



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

15 March 2020

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		
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT		
14 Sat Vigil	18.30	Mick Finnigan – WB (<i>Seamus & Irene</i>)
15 Sun	9.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11.00	Theo Fernandes – RIP (<i>Lourdes & Family</i>)
	18.00	Mary Langton & Mary Campbell – RIP (<i>M. Campbell</i>)
WEEKDAY MASSES		
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
16 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Augustine – 15 th Bday (<i>Mary</i>)
17 Tues St. Patrick	9.30	Vito Antonio Pozella
	19.00	Joseph Antonisamy – RIP (<i>Mary</i>)
18 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Joseph Edet – RIP
	19.00	Rhoda D’Cruz – RIP (FM)
19 Thurs <i>St. Joseph</i>	7.00	Ray Wong – RIP
	9.30	Deena George – RIP (<i>George Family</i>)
20 Fri <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Patricia & Anthony Moore – RIP (FM)
	9.30	Private Intentions (<i>IE</i>)
	12.30	Funeral: Michael Callan RIP
21 Sat <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Alexius Yap – RIP (<i>C. Yap</i>)
FORTH SUNDAY OF LENT		
21 Sat Vigil	18.30	Terry Kelly – RIP (<i>Townsend Family</i>)
22 Sun Laetare Sunday + Mothers Day	9.00	Margaret Grogan – RIP (<i>P. Grogan</i>)
	11.00	Denis Deasy – RIP (<i>Cummins Family</i>)
	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	








JESUS AND THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

The mutual hostility between the Jews and the Samaritans had begun centuries earlier when the Assyrians carried the northern tribes of Israel into captivity. The Jewish slaves betrayed their heritage by intermarrying with the Assyrians, thus diluting their bloodline and creating a “mongrel race” called the Samaritans. The Assyrian men who were relocated to Israel married Jewish women, thus producing a mixed race in Israel as well. Hence, southern Jews considered all Samaritan bloodlines and their heritage impure. By the time the Samaritan Jews returned to their homeland, their views of God had been greatly contaminated. By contrast, when the southern Hebrew tribes were carried off into captivity, they stubbornly resisted the Babylonian culture. They returned from Babylon to Jerusalem, proud that they had compromised neither their religious convictions nor their culture. So, when the Samaritans offered to help to rebuild the Jerusalem Temple, the southern Jews who had returned from exile vehemently rejected Samaritan assistance. Consequently, the rejected and ostracized Samaritans built their own temple on Mount Gerizim...

So, the water-seeking Samaritan woman who faced Jesus that day belonged to a heritage rejected by the Jews. In addition, she expected scorn simply because she was a woman, for in the ancient Middle East, men systematically degraded women. Finally, this Samaritan woman seemed unwanted by her own people. Since she had had five “husbands,” and was living with a sixth “lover,” she seems to have been considered by fellow villagers a social leper, and she seems to have been driven from the common well of the town by the decent women. Perhaps she had not stopped wishing that somewhere, sometime, some way, God would touch His people — that He would touch her! Jesus’ meeting the Samaritan woman at Jacob’s well illustrates the principal role of Jesus as the Messiah: to reconcile all men and women to the Father. Hence, Jesus deliberately placed himself face-to-face with this person whom, apparently, no one else wanted. Jesus saw, in this social outcast and moral wreck, a person who mattered to God. The Samaritan woman must have unburdened her soul to this stranger because she had found one Jew with kindness in his eyes instead of an air of critical superiority. She was thirsting for love that would last, love that would fill her full and give purpose to her life. Just as Jesus confronted the woman at the well with the reality of her own sinfulness and brokenness, so we must, with God’s grace, confront our own sinfulness and, in doing so, realize our need for God.

Jesus not only talked with the woman, but, in a carefully orchestrated, seven-part dialogue, he guided her progressively from ignorance to enlightenment, and from misunderstanding to clearer understanding, thus making her the most carefully and intensely catechized person in this entire Gospel. Jesus always has a way of coming into our personal lives. When Jesus became personal with this woman and started asking embarrassing questions about her five husbands, she cleverly tried to change the subject and talk about religion. She didn’t want Jesus to get personal. But Jesus wanted to free her, forgive her, shape her life in a new direction, and change her. He wanted to offer this woman *Living Water*... At the end of their long, heart-to-heart conversation, Jesus revealed himself to the woman as the Messiah, which in turn led her to Faith in him. This growth in understanding on the part of the woman moved through several stages: first, she called him a Jew, then Sir or Lord, then Prophet, and finally Messiah. When the Samaritans came to hear Jesus because of her testimony, their affirmation of Faith reached its climax as they declared that Jesus was the Saviour of the world, and that they believed in him not just because of what she had said “for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.” © Fr. Antony Kadavil.

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS	
1ST READING	First Samuel 16: 1, 6-7, 10-13
2ND READING	Ephesians 5: 8-14
GOSPEL	John 9: 1-41

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died: Archbishop Peter Smith, Rosemary Butcher, Sabina Myszkowska, Annalise Luffingham, Armanda Marsella, Michael Callan 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	LENTEN TALKS: The second of three Parish Lenten Talks will hold on Wednesday, 18 March at 7.30pm, after evening Mass. All are warmly welcome. Theme: <i>Your Words are Spirit & Life</i> (see Jn 6:63).	
	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 Pearson, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Ron Malone, Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Aideen Phillips, Rosa Dziva and Ann-Marie Deasy.	HOLY WEEK SERVICES Maundy Thursday 5.00pm & 8.00pm Service for Children: 11.00am Good Friday 3.00pm Holy Saturday 8.00pm	
WEEKLY COLLECTION		HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Volunteers are needed for all our Holy Week Services (Maundy Thursday @ 5pm & 8pm; Good Friday @ 3pm & Holy Saturday @ 8pm). We need Altar Servers, Gift Bearers, Collectors, 'Welcomers' / Ushers & Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you can help at any of these Masses, please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ room.	
	LAST WEEKEND Cash: £711.03 Gift-aid: £740.83 Total: £1,451.86 Second Collection: CAFOD £637.23 Thank you for your generosity to your parish.	LENTEN PROJECT: FORTHCOMING EVENTS 1. TABLE-TOP Sale: After 9.00 and 11.00 Masses on Sunday 15 March. Items for sale: new, top quality china, glass and kitchen items. Plants; toys, games; books and much, much more! Refreshments will be provided. 2. Sponsored Walk: Led by Fr Ignatius, on Saturday 21 March, 7.00am the Tolworth Trekkers are embarking on a challenging 38 km (24 mile) walk. Setting off from OLI Church, we plan to walk along the river to Richmond and then walk a circuit of Richmond Park, before retracing our steps. We are very keen to encourage as many Parishioners (including children) as possible to join us for all or part of the walk. Please contact Elspeth (elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com) Please sponsor us using the Justgiving site - https://www.justgiving.com/OLITLentenProject 4. Family Quiz: 4 April at 7.45pm in the Catholic Hall. The Quiz will start at 8.00pm. £5 per person Under 16 £1. Bring your own snacks and drinks. Come and enjoy a friendly fun evening, whilst raising funds towards our Lenten projects. To book a table call George Hoskins 07949 334349 5. Jumble Sale: 9 May: More details to follow	
INFANT BAPTISM		LENTEN PROJECT: TOTALS TO DATE 1. Sri Lankan Evening: £1,455.00 2. Krispy Kreme Donut Sale: £173.00 3. UCM / KSC Cake and Book Sale: £642.00	
	Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. Next course: 3 and 10 May 2020 at 10am	POSTING OF ITEMS ON THE NOTICE BOARDS: Only AUTHORISED posters or publications should be placed on the notice boards. All unauthorised items will be removed.	
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION		UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS: Annual General Meeting, Tuesday 17 March, 7.30pm in the Old Chapel and electing our Committee for the coming year. Annual subs (£16) will also be collected.	
	1. Next Children's Session: Saturday, 28 March 2020 - 10.30-11.30am 2. Rehearsal: Saturday, 9 May 2020 at 10.30am in the Church.	ANNUAL PARISH MEAL: On behalf of the Pastoral Team, I would like to invite you to this year's meal on Friday 1 May at 7.00pm in Sorrento's restaurant. A three-course meal including service will be £18.65 per head (drinks extra). To secure your place, please place cash or a cheque (payable to OLI) in an envelope (addressed to Andrew Richardson) through the presbytery door with your contact details and a list of the people who are covered by your payment. Please also include the names of any others you wish to share a table with so you can be grouped together. Closing date for payments (so the restaurant can be secured and not opened to the general public), is Wed, 15 April (the restaurant will not be taking bookings directly).	
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020		THE PASSAGE DAY CENTRE is the opportunity for homeless people to wash and change their clothing. <i>The most urgent, and ongoing demand is specifically for Men's' Boxer Shorts - new size M.</i> A box will be available to collect donations at every Mass next weekend, March.	
	Candidates Meeting: Tuesday 17 March at 7.30pm in the Catholic Hall.	SPRING INTO SPRING: St. Raphael's dinner dance on Saturday 18 April, 6.30 – 10.30pm. Tickets are £30 per person. Invite your friends and make up a table of 8. Proceeds will go to the 'The Manna tel. 0208 541 4999. Or surbiton@rcaos.org.uk Please let us know when booking if you have any special dietary requirements.	
MORNING PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH 9.00AM – MONDAY TO FRIDAY		URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL: Year 10 & 11 Digital T Information Evening on Tuesday 24 March 6.30-7.30pm at Ursuline High School.	
	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.	† MICHAEL CALLAN – RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Callan who died on 27 February. His funeral will take place on 20 March, 12.30pm. Our heartfelt condolences to Michael, Deborah & family.	
STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT			
1. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday after 9.30am Mass 2. Friday at 6pm (led by Syro-Malabar Community)			
† ARCHBISHOP PETER SMITH – RIP			
Following the sad news of the death of Archbishop Peter Smith RIP, arrangements for his Funeral at St George's Cathedral, Southwark are as follows: Sunday 29th March: 6pm: Reception into St George's Cathedral followed by Cathedral Mass: Archbishop John Wilson to preside. 8pm: Vigil Service. Monday 30th March: 12.30 pm: Funeral Mass: Archbishop John Wilson to preside. Burial in the Cathedral Crypt at the end of the Mass			