissera</i> )
31 Tues	23.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
01 Wed <b>New Year Day</b>	9.30	Tony Fazal – RIP ( <i>P. Fazal</i> )  <b>Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God.</b>
02 Thurs	7.00	
	9.30	Rebecca Cleary – WB ( <i>M. Fahey</i> )
03 Fri	7.00	
	9.30	Tony Armstrong – RIP ( <i>J Dunseath</i> )
04 Sat	9.00	Frances Powell – RIP
EPIPHANY OF THE LORD		
04 Sat Vigil	18.30	Angela & Nicholas Hoey – RIP ( <i>Hoey Family</i> )
05 Sun	9.00	John Tumilty – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
	11.00	Mark Muzariri – 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

### PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE HOLY FAMILY

My dear brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ,

This is my first Pastoral Letter to you since becoming your new Archbishop last July. I want to begin by offering you, your families, and your loved ones, my very best wishes for this Holy Season of Christmas. In what are changing and sometimes challenging times, we, nonetheless, renew our faith that a Saviour has been born for us who is Christ the Lord. May He bless you this Christmas and give you His peace.

On this Feast of the Holy Family we naturally reflect on what it must have been like for Our Blessed Lady and St Joseph to nurture the infant Lord Jesus. Like so many in our world today, they were a poor refugee family forced to flee their homeland out of fear for their lives. St Matthew records how Joseph took Mary and the Christ child to Egypt until it was safe for them to return to Nazareth. The early years of the Holy Family were far from the idealised pictures on our Christmas cards. This father and mother knew the tears and sorrows experienced by so many families, including those in our communities. But despite all their hardships, they rejoiced at their child's birth, as we too should rejoice at the gift of each new life.

Whether in church or at home, it remains a beautiful tradition for our families, and each one of us, to pray before the Christmas crib. In doing this we return spiritually to Bethlehem. But what do we find there? In the words of the French poet Paul Claudel, we find *'three poor people who love one another and will change the face of the earth.'*

To change the face of the earth by loving one another. This is the vocation of every disciple and especially of the family. Whether rich or poor, our families, first and foremost, are places of love, modelled on the Holy Family. So often I have heard people describe their own upbringing by saying: *'We didn't have a lot of money, but there was always lots of love.'* The love of the Christian family is rooted in faith in God's word and trust in Christ's promises. This love looks outwards to the good of others, seeking their holiness and their wellbeing. This love overpowers selfishness with generosity and patience. In the midst of all the ups and downs of family living – and we should never underestimate these – this remains a love that is best replenished by being given away.

St John Paul II once wrote that *'the future of humanity passes by way of the family.'* The love at the heart of family life, the love in the heart of each family member, can change the face of the earth. It can create a better kind of future, even if just for those around us. Pope Francis reminds us that *'all family life is a 'shepherding' in mercy.'* He adds that, like the Church, *'the family has always been the nearest hospital,'* a source of healing and care for broken hearts and lives. As the basic foundation of society, and of our common future, the family offers the best security for all of us, individually and together.

Sadly, we know that some families suffer breakdown, separation, and divorce. We know too that not everyone has the best experience of family life, nor will everyone have a family themselves. In whatever struggles we face, there is a space for everyone in the family of the Church. We belong to Christ and, through Him, to each other, united by a love that cannot be broken. Christ reveals the Father's love. It has no limits and includes every person. In Him there are no orphans.

As we look forward to a New Year, please join me in praying for a renewed appreciation of the beauty and dignity of marriage and family life in our society. We ask that the love of Christ might change the face of our own hearts so that we might change the face of the earth.

May the Lord Jesus walk with you each moment of this coming year. May Our Lady and St Joseph pray for you, especially for your families and those in any kind of need. And please pray for me as I do every day for everyone in our Archdiocese. Pray that, together, we might be evermore lovingly the presence of Christ to each other and to our world.

With every blessing  
Yours devotedly in Christ,  
+ John Wilson, Metropolitan Archbishop of Southwark.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS	
<b>1ST READING</b>	Isaiah 60: 1-6
<b>2ND READING</b>	Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 2: 1-12

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 Cialola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Angelica D'Agostino Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Ron Malone and Una Midford.	<b>REPOSITORY NEWS</b> 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.	
WEEKLY COLLECTION		<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.	
	<b>LAST WEEKEND</b> <b>Cash:</b> £745.05 <b>Gift-aid:</b> £689.66 <b>Total: £1,434.71</b>  <i>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</i>	<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.	
INFANT BAPTISM		<b>FOODBANK DONATIONS</b> There will be a collection for Kingston Foodbank at each Mass this 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.	
	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 LENTEN PROJECT 2020</b> The Lenten Project 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. <i>Antonyapuram (Sri Lanka)</i> The aim is to improve the nutritional standards of the 55 children who attend Evening Classes conducted by the Parish priest of Oorani. 2. <i>Divya Chhaya Society Subir, Gujarat (India)</i> The Carmelite Sisters of Charity are actively involved in education and health care. The need is for an ICU bed for critical cases and medicines for poor patients because people can hardly afford to pay for the services. 3. <i>Our Lady of Perpetual Help Pilgrimage Centre (Nigeria)</i> The Shrine was donated in 1999 to the Church and has served as a place of pilgrimage to Catholics across three nearby Dioceses. The Sanctuary provides counselling and spiritual accompaniments to the Catholics and non-Catholics in the area, especially sick people. The need is to provide basic hygiene facilities. 4. <i>Let the Children Live (Colombia)</i> Let the Children Live! is a charity that works in Colombia with children from the streets and shantytowns of the city of Medellin. Let the Children Live! is at present working with 320 very vulnerable boys and girls in this city. For most of them it is their last hope. If you would like to organise or participate in an event during Lent 2020 please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email <a href="mailto:Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk">Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk</a> .	
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION			
	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.		
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020			
	<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.		
THANK YOU!		NEW YEAR MASSES	
Many thanks for your good wishes and generous Christmas gifts! With pledge of prayers and best wishes for the approaching New Year 2020.  <b>Fathers Ignatius and Joseph.</b>		New Year's Eve	10.00pm Exposition & Benediction 11.00pm Mass
		New Year's Day	9.30am