



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

01 AUGUST 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		
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B)		
YOU CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE VIA ONLINE LIVESTREAMING AT https://www.olionline.co.uk		
31 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Maureen Richardson – RIP <i>(A Richardson)</i>
01 Sun	9.00	Terence O'Driscoll <i>(M C Taylor)</i>
	11.00	Claire & Colin Stevens – 50th Wedding Anniversary
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People
EIGHTEENTH WEEK OF ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE 1)		
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
02 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
03 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Theo Fernandes – RIP <i>(Basilia F)</i>
	19.00	ManaLouis – BD <i>(Mary)</i>
04 Wed <i>St John Vianney</i> – Patron of <i>parish priests</i>	9.30	Keiko – WB <i>(M C Taylor)</i>
	19.00	James & Mary Dunseath – RIP <i>(J Dunseath)</i>
05 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Campbell Family <i>(D'Aguiar)</i>
	9.30	John Cullan & Mary Ellis <i>(E Cullan)</i>
06 Friday <i>The Transfiguration</i> <i>of the Lord</i>	7.00	Damian Paul Maranzano – RIP
	9.30	Celine Yeow – WB <i>(R Lee)</i>
07 Sat <i>The Blessed</i> <i>Virgin Mary</i>	9.00	Derek Canavan – RIP <i>(Brooks)</i>
NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (B)		
07 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Christopher McGuinness – RIP <i>(June & Family)</i>
08 Sun	9.00	George Gara – RIP <i>(Brooks)</i>
	11.00	
	18.00	

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

SUNDAY OBLIGATION / LIVESTREAMING

The dispensation from Sunday obligation granted by the Bishops Conference will end from the First Sunday of Advent (28 November). 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.

BREAD FROM HEAVEN – BREAD OF LIFE

The feeding of the five thousand in last Sunday's Gospel (Jn 6:1-15) ended in an anti-climax when Jesus, sensing the people would conscript and make him a king by force, escaped to a lonely place where he could be by himself. But he could not abscond successfully. The people ferried off in pursuit, searching for him. When they finally caught up with him and his disciples on the other side, in Capernaum, they asked him with apparent excitement, "Rabbi, when did you come here?"

Not known to be swayed by popular adulation (see Mk 12:14), Jesus does not disappoint here. Once again, he firmly rejects the lure of power and fame and, without mincing words, challenges their selfish motive and attempt to exploit him: "I tell you most solemnly, you are not looking for me because you have seen the signs but because you had all the bread you wanted to eat." This is another anti-climax. His words and actions are truly countercultural. For instead of basking in his ability to attract such a huge crowd, chasing after him, Jesus prefers to speak the truth in love. This would not only dampen their apparent enthusiasm but would eventually make them to abandon him (Jn 6:60-69).

Still Jesus does not just burst their pretentious bubble. He offers them something more, namely, a salvific invitation: "Do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life, the kind of food the Son of Man is offering you, for on him the Father, God himself, has set his seal." In other words, he wants them to go beyond the immediate significance of the feeding with the five barley loaves, to its true symbolism. We may want to recall here the classical description of a sacrament as 'an outward sign of inward grace,' that is, a material sign, whose reality points to something deeper, more powerful, and enduring than itself and its external properties, capacity, capability, and worth. Notably, the manna with which God fed the people of Israel during their sojourn in the desert towards the Promised Land (Ex 16:2-4, 12-15) helps to shed light not only on the miracle of the loaves but more so on Jesus' unique offer. Sent by the Father (Jn 17:18; 20:21), Jesus is the true bread from God, "which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." He is the "word that comes from the mouth of God" (Mt 4:4) and is God (Jn 1:1-2), the word made flesh (Jn 1:14) through whom all came into being and are held in being (Jn 1:3-4). But how do we access this offer?

Faith in Jesus is the first step towards taking hold of this generous offer. "You must believe," he insists, "on the one he [the Father] has sent." As St Paul says in Romans 10:17, "So faith comes from what is preached, and what is preached comes from the word of Christ." That is why every Eucharistic celebration begins with the *Liturgy of the Word*, during which the word of God in sacred scriptures is proclaimed, broken and shared. It is intended to 'warm our hearts' so that, like the two disciples on the way to Emmaus on the first Easter evening, we might indeed recognise the Lord at the *Breaking of Bread* (Lk 24:30-32) and, subsequently, be nurtured with his life-giving body, blood, soul, and divinity in holy communion. So, without faith, our participation in the Eucharist risks remaining insipid, sterile, and lifeless.

Received with faith, the same Word through whom the Holy Spirit transforms the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ, also transforms those who partake of it into the body of Christ, "the new self that has been created in God's way," as St Paul says in the second reading (Ep 4:17, 20-24). ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS	
1ST READING	1 Kings 19:4-8
2ND READING	Ephesians 4:30-5:2
GOSPEL	John 6:41-51

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Pamela Robson, Chris McGuinness, Antonio Martins, Galina Shilovskaya, Bridget Croke, Fred Sage, 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, Frances Cox, Mary Ryan, Betty Harte, Antonio Ciaiola, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Elizabeth Saunders, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, James & Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Annita Smith, Ann-Marie Deasy, Shirlene A., Ida Rebello, Kathleen & Chris McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, Claire Pender, Alison Vale, Christine Howey, Terence O'Driscoll, and Hazel D'Aguiar.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

HAPPY HOLIDAY

On behalf of Father Joseph and Deacon Al, I would like to wish everyone a happy vacation or staycation, with pledge of prayers that you will all travel, stay, and return safely! With lots of love. Father Ignatius Edet, PP.

CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANING

All are welcome to join a team of volunteers to clean our church grounds after morning Mass on Saturday, 14 August at 9.45 - 11am. Please, there is a sheet at the narthex for volunteers to sign-up.

VISIT & COMMUNION TO THOSE AT HOME

As we gradually emerge from the lockdown, Fr Joseph and Fr Ignatius would like to visit and bring Holy Communion to those who are still unable to come to Mass in person because they are housebound or still shielding. Please, if you would like to be visited, kindly contact the parish office to book a date / time.



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £439.93

Gift-aid: £400.45 **Total: £840.38**

**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

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 have walked / ran / cycled 3,106 miles, which is almost 5,000 kilometres! What an outstanding result!

If you would like to sponsor us, 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!

FAREWELL TO MRS ROBERTSON

As a parish community we would like to wish Mrs Frances Robertson, Headteacher of Our Lady Immaculate School, all the very best in her retirement.

She has led the school for 5 years, working closely with the parish to support our children in the school's mission "With God in our hearts, we follow Jesus' footsteps, as we love and learn together." Please join us in thanking her for her dedicated service.

4TH TOLWORTH AIR SCOUT (OUR LADY'S OWN)

We are delighted to announce that we can now safely resume our weekly meetings! We meet on Wednesday in the Parish Hall for Beavers and Cubs, or Thursday for Scouts during term time.

We welcome boys and girls from age 6 – 14 years old. So, if you would like to join us, or find out more, please contact Pat Askey at pataskey@outlook.com or text on 07952967930

We would also welcome adult helpers to assist us to deliver a programme of activities to our young people on a regular basis – please have a chat with us anytime, no experience necessary!

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.

OPEN EVENING @ ST PHILOMENA'S – 14 SEPTEMBER

St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls is a highly successful, Catholic, non-selective comprehensive girls' school for students aged 11-18 years. Interested?

Visit the school website to book a time slot.

INFANT BAPTISM



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

Next course: TBA

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION



Registration for the next programme is now closed.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2020



Candidates Meeting: Suspended due to Covid restrictions. Look out for updates on this space!

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.