



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

03 MAY 2020

Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday (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 **(BY PHONE)**

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 EASTER (VOCATIONS SUNDAY)

FOLLOWING DIOCESAN GUIDELINES AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FR. IGNATIUS WILL BE SAYING SUNDAY / DAILY MASSES WITHOUT A CONGREGATION FOR THE FOLLOWING INTENTIONS.

KINDLY PARTICIPATE VIA ONLINE LIVESTREAMING AT <https://www.olionline.co.uk>

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| 2 Sat Vigil | 18.30 | Vincent, Manuel (<i>Anne</i>) |
| 3 Sun 4th Sunday of Easter | 10.00 | Keith Lewis (<i>L. Lewis</i>) |
| | 18.00 | Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood & Religious Life <i>Cancelled</i> |
| WEEKDAY MASSES | | |
| EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am | | |
| 4 Mon <i>English Martyrs</i> | 9.30 | Anton Sebastian – RIP (<i>Family</i>) |
| 5 Tues <i>Feria</i> | 9.30 | Alexius Yap – RIP (<i>C. Yap</i>) |
| | 19.00 | <i>Cancelled</i> |
| 6 Wed <i>Feria</i> | 9.30 | Anton Sebastian – RIP (<i>Family</i>) |
| | 19.00 | <i>Cancelled</i> |
| 7 Thurs <i>Feria</i> | 7.00 | <i>Cancelled</i> |
| | 9.30 | Tim Wood – RIP (<i>FM</i>) |
| 8 Fri <i>Feria</i> | 9.30 | Anton Sebastian – RIP (<i>Family</i>) |
| 9 Sat <i>Feria</i> | 9.00 | Margaret & Peter Crawford – RIP (<i>FM</i>) |
| FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | | |
| 9 Sat Vigil | 18.30 | William Ime Ubong – RIP (<i>Anniv</i>) |
| 10 Sun 5th Sunday of Easter | 10.00 | Dec'd of Francesco Perillo & Family (<i>F. D'Agostino</i>) |
| | 18.00 | <i>Cancelled</i> |

OTHER SERVICES - CANCELLED

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 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 |

COVID-19 PRAYER INTENTION OF THE WEEK

That individuals and families experiencing difficulties of any kind – materially, financially, socially, psychologically / emotionally, etc. – at this time, may receive the care and support they need to bounce back and remain hopeful.

“I AM THE GOOD SHEPHERD...”

My dear sisters and brothers, the fourth Sunday of Easter is normally called *Good Shepherd Sunday*. The name is derived from the central theme of John, chapter 10, from where the Gospel reading is usually taken: vv. 1-10 (Year A), 11-11 (Year B) and 27-30 (Year C).

As we rejoice today in Jesus, the Good Shepherd who guides us along the right paths towards God's house where we shall dwell with him forever in the communion of the Father and the Holy Spirit, we pray for a renewal of his *shepherd spirit* among us, especially in the Church. Fittingly, today is celebrated as *Vocations Sunday*. *The Church* invites all of us to reflect on God's call to us in general and to pray particularly for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate and the consecrated (religious) life.

In the first reading (Acts 2:14, 36-41), Peter announces the kerygma, the Good News of salvation in Jesus who was crucified but now made “*both Lord and Christ*” by God. The crowd that had gathered in Jerusalem for the feast of Pentecost did not only hear this message. They were deeply touched and moved to respond to it through repentance and baptism. Exhorting the early converts further in the second reading (1 Pt 2:20-25), the same apostle urges them to persevere in their new life in Christ by enduring all forms of persecution on account of their faith. Re-echoing Isaiah 53:6, he reminds them of their conversion metaphorically: “*You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.*” In contrast to the shepherds of Israel who tended to be selfish, self-centred and self-absorbed (see Ezekiel 34:1-16) – *thieves and brigands* who came “*only to steal and destroy*” – Jesus proclaims himself *the shepherd of the flock* who has come “*that they may have life ...to the full.*” Thus, the *prophecy of David* in the responsorial psalm (Ps 22 [23]) concerning God's shepherd-like care over the people of Israel is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus. Besides, Jesus is also the gateway into the sheepfold. Above all, by his sacrificial love for the flock (which culminates at his laying down his life for their sake), Jesus reveals himself as both *shepherd and lamb*. He is a shepherd who identifies completely with the flock. He knows them personally. He shares in their ups and downs, joys and sorrows, happiness and pains etc. He is, to borrow the words of Pope Francis, a shepherd who *has the smell of the sheep*.







The responsiveness and freedom of the sheep in relation to the shepherd is noteworthy. They recognise the voice of the shepherd. And they follow him. Without this freedom and responsiveness, the shepherd's initiative, creativity and enthusiasm would be fruitless. To be sure, as a good shepherd, Jesus will not break into our life as a thief or brigand would. Neither will God force his will upon any of us. He always respects our freedom. However, he never gives up on anyone of us either. He is always standing there, knocking gently at the door of our hearts, life, family and community, and waiting patiently for us to unlock the door and let him in (Rev 3:20).

As we mark *Vocations Sunday* today, let us pray for the grace of such responsiveness on the part of those who may feel called to serve God and his holy people through the priesthood, the diaconate and consecrated life. We thank God for the 12 seminarians currently in formation for the priesthood in our diocese. And let us be open to feel also called to support their formation through our generous donations. It costs £30,000.00 yearly to train one seminarian for six years.

IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

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|--------------------|----------------|
| 1ST READING | Acts 6: 1-7 |
| 2ND READING | 1 Peter 2: 4-9 |
| GOSPEL | John 14: 1-12 |

| PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE | | PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS | |
|---|--|---|--|
|  | Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died: Father Gerry Flood, Anton Sebastian, Aideen Phillips, Alfredo Cardemil, Eamon Collender, Aurelio Reyes, Patricia Birse, Michael Pierson, Roy Gear, Rosaria Civitillo, Margo Martin, Patricia Simms, Rev Peter Holmes, Roy Watkins and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen | PARTICIPATION AT MASS THIS PERIOD I would really encourage you during this lockdown, to follow a livestreaming of the Mass in the parish and, among others, pray with me and all our parishioners for all who are affected by the spread of this virus, and for a speedy end to it. Visit https://olionline.co.uk/our-parish/home-resources/ | |
|  | 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, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Ron Malone, Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, and Ann-Marie Deasy. | FOODBANK DONATIONS In response to increased need during this difficult time, the OLI Covid-19 Volunteer Group is organising daily collection of food items for Kingston Foodbank. Please leave your donations in the boxes provided in the following locations: The Old Chapel (9am – 6pm) & 313 Ewell Road . Thank you for your support URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS: cereal instant mash, juice, tinned meat, fish & spaghetti, biscuits, noodles, rice, pasta, tea and coffee. OLI COVID-19 VOLUNTEER GROUP: Please if you need help in this difficult time contact: 07384276821 | |
| CONTINUING WEEKLY COLLECTIONS | | THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS Thank you to all who donated items last week. There was a good collection at the above-mentioned two locations. Cecilia & Paul delivered from 313 on Wednesday and a second delivery from the Presbytery was done on Friday. | |
|  | <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 at 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. | IF YOU GIVE TO THE CHURCH BY GIFT AID If you give to the Church by weekly envelopes, we encourage you to switch to monthly standing orders from your bank. A bank mandate form can be downloaded from the Gift Aid section of the Parish website or obtained from Allan Cook tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk or telephone 020 8399 4368. For 2nd collections and to give to the clergy at Easter and Christmas, you can make individual online payments to the same account quoting your Gift Aid number and the cause to which you are giving. Parishioners who do not belong to the Gift Aid scheme can give to the Church by online transfer from their bank (details on the left column); please, kindly add the reference NGA (Non-Gift Aid). | |
| INFANT BAPTISM | | LENTEN PROJECT: RECENT EVENTS | |
|  | Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course. Next course: TBA | 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. Please sponsor by leaving donations at the presbytery. Or using the Justgiving site https://www.justgiving.com/OLITLentenProject | |
| FIRST HOLY COMMUNION | | LENTEN PROJECT: FORTHCOMING EVENTS | |
|  | 1. Next Children's Session: Next date TBA. 2. Rehearsal: Next date TBA. | 1. Family Quiz: Postponed until further notice 2. Jumble Sale: 9 May – Postponed until further notice | |
| SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020 | | LENTEN PROJECT: TOTALS TO DATE | |
|  | Candidates Meeting: Next date TBA | 1. Sri Lankan Evening: £1,455.00 2. Krispy Kreme Donut Sale: £173.00 3. UCM / KSC Cake and Book Sale: £642.00 4. Table-Top Sale: £1,577.00 | |
| HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY – JOSIE PHILIPS 🎂🍷 | | ANNUAL PARISH MEAL: Postponed | |
| We would like to wish <i>Josie Philips</i> a very happy birthday and many more happy years of good health, happiness and joy as she turns 100 on Monday, 4 May . Josie has been a parishioner for many years, but is with her daughter in Emsworth, Hampshire at the moment. | | PRAYER FOR PARISH PRIEST (Home Learning RE Project) Dear God, please look after Father Ignatius and his family during the coronavirus pandemic, so that he stays happy and healthy. Please keep him strong so he can look after the Church. When he's sad and feeling lonely, make him know that we always remember him and pray for him. (<i>Szymon Kulton, OLI Primary Yr 3</i>) | |
| † MARGO MARTIN – RIP | | † ROSARIA CIVITILLO – RIP | |
| Please pray for the repose of the soul of Margo Martin, a former parishioner who died on 16 April in her home in Carlingford (IR), where she had retired with her husband Roger. Funeral: 18 April. Our condolences to Roger and family. May she rest in peace. Amen | | Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rosaria Civitillo who died during the week at Bourne House Nursing Home. Funeral: May 6 at Surbiton Cemetery. Our condolences to the family. May she rest in peace. Amen | |
| † ROY PHILIP JOHN GEAR – RIP | | † MICHAEL PIERSON – RIP | |
| Please pray for the repose of the soul of Roy Gear who died on 19 April. Our heartfelt condolences to Jean Gear (wife) and family. Funeral: 4 May at Kingston Crematorium at 5pm. May he rest in peace. Amen. | | Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael Pierson who died 20 April, aged 96. Funeral: TBA. May he rest in peace. Amen | |