



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

29 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		
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT		
<i>FOLLOWING DIOCESAN GUIDELINES AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FR. IGNATIUS WILL BE SAYING A DAILY MASS WITHOUT A CONGREGATION FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS:</i>		
28 Sat Vigil	18.30	Regina Sellanmah – RIP <i>(M. Kajaruben)</i>
29 Sun	9.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
	11.00	Regina Sellanmah – RIP <i>(M. Kajaruben)</i>
	18.00	Paul Joseph – RIP <i>(Joseph Family)</i>
WEEKDAY MASSES		
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
30 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Brendan Gaughan – RIP <i>(Mills Family)</i>
31 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30	William & Irene Powell – RIP <i>(E. Powell)</i>
	19.00	
01 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Suzanna Chin – RIP <i>(T. Bredl)</i>
	19.00	
02 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	
	9.30	Loorthamma – RIP <i>(Peterarulthas Family)</i>
03 Fri <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Juanita & Servando Rey-Lara RIP <i>(A. Carrion)</i>
	9.30	
04 Sat <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Frances Powell – RIP <i>(E. Powell)</i>
PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD		
04 Sat Vigil	18.30	Armanda Marsella – RIP <i>(Elaine & Family)</i>
05 Sun	9.00	
	11.00	Tony Faherty – RIP <i>(J & J Kelly)</i>
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>

OTHER SERVICES - CANCELLED	
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

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND LIFE!

My beloved brothers, sisters and friends: We are in the last Sunday before the beginning of Holy Week during which we will celebrate the *Sacred Triduum* of the pascal mystery (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday), leading to the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The scripture readings today speak about new life – the resurrection, thereby, orienting our minds towards Easter Sunday. They anticipate, as it were, the resurrection of Christ from the death and the new life he gives to all who believe in him, especially those who, in response to the Gospel, would, this Easter (or afterwards!), share in the fullness of divine life through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

In the first reading, Israel's experience in exile in Babylon is understood as a sort of death and decay, from which the Lord would awaken them by breathing his spirit upon them and giving them new life (see Ezekiel 37:1-14). The raising of Lazarus from the death in the Gospel (John 11:1-45) reveals who Jesus really is – *true God and true man*. According to Fr Henry Wansbrough, OSB, "as well as showing the divine power of Jesus – for only God can give life," it also shows "the real, human love of Jesus for his friends. He is upset by Lazarus' death and weeps for him, sharing the human sorrow of his family as he shares our sorrows too." This is the meaning of the mystery of the Incarnation – that God in Christ identifies completely with our human condition in all aspects: its joys and sorrows, happiness and pains, strengths and weaknesses, etc. – except sin (Hebrew 14:5).



Nothing can be as comforting in this period of a complex and complicated global crisis occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic. Per latest statistics from *Worldometer*: 14,543 of the 614,051 cases, and 759 of 28,234 deaths so far are recorded here in the UK, with escalating number of cases and deaths in Italy, Spain and lately the US. Almost all aspects of our daily life have changed. A friend recently described the current social distancing, self-isolation – and particularly the closing of Churches – as *an exile*. One disturbing aspect of this experience is the sense of being physically cut off from some of the people, places or events that give so much meaning, comfort and a sense of belonging to our life and community. With regard to our Catholic faith – the Church, Mass, and sundry devotions etc.


Like the exiled Israelites in Babylon – imaged as dead bones in the valley of the death – or Lazarus in the tomb for three days, we should be confident that we will not only be raised to life again, but will come out of this deadly experience with new life, renewed vigour and a deeper appreciation of our shared humanity. This is a very important message from the self-less sacrifices of so many in our country and globally – workers in the healthcare and other services, and volunteers, etc. – who are working to fight back this pandemic and support all who are affected or afflicted in any way.


You are always in my thoughts and prayers – particularly at the daily celebration of the Holy Mass in our Church. Please stay safe and well! I love and miss you all!!


Ignatius, PP

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS	
1ST READING	Isaiah 50: 4-7
2ND READING	Philippians 2: 6-11
GOSPEL	Matthew 26: 14-27: 66


PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died: Archbishop Peter Smith, Rosemary Butcher, Sabina Myszkowska, Annalise Luffingham, Armanda Marsella, Michael Callan, Rosa Dziva, Kevin Thomas Kelly, 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
	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 & Anni 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 and Ann-Marie Deasy.

CONTINUING WEEKLY COLLECTIONS	
	<i>In this time of uncertainty and as we will no longer have a weekly collection, please seriously consider making your regular contribution to the Church via; standing order (form available on olionline.co.uk), cash donation (envelope through Presbytery door) or by online banking: RCAS Our Lady Immaculate Church, Account Number: 06467032; Sort Code: 60-21-05. Thank you.</i> Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

INFANT BAPTISM	
	Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. Next course: TBA

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Next Children's Session: Next date to be confirmed. Rehearsal: Next date to be confirmed.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020	
	Candidates Meeting: Next date to be confirmed.

MORNING PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH 9.00AM – MONDAY TO FRIDAY	
	Suspended till further notice!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT	
To be done privately by individuals!	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS
<p>PARTICIPATION AT MASS THIS PERIOD</p> <p>Although you may not be able to attend Sunday (or weekday) Mass at the moment in person, I would really encourage you to follow a livestreaming of the Mass and, among others, pray with the priest for the victims of this virus, and for a speedy end to it. Visit https://olionline.co.uk/our-parish/home-resources/</p> <p>COVID-19 PRAYER INTENTION OF THE WEEK</p> <p>As we pray for our various intentions this week, I would like to invite us this week, to pray together as a parish for the Holy Spirit to give wisdom to those in central and local government so that they make good plans.</p> <p>HOLY WEEK SERVICES: TBA</p> <p>CALLING ALL TAXPAYERS</p> <p>By joining the parish's Gift Aid scheme, you can increase by a quarter the amount the church receives from what you give in the weekend collections. It does not cost you anything. Please contact Allan Cook, our Gift-Aid Coordinator who will be happy to answer your questions and help you to join. Phone: 02083994368; email: gactolworth@rcaos.org.uk If you are already a member of the scheme and have not already collected your new pack for the coming tax year, please kindly collect it from the parish office if possible or let us know if you would want us to deliver it to you.</p> <p>LENTEN PROJECT: RECENT EVENTS</p> <p>1. Sponsored Walk: Was led by Fr Ignatius, on Saturday 21 March, 7.00am the Tolworth Trekkers embarked on a challenging 38 km (24 mile) walk. Setting off from OLI Church, we walked along the river to Richmond and then walked a circuit of Richmond Park, before retracing our steps. We want to thank Parishioners (including children) who were able join us for all or part of the walk. Due to the recent partial lockdown because of the Covid-19 pandemic, we had to walk in family groups and in pairs / solo. Please sponsor by leaving donations at the presbytery. Or using the Justgiving site - https://www.justgiving.com/OLITLentenProject</p> <p>LENTEN PROJECT: FORTHCOMING EVENTS</p> <p>1. Family Quiz: Postponed until further notice</p> <p>2. Jumble Sale: 9 May – More details to follow</p> <p>LENTEN PROJECT: TOTALS TO DATE</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sri Lankan Evening: £1,455.00 Krispy Kreme Donut Sale: £173.00 UCM / KSC Cake and Book Sale: £642.00 Table-Top Sale: £1,577.00 <p>FOODBANK DONATIONS</p> <p>At this time of crisis, please consider donating. All donations should be left in the box provided at the back of the church. Thank you for your ongoing support. <u>URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS:</u> CEREAL INSTANT MASH, JUICE, TINNED MEAT, FISH & SPAGHETTI, BISCUITS, NOODLES, RICE, PASTA, TEA AND COFFEE.</p> <p>ANNUAL PARISH MEAL: Postponed</p>