



# Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (C)

19 DECEMBER 2021

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:** Mr Ben Martin

## MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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

18 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Nicolas & Angela Hoey ( <i>Hoey Family</i> )
19 Sun <i>Day of Prayer for expectant mothers</i>	9.00 11.00 18.00	James Mills – WB Christy & Joseph Nesarajah- Vignarajah – RIP ( <i>Mum &amp; Family</i> ) <i>Pro Populo – For the People</i>
<b>FOURTH WEEK OF ADVENT</b>		
<b>EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am</b>		
20 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	T T Paul – RIP ( <i>B Roy</i> )
21 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30 19.00	Tessa & John Rutter ( <i>Szymanski</i> ) Darin Romp – WB ( <i>R Lee</i> )
22 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30 19.00	Mary Shevlane – RIP ( <i>S Mills</i> ) Betty Thompson – RIP
23 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00 9.30	Angela Ayers – RIP ( <i>P O'Connell</i> ) Clair Carr's Intention ( <i>S Mills</i> )
24 Friday (AM) <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Holy Souls
24 Friday <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b>	17.00 19.00 22.00	TBA TBA <i>Pro Populo – For the People</i>
25 Sat <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	8.00 9.15 11.00	TBA TBA TBA
<b>FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY</b>		
26 Sun	9.00 11.00 18.00	Magda & Wojtek Nosalik – 50 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Bro A Brockman – BD ( <i>Espiritu</i> ) <i>Pro Populo – For the People</i>

### 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

### SUNDAY OBLIGATION / LIVESTREAMING

The dispensation from Sunday obligation granted by the Bishops Conference has been restored.

The livestreaming of all our weekday and Sunday Masses will continue so that those who may not yet consider it safe for them to attend Mass in person, especially over the weekend, can continue to participate virtually.

### FOLLOWING MARY'S EXAMPLE OF FAITH AND TRUST

We are gradually coming to the end of Advent. The fourth and last Sunday of Advent falls within the second part of Advent, from the 17th of December onwards. It forms a sort of pre-Christmas octave, eight days of immediate preparations, during which the liturgy is filled with intense expectancy in view of the approaching great feast of the Lord's Nativity. One of the notable features in the liturgy within this period is the chanting of the 'O Antiphons' at the *Magnificat* ('Hymn of Mary') during vespers (evening prayer of the Church) from the 17th to the 23rd of December. On each of these seven days, each of these 'Great Advent Antiphons' highlights one of the names mentioned in the Old Testament for the coming Messiah, namely: *Wisdom, Great Lord (Adonai), Root of Jesse, Key of David, Morning Star, King of the Nations, and Emmanuel*. A musical paraphrase of these antiphons is contained in the Advent carol, *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*.

In today's Gospel, the evangelist Luke (1:39-45) presents us with the account of the visitation of the Virgin Mary to her aged relative Elizabeth. This event takes place shortly after the visit by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin during which she received the unsettling but Good News of being chosen to be the mother of the expected Messiah (1:26-38). By this time, Elizabeth was already six months into her pregnancy (1:24-26). She "who was said to be barren" (1:26), was expecting her child John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus who came to prepare the way for him who, as prophesied in the first reading by the prophet Micah (5:1-4), will be born out of Bethlehem, "to rule over Israel."

The encounter between Elizabeth and Mary expresses the fulfilment of God's promise to the people of Israel. For, during the Annunciation, Elizabeth is presented by the angel to Mary as a sign to assure her that "nothing is impossible to God." In a way, Mary's complete submission to the will of God in her *Fiat (Yes)* – "I am the handmaid of the Lord, let it be done to me according to your word" – is apparently encouraged by this sign. Hence, her setting out in haste to visit Elizabeth can be seen as a way of going to share not only her Good News but also in Elizabeth's. Like Mary, Elizabeth is led to recognise what God is doing in and for Mary, when upon hearing Mary's greetings "the child leapt in her womb and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit." All this happened because Mary "believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Mary is blessed because she actively allows the promise of God to shape her life and her response to God's grace and promise. Through her God is seen to fulfil the promise foretold by the prophet Micah in the first reading. Besides, her faithful submission to and active appropriation of God's will clearly resonate with her Son's in the second reading (Hb 10:5-10) who, in coming into the world, said: "God, here I am! I am coming to obey your will."

In visiting Elizabeth, Mary hastens to tell the Good News. She bears Christ, yet an infant in the womb, to Elizabeth. On her part, Elizabeth is open and receptive towards the presence of Christ in Mary's womb; and so, is her son John the Baptist who already begins his mission of pointing Christ out to the world right from the womb. Indeed, the in-the-womb encounter between John the Baptist and Jesus clearly witnesses to the dignity and sanctity of all life, especially of the unborn. It is, therefore, fitting that today is devoted to prayers for expectant mothers so that like Mary and Elizabeth they may enjoy the blessings of their hope of happy motherhood being fulfilled through the birth of their children.

Lastly, as we draw near to Christmas, Mary offers us a remarkable example of faith and trust in God's promise. Inspired by her and following her example, we are invited to allow Christ to be born in us, in our family, and in our community, and to bring him to others. ©IAE

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	1 Samuel 1: 20-22,24-28
<b>2ND READING</b>	1 John 3:1-2,21-24
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Luke 2:41-52

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially, Patrick Okon Udofia, Christiana Nta, Allison Hudson, Nita Wickramasinghe, Colm McDonagh, Toni Weiczorec, 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, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, James & Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Annita Smith, Shirlene A., Ida Rebello, Kathleen McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, Claire Pender, Christine Howey, Hazel D'Aguiar, Mary O'Mara, Eileen Cullen, Monica Tett, Elizabeth Jones, and Ray Lewry.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

**Non-Gift-aid:** £541.83

**Gift-aid:** £294.54      **Total: £836.37\***

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection – Christmas Flowers:** £259.25

**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](http://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](mailto: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

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



For those children who are currently in Year 9. Registration will be available in the New Year.

### 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.

### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Kingston foodbank at present is particularly short of rice, instant mash, fruit squash, household cleaning items, bleach, washing tablets etc., razors, shaving cream, shower gel and toothbrushes. Thank you for your generosity.

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### CHRISTMAS MASSES

The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) will be celebrated as follows in the parish this year.

There will be **3 Masses** on the Eve of Christmas and **3 Masses** on Christmas Day as listed below:

#### A. CHRISTMAS EVE

1. 5pm – First Vigil Mass
2. 7pm – Second Vigil Mass
3. 10pm – Mass during the Night (*Carols at 9.30pm*)

#### B. CHRISTMAS DAY: 8am, 9.15am, and 11am

Because of public health requirements due to Covid-19, we strongly advise that all who intend to attend any of the above-listed Masses should arrive latest 10 minutes before each Mass. Also, except officially exempted, all are required to wear appropriate facial covering while in Church.

### ATTENTION ALL ALTAR SERVERS!

Altar servers are needed for our Christmas Masses as listed above. Please note that on Christmas Eve, the *Mass in the Night* (10pm) starts with carols at 9.30. So, you need to be there for 8.45 pm. There are sign-up sheets in the RDJ room. Please sign up for the Mass you are able to help with. Many thanks.

### CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS

The collection taken at all Christmas Masses is your gift to our priests, Fr Ignatius and Fr Joseph. As usual, envelopes are available in the Narthex.

**If you are a member of the parish Gift Aid scheme**, please enter your gift aid number on the envelope to enable tax to be reclaimed for the benefit of the parish. If you do not know your gift aid number, Allan Cook (email [tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk) or phone 020 8399 4368) will be happy to give it to you.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS & REPOSITORY NEWS

The repository will now be open every Sunday after 9am Mass to sell Christmas cards and other gift items. Consider supporting your Parish by stocking up from the repository. We welcome back any of our long-standing volunteers to help open the repository but there won't be a rota just yet. Meanwhile, Denise has offered to sell the Christmas card boxes for £3.50 in the Parish Office from 10am to 2pm on weekdays.

**PARISH LENTEN PROJECT AGM:** Sunday, 12 December at 7.00pm in the Old Chapel. The Charities to be supported during Lent 2022 will be selected at the meeting.

**VACANCIES AT RICHARD CHALLONER SCHOOL:** We currently have vacancies for a Catering Assistant, a Café Supervisor, IT Technician and Office Assistant. Full details of each post and how to apply can be found via the school website. <https://www.richardchalloner.com/vacancies>

**CATHOLIC POST NEWSPAPER:** A brand new monthly national and the UK's first Carbon Neutral Catholic newspaper is available in the Narthex. It provides thoughtful articles and a Catholic perspective on the news stories of the day. This edition is coming to us free of charge. If you enjoy it, please let us know.

### † MARGARET (PEGGY) SPICER – RIP

Kindly pray for Peggy Spicer who passed away peacefully in her sleep on 1st December. She was surrounded by her three children, Christine, Mark and Wendy, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Peggy attended OLI for many years, until she moved to Kent, nearly 5 years ago. **Requiem Mass:** Wednesday, 29 December 12.00 at The Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 63 West Street, Sittingbourne, ME10 1AN.



On behalf of Fr Joseph and Dcn Al, I would like to wish all our parishioners and visitors to our parish a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Fr Ignatius, PP