



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

9 May 2021

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

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (B)

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

08 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	William Ime Ubong – RIP (<i>Otu & Family</i>)
09 Sun	9.00	Penelope Brooks – WB (<i>J Brooks</i>)
	11.00	James Thomas – RIP (<i>R Simon & Family</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

FERIA OF EASTERTIDE

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

10 Mon <i>Ss Philip & James</i>	9.30	Daphne Lynch – WB (<i>T Rutter</i>)
11 Tues	9.30	Joseph Joy – RIP (<i>Smitha & Family</i>)
	19.00	Margaret & Peter Crawford (<i>FM</i>)
12 Wed <i>Feria of Easter & Ascension (Vigil)</i>	9.30	Kim Amanda & Ted Burns – RIP
	19.00	Nikki Cloudsdale – WB (<i>N D'Aguiar</i>)
13 Thurs <i>Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord</i>	7.00	Calvin Lu – RIP
	9.30	Alison McKay & Brian McClusky
	20.00	<i>Pro Populo</i>
14 Friday <i>St Mathias</i>	7.00	Ray Wong – RIP
	9.30	Margaret Howell – RIP (<i>T Rutter</i>)
15 Sat <i>Feria of Easter</i>	9.00	James Thomas – RIP (<i>R Simon & Family</i>)

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

15 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Eileen & Chris Furlong (<i>Szymanski</i>)
16 Sun	9.00	Akinlola Family – God's Protection
	11.00	Eleanor & Oliver (<i>S Tremenheere</i>)
	18.00	John D'Abreo – RIP (<i>E D'Abreo</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

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.

LOVING AS GOD LOVES US

"Love and do what you will." This is how St Augustine of Hippo (AD354-480) expresses the centrality and necessity of love as a Christian virtue in his *Sermon on 1 John 4:4-12*, part of which (7-10) is read in today's second reading.

It is worth noting that the above insight was not a pure novelty of St Augustine. It was a common understanding in Jewish tradition that the Ten Commandments and the other 603 laws in the Torah are summarised into a twofold love (of God and neighbour) which, in turn, constitutes the greatest commandment (see Matt 22:36-40). This understanding is also sustained in Jesus' teaching and actions, especially in his outreach to sinners, the poor, the estranged and the marginalised (see Lk 15). Thus, he saw no contradiction between keeping the Sabbath holy and healing on the Sabbath (see Mk 3:1-6; Lk 13:1-10; 14:1-5).

Consistent with the above rabbinic understanding, St Paul emphasises in Romans 13:8-10 that love is the fulfilment of all the commandments. It is, he says, "the one thing that cannot hurt one's neighbour." Besides, for St Paul, love is not just an attitude or sentiment, it is a spiritual gift *par excellence*, "a still more excellent way" (1 Co 12:31b). Hence, in his 'eulogy on love,' he stresses that love is the greatest virtue because "love never ends." Evidently, St Paul adds a new dimension to Jewish understanding of the centrality and necessity of love vis-à-vis God's commandment. Nonetheless, though a virtue, the greatest spiritual gift, love (in St Paul's) remains more or less an 'object.'

The evangelist John takes us further. He offers us a Christian reflection on love which goes beyond St Paul's emphasis on love as a spiritual gift, to love as a person. As a spiritual gift, "love comes from God," but as a person, "God is love." To love is, therefore, not only making proper use of an important gift of the Holy Spirit that we have received, but also and, above all, a participation in God. In other words, without love we are cut off from communion with God. To love is to be godly and to not love is to be ungodly! Further, God is not just love in an attributive sense, but in a tangible manner by virtue of the mystery of the Incarnation. In other words, by making the invisible God visible through his divine-human nature, Jesus is the revelation of God's love in person – and also the model and pathway to God's love.

As the "incarnate love of God," Jesus expresses the depths of God's unfathomable love above all in his paschal mystery. Thus, St John says in the second reading: "this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away." Similarly, Jesus says in the Gospel: "A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends." So, God's love is always outward-looking and sacrificial in nature, and it is the model after which we are invited to pattern our love for both God and others. According to Pope Francis in his Catechesis on Prayer during his weekly general audience on Wednesday, 5 May, "there is only one great call in the Gospel, and it is that of following Jesus on the way of love." For him, "this is the summit, and it is the centre of everything."

We may not always be able to follow Jesus' way of love perfectly due to our human frailty. But we can always try, trusting in "the love of Christ" which "urges us on" (2 Co 5:14) and confident in the grace and power of the Holy Spirit that comes to our help in our weakness (Rm 8:26), as we constantly strive to learn to love as God loves us. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Acts 1:15-17,20-26
2ND READING	1 John 4:11-16
GOSPEL	John 17:11-19

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Catherine Timoney, Mary Creighan, Philomena Eyo, 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, 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, Claire Pender, Alison Vale, and Baby Penelope Brooks.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £459.31

Gift-aid: £414.40 **Total: £873.71**

**Excluding standing orders & online payments – the monthly total of which will be published on the first weekend of every new month.*

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

Kindly consider making 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.

IMPORTANT: Please include your Gift Aid number in your online instruction to your bank. Non-Gift Aid donors, please include the letters NGA in the instruction to the bank.

Any queries? Please contact Allan Cook: tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk or 0208 8399 4368

INFANT BAPTISM



Please contact the Parish Office for information pack & to register for the pre-baptism course.

Next course: TBA

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Please, watch this space for information for the next programme.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020



Candidates Meeting: Next date TBA

CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS

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.

You can also Gift-Aid your donation directly on it.

Thank you for your generosity.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

CHURCH OPENING TIMES FOR PRIVATE PRAYERS

Sunday (09/05): 2pm – 3pm

Monday (10/05): 10 – 11.15am & 5pm – 6pm

Tuesday (11/05): 10.15 – 12pm & 4pm – 7pm

Wednesday (12/05): 10.30am – 1pm

Thursday (13/05): 10.30am – 12pm

Friday (14/05): 10.00am – 12pm

Saturday (15/05): 9.30am – 10am (*During Confessions*)

MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

May is traditionally the month of Our Lady and the Holy Rosary. Everyone is encouraged to pray the Rosary. We will be praying the Rosary together after the 9.30am Mass from Monday to Friday. All are welcome to join. **NB:** Volunteers are needed to lead each day!

13 MAY – ASCENSION THURSDAY

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is a Holiday of Obligation.

There will be four Masses in the parish.

- Wednesday (12 May): 7pm ('Vigil')
- Thursday (13 May): 7am, 9.30am, and 8pm

Please, note that the evening Mass is at **8pm** (and not 7pm)!

NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

The period between the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost is traditionally spent in prayer, like Mary, the Apostles and other disciples in the Upper Room in Jerusalem (Acts 1:4), in anticipation of the Holy Spirit.

We, therefore, encourage everyone to observe the 9-Day Novena to the Holy Spirit starting from Friday, 14 May. Useful prayer resources can be found for each day at <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/devotions/novena-to-the-holy-spirit-for-the-seven-gifts-309>



RETURNING OF BOXES

Thank you to all who have so far returned their boxes or made donations to the Project. You may still return your boxes after Sunday Masses, or directly via the Presbytery Letter Box by collapsing and enclosing it with content into a sealed envelope.

LENTEN PROJECT SPONSORED WALK

This year, instead of a sponsored walk event where we walked as a group, we asked Parishioners to commit to walk / run / cycle either individually, or as a family, a certain number of miles during the period of Lent. Together with Frs Ignatius and Joseph, many Parishioners and their families got involved. In total we walked / ran / cycled 3,106 miles, which is almost 5,000 kilometres! What an outstanding result!

It's not too late to sponsor us. If you would like to do so, please either pop some money in an envelope and post through the Presbytery door, or use the following Justgiving site:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Our-Lady-Immaculate-Church>

Many thanks for your support!

LIFE IS HERE TO HELP!

Pregnant? Late and worried? Or suffered pregnancy loss? The charity, Life, helps 60,000+ women every year in such situations. To find out more, please visit www.lifecharity.org.uk or contact Therese Walker at 0798 451 5947.

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. Thanks.