



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

27 SEPTEMBER 2020

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG
 Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: tolworth@caos.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

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

**YOU CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE VIA ONLINE
 LIVESTREAMING AT <https://www.olionline.co.uk>**

26 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Patrick Friel – RIP (<i>J. Friel</i>)
27 Sun	09.00	Damian Maranzano – RIP
	11.00	Peter Tailby (<i>E. McCusker</i>)
	18.00	May Phillips – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

26TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE II)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

28 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	John Michael Burton – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
29 Tues <i>Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael</i>	9.30	Paul Joseph – RIP (<i>Family</i>)
	19.00	Bastianpillai Emmanuel – RIP
30 Wed <i>St Jerome</i>	9.30	Holy Souls (<i>J. Dunseath</i>)
	19.00	Raquel, Annabel & Vally – WB
1 Thurs <i>St Thérèse</i>	7.00	Hilda Delaney – WB
	9.30	Kathleen Mourning – RIP(<i>G.Hague</i>)
2 Friday <i>The Holy Guardian Angels</i>	7.00	Baby Brooks – WB
	9.30	Annamma Joseph – RIP (<i>Dona</i>)
3 Sat <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Sheila Anderson – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

3 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Gladys Garcia Osorio – RIP
4 Sun	9.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People
	11.00	Freda Cantwell (<i>J. Dunseath</i>)
	18.00	

OTHER SERVICES

Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.15pm
St Anthony of Padua	Tuesday: after morning and evening Masses
Our Lady of Perpetual Help	Wednesday: after morning and evening Masses
Our Lady of Fatima	1st Saturday of the month

LIVESTREAMING CONTINUES

The dispensation from Sunday obligation granted by the Bishops at the onset of the lockdown is still in place till further notice. Livestreaming of all weekday and Sunday Masses will also continue so that those who may not yet consider it safe for them to attend Mass in person, especially over the weekend, can participate virtually.

CHANGING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Change is a fundamental characteristic of life. Without change there can be no growth or progress. By nature, change is dynamic and not static; it is an ongoing process and progress. According to Winston Churchill, "To improve is to change; to be perfect is to change often." This is not just a fact of life in the physical / earthly sense alone. It is, above all, essential to the Christian or spiritual life. In relation to the call to discipleship, change is theologically expressed by the Greek word *metanoia* which means literally, *to turn around*, that is, conversion or repentance. Indeed, without a change of course, there can be no discipleship. This was as true for the patriarchs, prophets and holy people in the Old Testament and for the apostles and disciples of Jesus, St Paul and their followers in the New Testament as it is for today's missionary disciples of Christ. It is noteworthy that the direction of the change – namely, from evil to good, disobedience to obedience, etc. – is integral to the biblical understanding of change as *metanoia* or conversion. This is demonstrated in both the first reading (Ez 18:25-28) and the Gospel (Matt 21:28-32) of today.

Addressing Israel's exiles in Babylon, the prophet Ezekiel emphasises individual responsibility and God's fairness. For Ezekiel, God's justice is shown on the one hand in forgiving a repentant sinner and on the other, in punishing a righteous person who lapses into and dies in sin. "When the upright man renounces his integrity to commit sin and dies because of this, he dies because of the evil that he himself has committed. When the sinner renounces sin to become law-abiding and honest, he deserves to live." Thus, the fate / future of both the upright and the sinner cannot be inescapably determined by their past good or bad deeds, respectively. To be in good relationship with God, both of them would require constant change – the upright striving to grow in perfection and the sinner making a U-turn, altering their ways, starting to follow the Lord.



No matter how holy one might seem to be or think they are, the truth remains, as Scripture says, "There is no virtuous man on earth who, doing good, is ever free from sin" (Eccl 7:20; see Rm 3:23). Besides, "If we say we have no sin in us, we are deceiving ourselves and refusing to admit the truth" (Jn 1:8). Actually, "the church, containing sinners in its own bosom, is at one and the same time holy and always in need of purification and it pursues unceasingly penance and renewal" (*Lumen gentium*, §8).

In the parable of the two sons, Jesus juxtaposes the attitude of the self-righteous who make empty promises or outward show of their uprightness without truly putting them into practice with the repentant sinners who, upon rethinking their initial rejection of the call of the Gospel, repent and commit themselves to living the Gospel. He identifies the religious elites (the chief priests and elders) with the former and the social and moral outcasts (tax collectors and prostitutes) with the latter. Sadly, their fidelity to the covenant through religious observances and rituals was not always backed up with interior conversion and faithfulness (see Matt 5:20; 6:1-6; Lk 18:9-14). "This people," says Jesus, "honours me with lip-service, while their hearts are far from me" (Matt 15:8). Jesus is therefore horrified by their obstinacy. Not even the repentance of the latter could move them to conversion! They are a classic antithesis of true discipleship.

True discipleship requires total surrender and commitment to Christ. It presupposes acknowledging that, "In everyone, the weeds of sin will still be mixed with the good wheat of the Gospel until the end of time. Hence the Church gathers sinners already caught up in Christ's salvation but still on the way to holiness" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church* §827). Beyond mere confession of faith, it means being, as St Paul says, "the same with Christ" (Ph 2:1-11). Attaining this salvific goal requires conversion, that is, changing in the right direction. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 5:1-7
2ND READING	Philippians 4:6-9
GOSPEL	Matthew 21:33-43

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died , especially John McCorkell, Margaret Martinez, Laurence Reynolds, and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time. 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 Ryan, Betty Harte, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Jan Leightley, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Ron Malone, Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Annita Smith, Ann-Marie Deasy, Shirlene A., and Ida Rebello.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS	
	<p><i>Due to current social distancing measures at Mass, the weekly collection will be taken as you leave the church or in an envelope through the Presbytery door or through bank transfer. I am grateful to those of you who have started to make your regular contribution to the Church via standing order (form available at olionline.co.uk), or by online banking: RCAS Our Lady Immaculate Church, Account Number: 06467032; Sort Code: 60-21-05.</i></p> <p>IMPORTANT: If you would normally have given by Gift Aid envelopes, please include your Gift Aid number in your online instruction to your bank. If you are not in the Gift Aid scheme, please include the letters NGA in the instruction to the bank.</p> <p>Any queries? Please contact Allan Cook, email: tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk or phone: 020 8399 4368</p> <p>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</p>

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION	
	Please, watch this space for information for the next programme.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020	
	Candidates Meeting: Next date TBA

MESSAGE FROM ST VINCENT DE PAUL (SVP) SOCIETY	
<p>There are 4 vacancies coming up in Our Lady Immaculate conference by the end of this year: <i>President, Secretary, Treasurer and Youth Group Coordinator</i>. If you are interested in the work of SVP and feel you have the leadership skills to take on any of these roles, a member of SVP will be available outside Masses during the month of October offering information about the roles and highlighting the work of SVP in our local community. For more information, please visit svp.org.uk or contacted me by phone 07402327177.</p> <p>Helen Emmett, SVP President, Our Lady Immaculate Conference</p>	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS	
Sunday (27/09): 2pm – 3.30pm	
Monday (28/09): 5pm – 6.30pm	
Tuesday (29/09): 10.15 – 12pm; 4pm – 7pm	
Wednesday (30/09): 10.30am – 1pm & 3pm – 5pm	
Thursday (01/10): Volunteers needed!	
Friday (02/10): 10am – 12pm	
Saturday (03/10): 9.45am – 10.45am	
STEWARDS NEEDED TO KEEP OUR CHURCH OPEN	
To continue providing this service to parishioners and the wider community and to avoid cutting down our current opening times/days, we'd need more volunteers. Please, send an email to tolworth@rcaos.org.uk if you can help. Thank you.	
OCTOBER: MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY & MISSION	
October is the month of the Holy Rosary and World Mission. Parishioners are encouraged to pray the Rosary daily individually, as a family or as a group of the faithful. Those who recite five decades of the Rosary in church, or as a family, a religious community, or as a group of the faithful, may gain plenary indulgence daily; in other circumstances a partial indulgence. A partial indulgence may be obtained daily for reciting the Litany of Loreto and the Prayer to Saint Joseph.	
BLESSING OF ANIMALS / PETS – 4 OCTOBER	
Although this year the feast of St Francis is superseded by Sunday of the Year, there will be a short service at 2pm in the Church to bless animals and pets. All are welcome.	
CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY	
Family Fast Day is 9 October this year. Proceeds will be used by CAFOD to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease – let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected and donate online at cafod.org.uk/give or by using one of the envelopes, or text CAFOD to 70085 to donate £10.	
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO YOUR PARISH	
I would like to thank all (parishioners and non-parishioners) for your generosity to the parish financially and otherwise since the Covid-19 lockdown began at the middle of March. From the records, the following is the breakdown of income from offertory / donations to the parish from 13 March to 31 July:	
A. Gift-Aided Donations	
1. Cash via envelopes: 6,310.00	
2. Bankers Orders: 5,777.00	
3. Online transfers: 5,263.00	
B. Non-Gift-Aided Donations	
1. Loose Cash: 3,340.00	
2. Online transfers: 1,275.00	
Total: £21,965.00 (£31,650 same time last year).	
DONATING TO THE LENTEN PROJECT	
By leaving donations at the presbytery via the Justgiving site https://www.justgiving.com/OLITLentenProject	
DONATIONS TO FOODBANK	
Please leave your donations in the boxes provided in the Old Chapel (9am – 6pm). URGENTLY NEEDED FOOD ITEMS: cereals, instant mash, juice, tinned meat, fish & spaghetti, biscuits, noodles, rice, pasta, tea and coffee. Thank you for your generosity.	
NB: This week, donation of items for a baby-girl (clothing & toys), 6months to 1 year would be appreciated.	
† JOHN MCCORKELL – RIP	
Please pray for the repose of the soul of John McCorkell who died of cancer on 16 September. Our heartfelt condolences to Catherine and family. May he rest in peace. Amen.	