



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH (C)

26 DECEMBER 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:** Mr Ben Martin

MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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

26 Sun	9.00	Magda & Wojtek Nosalik – 50 th Wedding Anniversary
	11.00	Bro A Brockman – BD (<i>Espiritu</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

27 Mon <i>St John</i>	9.30	Fernanda Mortini
28 Tues <i>The Holy Innocents</i>	9.30	Eddie Savage – RIP (<i>Jenny & Fam</i>)
	19.00	Anne Connor
29 Wed <i>St Thomas of Canterbury</i>	9.30	Paul Joseph – RIP (<i>Stella & Fam</i>)
	19.00	Freda McKeon
30 Thurs <i>6th Day of Octave</i>	7.00	Brian McKie – RIP
	9.30	Nobby & Silvia – RIP & WB of Gill & Deborah (<i>J Arreza</i>)
31 Friday <i>7th Day of Octave</i>	9.30	Nubia & George (<i>Szymanski</i>) [Magda & Wojtek (<i>50th W Anv</i>)]
31 Friday <i>New Year Eve</i>	22.00	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	23.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People
01 Sat <i>Mary, the Holy Mother of God</i>	9.00	Tony Fazal – RIP (<i>Family</i>)
01 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Joseph & Justina Edet – RIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

02 Sun	9.00	Vincent Ayamnde – RIP
	11.00	Rajani Reginald – RIP
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

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

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.

LEARNING FROM THE OBEDIENCE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

The feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph is celebrated on the first Sunday after the feast of the Nativity of the Lord. The sequence of this celebration clearly expresses the fact that the Holy Family is a consequence of the Incarnation since the Incarnation did not occur in a vacuum. Though born of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit, the Incarnate Word of God, Jesus Christ, was born into a family, thanks to the cooperation of Joseph to whom his mother Mary was betrothed, before she was, as the evangelists narrate, found to be with child by the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:18; Lk 1:26-37). Thus was established the Holy Family which we celebrate today.

Against the Judeo-Christian tradition, the ordering of the members of the Holy Family begins with the child (Jesus), followed by the mother (Mary), and lastly the father (Joseph). This order which flips the traditional ordering of father, mother, and child, emphasises the centrality of Jesus in making the family of Nazareth not just 'a,' but indeed 'the' holy family and, therefore, the model of all Christian families. Certainly, this does not, however, take anything away from the parental responsibility and influence of Mary and Joseph concerning the integral upbringing of Jesus as a Jew, the carpenter's son (Mt 13:55) and a carpenter (Mk 6:3), that is, notwithstanding his divinity. Neither does it detract from their real human experiences of joy, happiness, love, friendship, as well as anxieties, worries, and sorrows. If anything, the gospel accounts of the life of Jesus give us substantial evidence of the interplay of these concrete experiences in the life of the Holy Family: His birth brought them great joy as it was heralded by the Angels (Lk 2:10). Similarly, the visit and symbolic gifts from the Magi (Mt 2:10-12) must have made them proud. Who wouldn't be? Also, the gracious testimonies of Simeon and Anna during his presentation in the temple (Lk 2:25-38). Of course, these early positive experiences were interrupted by the threat from Herod and the flight to Egypt (Mt 2:13-23), etc.

A remarkable episode in the Holy Family is narrated by the evangelist Luke in today's Gospel (Lk 2:41-52): Mary and Joseph are visibly troubled as they discovered after reaching home from the Passover in Jerusalem, that their twelve-year old was missing. We can only wonder about what must have transpired in their minds as they went from one relative home to another in search of him without finding him. Thankfully, they found him at last, discussing with the elders and legal experts in the temple. Like any parent would, his mother complained about the impact of his 'misbehaviour' on his (foster) father and her. His response is puzzling. Instead of apologising and promising to be a good boy, he reminded them that he must be about his Father's affairs. They were left wondering what he meant, though, according to the evangelist, Mary "treasured all these things in her heart." How may we understand this apparent lack of understanding by Joseph and Mary especially since both were no strangers to abandoning their own plans in favour of God's affairs? After all, the mystery of the Incarnation was the Father's affairs into which they were both invited, and they freely cooperated in their own way to make it possible.

Still, Jesus went back to Nazareth with them and continued to live and grow under their authority and care until he was ready to start his public ministry. Notice here how he courageously correlated his ultimate obedience to the Father's will with obedience to his earthly parents. On their part, Mary and Joseph aligned themselves to his decision and, as a result, grew in their discernment of their roles in relation to the mystery of redemption through the paschal mystery of the Incarnate Word. Their unity obviously goes beyond family ties. It is deeply rooted in their obedience to God's will. As a family of God, we can attain true unity only by our obedience to God. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Ecclesiasticus 24:1-2,8-12
2ND READING	Ephesians 1:3-6,15-18
GOSPEL	John 1:1-18

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially, Peggy Spicer, Toni Wiczorek, Dcn Vincent Bowgett, 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.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

IN GRATITUDE

We would like to thank you all for your love and generosity during this Christmas. God bless you, Fr Ignatius & Fr Joseph.

CRIB OFFERING

Our parish Crib Offering this year will go to support the Catholic Children's Society's (CCS) Southwark Crisis Fund, which provides help for local families who are facing real hardship and have nowhere else to run to. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

NEW YEAR EVE (31 DECEMBER)

22.00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
23.00 – Mass to welcome the New Year

NEW YEAR DAY (1 JANUARY)

9.00 – Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
18.30 – Vigil of the Second Sunday of Christmas



The Lenten Project AGM was held on Sunday 12th December 2021. At this meeting the charities, which the Parish will be supporting for Lent 2022 were chosen. A copy of the minutes will be on the parish website (Community/Lenten Project).

Six charities were nominated in total and four charities were adopted by the committee members present.

The charities are:

1. **Vathiry Sacred Heart College, Sri Lanka** – provides education for children in Sri Lanka who would not receive education otherwise.
2. **Divya Chhaya Society, India** – basic medical facilities in regions where no medical facilities are provided.
3. **St Mary's College, Uganda** – boys Catholic School providing education to a community where poverty is prevalent, and families cannot afford education.
4. **Handmaids Hospital, Nigeria** – essential works to a hospital providing basic medical care to a poor community.

If you would like to organise or participate in an event during Lent 2022, please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk

4TH TOLWORTH AIR SCOUTS – AUTUMN TERM 2021

We were delighted to be able to fully return to Our Lady Immaculate Parish Hall in September, with enhanced Covid precautions in place. We have welcomed 12 Beavers and 18 Cubs to our Wednesday evening meetings, and the Scouting Section is held on Thursday.

The young people have enjoyed learning new scouting skills, working together as a team to solve problems, participate in games and gain Achievement Badges.

We are now on a well-deserved Christmas Break and the new term will begin on WEDNESDAY 12th JANUARY.

If you are aged 6-14 years old and would like to join our Parish Group, contact Mrs Pat Askey at pataskey@outlook.com or 077952962930, for more information.

We also welcome adult helpers to assist our young people. Please contact us for an informal chat.

† MARGARET (PEGGY) SPICER – RIP

Kindly pray for Peggy Spicer who passed on peacefully in her sleep on 1st December. 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.

† ROGER MORTON – RIP

Kindly remember Roger Morton who passed on peacefully on Wednesday, 22 December at Princess Alice Hospice. He was a long-standing member of the parish. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife, Rosemary, and the family.

Requiem Mass: Friday, 14 January, at 11am, followed by Committal at Kingston at 12.30pm. May he rest in peace. Amen.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £625.80

Gift-aid: £405.80 **Total:** £1,031.60*

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

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.