



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

8 NOVEMBER 2020

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

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

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

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

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

7 Sat Vigil	18.30	Phil Manché – 90 th B/D Thanksgiving (<i>Townsend Family</i>)
8 Sun Remembrance Sunday	09.00	Cancelled!
	10.00	Jimmy Fagan – RIP (<i>McCusker</i>)
	18.00	Francisco D'Costa –RIP (<i>B Lordan</i>)

32ND WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE II)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

9 Mon <i>Dedication of Lateran Basilica</i>	9.30	Philip M Dray – RIP (<i>FM – 26th Anniversary</i>)
10 Tues <i>St Leo the Great</i>	9.30	Jacqueline Robin – RIP (<i>Cook</i>)
	19.00	Holy Souls
11 Wed <i>St Martin of Tours</i>	9.30	Roy Tomassi – RIP (<i>Lee Family</i>)
	19.00	Walter & Harold Hawes – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
12 Thurs <i>St Josaphat</i>	7.00	Holy Souls
	9.30	Victor Congita – RIP (<i>T. Porteller</i>)
13 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Holy Souls
	9.30	Holy Souls
14 Sat <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Holy Souls

33RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

14 Sat Vigil	18.30	Bette Sullivan (<i>Fox Family</i>)
15 Sun	9.00	Cancelled!
	10.00	Fr John Butter – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	18.00	Desire John Sice – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

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

LIVINGSTREAMING 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.

WISDOM MAKES HERSELF KNOWN

Wisdom is a central theme in the first reading (Wis 6:12-16) and Gospel (Matt 25:1-13) of today. The first reading personifies wisdom as a mysterious woman. Luminous and resplendent, she is readily available to all who desire and seek her. She is not elusive and does not only wait to be approached by those who love her. She also reaches out to them: *“By those who love her she is readily seen, and found by those who look for her ... She herself walks about looking for those who are worthy of her and graciously shows herself to them as they go, in every thought of theirs coming to meet them.”* Notwithstanding, she might not be recognised by the undiscerning and unperceiving. But she is always there!

Wisdom is generally identified in the Old Testament with God's creative power which, in turn, helps in discerning the mind of God and between good and evil. In this regard, the biblical tradition celebrates Solomon as the epitome of those who love and seek divine wisdom. His request to God for wisdom (*“[O God of my ancestors], grant me Wisdom, consort of your throne”* – Ws 9:4), instead of other worldly things and considerations at the beginning of his reign as king, is very revealing (1 Kgs 3: 5-12; Ws 9:1-18). On the one hand, it shows that wisdom truly belongs to God and is, therefore, a divine gift. On the other, it also highlights her importance in relation to life in general and our relationship with God in particular: *“With you is Wisdom, she knows your works, she was present when you made the world; she understands what is pleasing in your eyes and what agrees with your commands”* (Ws 9: 9). These two aspects of divine wisdom are both presupposed in the first reading and re-echoed in the parable of the ten bridesmaids in the Gospel today.

Describing Jesus' infancy, Saint Luke highlights, among other things, that he was *filled with and increased in wisdom* (Lk 2: 40, 52). This was demonstrated through his interaction with the doctors in the temple (Lk 2:46-48) and throughout his public ministry through his teaching in the synagogues (see Matt 13:54) and his many encounter and debates especially with the educated and religious elites of his time – the Scribes and Pharisees (see Matt 22:34-40), etc. Yet, Jesus in his manifestation of wisdom transcended Solomon (Matt 12:42), because he himself is the incarnation of God's Wisdom, the Word of God made human who, *“by God's doing,”* as St Paul puts it, *“has become our wisdom”* (1 Co 1:30). Consequently, to know Christ is to be truly wise. This form of wisdom is beyond mere intellectual knowledge or practical know-how. It consists in encountering Christ or – more properly – allowing oneself to be encountered by him.

By eulogising divine wisdom, the first reading sets her before us for our contemplation. It also invites us to desire and seek her. Wisdom is considered the first and highest gift of the Holy Spirit because it is the perfection of the virtue of faith. It helps us to order our relationship to the created world properly so that we would love creation for the sake of God rather than for its own sake. So, we need the light of wisdom to illumine our faith as we journey towards the kingdom. As pilgrims, we are like the ten bridesmaids who were waiting for the arrival of the bridegroom. The genius of the five wise maidens consisted especially in their generosity of spirit. They made the sacrifice to carry extra oil along with their lamps without minding any personal inconvenience. The foolishness of the other five consisted in their failure to do what they were supposed to do, that is, to be ready for the bridegroom. They appeared calculative and assuming. They neglected wisdom!

Post Scriptus:

As we commemorate Remembrance Day, in the light of our faith in Christ's *second coming*, St Paul encourages us in the second reading (1 Th 4:13-18), not to grieve about our departed loved ones *“like the other people who have no hope.”* May they rest in peace. Amen ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
2ND READING	1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
GOSPEL	Matthew 25:14-30

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died , especially Nick Mitchem, Bella Fernandes, John McCorkell, Irene Keane, Jan Leightley, and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time. May they rest in peace.
	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, Frances Cox, Mary Ryan, Betty Harte, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Ron Malone, Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Annita Smith, Ann-Marie Deasy, Shirlene A., Ida Rebello, Kathleen & Chris McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, Fr Arbo Lekule, Fr Guy Noonan, and Claire Pender.

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

CONFIRMATION 2021	
<p>If you have a son / daughter in year 9, and they would like to be included in the programme next year, then please download an application form from our website (under Sacraments) and follow the directions on the covering letter. The final date for applications for next year is Sunday 8th November, which will not be extended. Those older than Year 9 should speak with the Parish Priest.</p>	

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
<p>CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS</p> <p>Sunday (08/11): 2pm – 3.30pm Monday (09/11): 10.15am – 11.15am & 5pm – 6.30pm Tuesday (10/11): 10.15 – 12pm; 4pm – 7pm Wednesday (11/11): 10.30am – 1pm Thursday (12/11): Volunteers needed! Friday (13/11): 10am – 12pm Saturday (14/11): 9.30am – 10am</p> <p>STEWARDS NEEDED TO KEEP OUR CHURCH OPEN If you would like to volunteer, please, send an email to tolworth@rcaos.org.uk if you can help. Thank you.</p> <p>ARE YOU CONSIDERING BECOMING A CATHOLIC? Then, consider joining the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) programme. Baptised adult Catholics who have not yet made their First Holy Communion or been confirmed are also welcomed to join the programme.</p> <p>NOVEMBER LIST: The month of November is specially dedicated to the commemoration of the faithful departed, through prayer and holy Mass. Holy Souls envelopes are available; please, collect a copy and enclose the names of your departed ones. If you would like to make an offering towards ongoing Masses for the holy souls, kindly indicate the enclosed sum on the envelope.</p> <p>BLESSING OF GRAVES – SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER Surbiton (2pm) & Kingston (3pm). No common service. Wait by the graveside with face masks, not more than 6 persons.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH: As the corona virus progresses, sadly we need to continue to request that flowers and plants are not left in the Church. However, we have recently resumed arranging flowers for the Sanctuary, also the Lady Chapel on special occasions. This will continue but depends on any changes in local covid-19 restrictions. In the month of November, we remember and pray for all our loved ones; there will be flowers in the alcove next to the memorial book during this time. If you would like to make a monetary donation for flowers, please put it in an envelope marked 'Church Flowers' and leave it in the Presbytery. Many thanks for you continued support. <i>Rosemary Maranzano.</i></p>	
 Our Lady Immaculate Church Parish Lenten Project	
<p>The Parish Lenten Project has been running successfully since 1971 so in 2021 the Parish will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. During this time the Parish has raised over £441,000 for worthy causes all over the world.</p> <p>Back in 1971, the aim of the Project was to give the parish a charitable focal point during Lent and give everyone (all groups, clubs and societies) in the parish the opportunity to take part in fundraising for projects in the developing world. This is still our aim today.</p> <p>The Lenten Project AGM will be held on Sunday 29th November 2020 at 7.00pm. Owing to the restrictions this year's meeting will be held via Zoom. (Zoom link in later newsletter). At that meeting we will select the charities which we will be supporting during Lent 2021. We are now actively seeking parishioners to nominate suitable charities.</p> <p>If you have a charity you would like the parish to support in Lent during 2021 then please complete the charity nomination form which can be found at: http://www.olionline.co.uk/community/lenten-project/ (See Criteria for selecting a charity via the same link!)</p> <p>You can also find blank copies of the form at the back of Church or obtain one from the Parish Office.</p> <p>Once you have completed the form please either email it to townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk or place it through the Presbytery letter box. If you would like any more information, please contact Phil Townsend on 0208 399 3481. Thank you.</p>	