



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

14 March 2021

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – LAETARE SUNDAY (B)

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG

Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: [tolworth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworth@rcaos.org.uk) + [www.olionline.co.uk](http://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

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

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

13 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Josephine Philips – RIP ( <i>Houston</i> )
14 Sun <i>RCIA Second Scrutiny</i>  <b>*Mother's Day</b>	9.00	Anita, Jagath, Vincent & Michael – RIP ( <i>Anne</i> )
	11.00	Devasa Gayham – RIP
	18.00	Mary Campbell & Mary Langton – RIP ( <i>M. Campbell</i> )

#### WEEKDAY OF LENT

**EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:** Monday – Friday at 8.30am

15 Mon <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
16 Tues <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Brian Molloy –RIP ( <i>Mr &amp; Mrs Mitchell</i> )
	19.00	Augustine – 16th B/D ( <i>Mary</i> )
17 Wed <i>St Patrick's Day</i>	9.30	Dan & Rosa McGeown–RIP ( <i>E Powell</i> )
	19.00	Barran Family – ( <i>A. Cook</i> )
18 Thurs <i>Feria of Lent</i>	7.00	Rhoda D'Cruz – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
	9.30	Angelica D'Agostino –RIP ( <i>Franco</i> )
19 Friday <i>Solemnity of St Joseph</i>	7.00	The Temporal & Spiritual WB of all Priests
	9.30	Holy Souls ( <i>J. Fevri</i> )
20 Sat <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.00	Anthony & Patricia Moore – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )

#### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

20 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Jacques & Rita Pierce – WB
21 Sun <i>RCIA Third Scrutiny</i>	9.00	Margaret Grogan – RIP ( <i>P Grogan</i> )
	11.00	Theresa & Val Middleton ( <i>Stella T</i> )
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

#### OTHER SERVICES

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

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS: FRIDAY, after 9.30am Mass**

#### 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.

#### SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

We are midway into Lent. Two Sundays from today we will enter into Holy Week, which will usher us into the *Sacred Triduum* of the Lord's paschal mystery and Easter. The liturgy of the fourth Sunday of Lent anticipates as it were the joy of Easter, of our redemption through the sacred passion, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The tone is set by the entrance antiphon which is adapted from Isaiah 66:10-11 and from where this Sunday derives the name, *Laetare Sunday*: "*Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning...*" Hence, the normal rigorous penance of Lent is somewhat relaxed today: You will notice a brief return of some floral decorations in the Church and the use of rose- (not pink!) coloured vestments by the priests. All these are meant to serve as external manifestations of the interior joy that is borne out of our growing awareness of the mystery of salvation, of God's love and mercy through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The first reading (2 Ch 36:14-16,19-23) recalls the liberation of the people of Israel from captivity in Babylon. On the one hand, the chronicler echoes Israel's belief that the exile was indeed a divine punishment for their infidelity to the covenant (see Ho 14:2). On the other hand, he describes their liberation after seventy years through God's intervention as a pure initiative on the part of God. Their return from exile in Babylon was like a second Exodus. Like their forebears after crossing the Red Sea (Ex 15:1-21), the psalmist celebrates the return to Jerusalem with joyful gratitude and commitment to God: "*O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not, if I prize not Jerusalem above all my joys!* (Ps 136 [137]). Besides, it prefigures the redemption of the whole human race in Christ, a theme emphasised by Paul in the second reading (Ep 2:4-10) and in the Gospel (Jn 3:14-21). Twice in the second reading, Paul emphasises that we are saved by God's grace: "*... it is through grace that you have been saved... Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith...*" For Paul, this is the heart of the Good News. And it largely reflects his personal experience of salvation, whereby grace is not an abstract concept or a spiritual object, but a personal encounter / relationship with God who, through his Son Jesus Christ, has poured his love into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit (Rm 5:5). Contrasting grace with "the works of the law" (Gal 2:16), Paul insists on faith in Christ as the source of salvation, thereby re-echoing today's Gospel: "*God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost but may have eternal life.*"

Paul's emphasis on grace is particularly relevant as we journey through Lent, striving to draw closer to God and other people through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Among others, it serves as a salutary warning to us against a tendency to preoccupy ourselves with mere external conformity to these spiritual disciplines to the neglect of the interior life of openness to the grace of God and cultivating true friendship with him. Also, it warns us against the lure of self-aggrandisement, which might lead to a sense of entitlement before God and self-righteousness in relation to others. The more we realise that "*our sufficiency comes from God and not from ourselves*" (2 Co 5:12), the humbler we would become. And the humbler we become, the more open we would be to God's redeeming grace by which we are saved through faith in Jesus Christ whom the Father sent "*not to condemn the world,*" but so that "*the world might be saved.*" © IAE

#### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	Jeremiah 31:31-34
<b>2ND READING</b>	Hebrews 5:7-9
<b>GOSPEL</b>	John 12:20-33

<b>PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE</b>		<b>PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS</b>	
	<p><b>Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died</b>, especially Elizabeth Felix, Elsa Quinn, Maria Luisa Ferreira, Andrea Arbia, Paul Bullen, and those whose anniversaries are remembered at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.</p>	<p><b>CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS</b>  <b>Sunday (14/03):</b> 2pm – 3.30pm  <b>Monday (15/03):</b> 10 – 11.15am; 5pm – 6pm  <b>Tuesday (16/03):</b> 10.15 – 12pm; 4pm – 7pm  <b>Wednesday (17/03):</b> 10.30am – 1pm  <b>Thursday (18/03):</b> 10.30am – 12pm  <b>Friday (19/03):</b> 10.00am – 12pm  <b>Saturday (20/03):</b> 9.30am – 10am (<i>During Confessions</i>)</p>	
	<p><b>Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those within our own parish community:</b> Vanessa Andrew, Martin Dray, Anthony Durkin, Sue Ewen, Pauline Ferrara, Ann Groves, Thomas Haley, 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 &amp; Chris McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, and Claire Pender.</p>	<p><b>HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY</b>  On behalf of myself, Fr Joseph, Dcn Al, and all men, young people and children of the parish, I would like to wish all our mothers, grandmothers and prospective mothers a very happy Mother's Day today. Thank you for all your love and care and the sacrifices you make for your family and the parish.</p> <p><b>YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH (8 DEC 2020 – 8 DEC 2021)</b>  As previously announced, to mark the 150th anniversary of the declaration of Saint Joseph as the <i>Patron of the Universal Church</i>, Pope Francis has proclaimed 8 Dec 2020 – 8 Dec 2021 as the Year of Saint Joseph, with the Apostolic Letter <a href="#">Patris corde</a>. We will mark the Year by reciting the Prayer to St Joseph after the Post Communion Prayer, before the final blessing. Text will be made available in the weekend Mass sheets / parish website.</p>	
<b>WEEKLY COLLECTIONS</b>		<b>PARISH LENTEN PROJECT SPONSORED WALK</b>	
	<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 <a href="http://olionline.co.uk">olionline.co.uk</a>), or by online banking: <b>RCAS Our Lady Immaculate Church, Account Number: 06467032; Sort Code: 60-21-05.</b></i></p> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> 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.  Any queries? Please contact Allan Cook, email: <a href="mailto:tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk">tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk</a> or phone: 020 8399 4368  <b>Thank you for your generosity to your parish.</b></p>	<p><b>ARE YOU INTERESTED IN KEEPING SOME HENS?</b>  We have an Omelette hen house and 4m run available to a good home in return for a donation to the Lenten Project. Must be able to collect from Berrylands. If you're interested contact Phil on 0208 399 3481.</p>	
<b>INFANT BAPTISM</b>		<b>ONLINE RETREAT FOR LENT</b>	
	<p>Please contact the Parish Office for information pack &amp; to register for the pre-baptism course.  <b>Next course:</b> TBA</p>	<p>Archbishop John and the Diocesan Spirituality Commission are offering a Retreat for Lent, which you can follow in your own home. Using the link below, you can watch a short video reflection each week, download prayer materials and other resources which can help you make the best use of whatever time and opportunity you may have during your week.  If you are looking for a way to deepen your life of prayer this Lent, click on <a href="http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme">http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/followme</a> where you can also sign up to receive materials directly to your email.</p>	
<b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION</b>		<b>DONATIONS TO FOODBANK</b>	
	<p>Please, watch this space for information for the next programme.</p>	<p>Please leave your donations in the boxes provided in the <b>Old Chapel</b> (9am – 6pm). <b>Urgently Needed Food Items:</b> cereals, instant mash, juice, tinned meat, fish &amp; spaghetti, biscuits, noodles, rice, pasta, tea and coffee. Thanks.</p>	
<b>SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020</b>		<b>WEEKLY ROSARY GROUP:</b> Saint Louis Marie de Montfort said it is better to pray the Rosary with a group, rather than alone. For those interested, a parishioner would like to organise a group to meet every Tuesday before Evening Mass in the Church (18.20-18.50) and pray a full, five-decade of the Rosary. You can contact him at <a href="mailto:mrmrdvd@protonmail.com">mrmrdvd@protonmail.com</a> if you wish. We will meet for the first time (in the nave, not Lady Chapel) on Tuesday 23rd March."	
	<p><b>Candidates Meeting:</b> Next date TBA</p>	<b>† MARIA LUISA FERREIRA – RIP</b>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS</b></p> <p>Who carries cash these days? Many retailers don't take it anymore! Yet for many, we come to Church and get "caught out" by the collection bags at the end of Mass. Great news! Contactless payment machines are available in the narthex whenever the Church doors are open: Select the amount you wish to give, tap your payment card on the reader, and the payment will come through to the parish. <b>You can also Gift-Aid your donation directly on it.</b> Thank you for your generosity.</p>		<p>A devoted parishioner who died on Sunday, 28 February 2021, aged 88. Funeral Mass: Wednesday, 17 March at 11am, followed by committal at Surbiton Cemetery. May she rest in peace, Amen.</p>	