



# Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

20 February 2022

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

### SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

19 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Fr Kenneth Barnes – RIP ( <i>S Mills</i> )
20 Sun	9.00	Mr & Mrs Varanat – Thanksgiving
	11.00	Amanpour Family ( <i>F Amanpour</i> )
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

### SEVENTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE II)

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

21 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Francis and Sabina – Thanksgiving
22 Tues <i>The Chair of St Peter, Apostle</i>	9.30	Eileen Tull – RIP ( <i>K Hodge</i> )
	19.00	Moore Family ( <i>F Amanpour</i> )
23 Wed <i>St Polycarp, Bishop &amp; Martyr</i>	9.30	Rosaria Papa & Fam – RIP ( <i>Franco</i> )
	19.00	Alan & Albertine King & George Saad ( <i>T Saad</i> )
24 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Michael Birchill – RIP ( <i>Fahy</i> )
	9.30	Mary Tong – RIP ( <i>M Ho</i> )
25 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Christian Moore – WB ( <i>F Amanpour</i> )
	9.30	James & Una Walsh – RIP ( <i>J Dunseath</i> )
26 Sat <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Francescantonio & D'Agostino Family Members – RIP ( <i>Franco</i> )

### EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

26 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Holy Souls
27 Sun <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	9.00	Holy Souls
	11.00	Tim Sheehan – RIP ( <i>Saunders &amp; Sparrow Family</i> )
	18.00	Vincent Burrows – RIP ( <i>FM</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
<b>Charismatic Prayer Group</b>	Friday, 7.30pm, Old Chapel

### SHARED PRAYER OF THE WEEK

God, thank you for walking with us through the seasons of our lives:

For the winter, when we are held safe in your arms through the darkness and cold. The hope of spring, as we are filled with new promise and life. For summertime, full of warmth and colour. And for autumn days as leaves fall to foster new growth. You are always with us. Amen.

### LOVING THE ENEMY MAKES US GODLIKE

At the heart of today's liturgy of the word is a call to imitate God who is always rich in mercy and has revealed himself as such particularly in Jesus Christ who is *the incarnation of mercy*. We recall here the memorable words of John Paul II in his encyclical letter on God's mercy, *Dives in misericordia* (1980): "in Christ and through Christ, God also becomes especially visible in His mercy ... Not only does He speak of it and explain it by the use of comparisons and parables, but above all He Himself makes it incarnate and personifies it. He Himself, in a certain sense, is mercy. To the person who sees it in Him – and finds it in Him – God becomes 'visible' in a particular way as the Father 'who is rich in mercy'" (§2). In the same way, Benedict XVI, describes mercy as the name of God: "Mercy is in reality the core of the Gospel message; it is the name of God Himself, the face with which He reveals Himself in the Old Testament and fully in Jesus Christ, the Incarnation of creative and redemptive love" (Address to pilgrims, Divine Mercy Sunday, 2008).

The creativity of Jesus' articulation of God's mercy is reflected in the today's Gospel (Luke 6:27-38). The evangelist Luke extends his presentation of the four beatitudes and their corresponding contraries in last Sunday's Jesus' *sermon on the plain*. Today, they are followed by an extended reflection, as it were, on the relationship of the disciples to others, particularly those who might be hostile to them, on generosity to the needy, and on judgement.

"Love your enemies" ... "present the other cheek too to the man who slaps you on one cheek" ... "give to everyone who asks you" ... "do not be judgemental" ... "pardon offences" ... "be generous" ... Humanly speaking, these are largely not only countercultural but also counter-intuitive to some extent. Herein lies the force of Jesus' teaching. Of course, like David's associate, Abishai in the first reading (1 Sam 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23), we are not wired naturally to think, speak, or act that way. Contrary, David prefigures Jesus by his radical refusal to take vengeance against Saul despite the latter's attempts at his life.

Besides, in the light of the appeal, "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate," the above commands are an invitation to the disciples to emulate God's unconditional love and mercy in their relationships with others, whether they deserve it or not, "for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked." In a way, they provide a sort of positive application of the second of the two great commandments, that is, "love your neighbour as yourself" (Mt 22:37-39). In a way, the teaching of Jesus is, indeed, autobiographical. It highlights the outline of his life and public ministry. He showed scandalous love for sinners and outcasts such as the tax collector Zacchaeus (Lk 19:1-10) and the woman caught in adultery (Jn 8:1-10). He forgave Peter's betrayal (Lk 22:61) and restored him (Jn 21:15-19). More so, despite their cruelty towards him, his final words on the cross to his tormentors and executioners were a passionate appeal to the Father on their behalf: "Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing" (Lk 23:34). For, says St Paul (Rm 5:6-8): "We were still helpless when at his appointed moment Christ died for sinful men. It is not easy to die for a good man... but what proves that God loves us is that Christ died for us while we were still sinners."

As Christ's disciples, we are called and challenged to swim against the tide and to go beyond conventional ethos in our inter-personal relationships. Our love, mercy, and generosity should not be calculative – and manipulative. They should not be based on what we may stand to gain or lose, as the case might be, in return. They should be done out of 'pure' motive, inspired by the love of God and the welfare of the other, friend or foe. This must not only be a momentary act but also a permanent attitude and state of mind. ©IAE

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	Ecclesiasticus 27:5-8
<b>2ND READING</b>	1 Corinthians 15:54-58
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Luke 6:39-45

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Brian Enright, Jim Ballesteros, Fr Paulinus Umana, Tim Sheehan, Vernon Draper, Clive Stevens, and those whose anniversaries occur 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, Elizabeth Jones, Ray Lewry, Kathleen Kelly, Wendy Cook, and Jemima Francis.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £779.76

Gift-aid: £272.80 Total: **£1,052.56\***

Racial Justice Day: £383.67

*\*Excluding standing orders & online payments – the monthly total of which will be published on or after 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](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

## CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2022



If you have a son / daughter in school year 9 (or year 10), and they would like to be included in the programme this year, please download an application form from our website (under Sacraments) and follow the directions on the covering letter.

The final date for applications is **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, which will not be extended.

Those older than Year 10 should speak with the parish priest.

## 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

### EMPOWERING VULNERABLE CHILDREN (EVC) UGANDA

This charity provides a future for some of the poorest children in the world through education. Judi Fawcett, a Trustee, will speak briefly today at the end of Mass about their work. For further information about the Charity please refer to their website: [Home | EVC Uganda](http://Home|EVC Uganda)

### CLERGY SUPPORT FUND SECOND COLLECTION

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church and His People. In 2021, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 71 retired priests, at a cost of £1.25 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese. Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers. Thank you!

- Donate Online: <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf>
- QR Code (see right)
- Telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: **020 7960 2504**
- Cash / Cheque – please use the Clergy Support Fund envelopes at the back of church.

### PARISH LENTEN PROJECT: SRI LANKAN NIGHT – 26 FEB

Saturday, 26 February, 7.30pm – 11.30pm. Please, come and enjoy a variety of Sri Lankan food and entertainment. Tickets are on sale after Mass or contact Joe & Antionette on 07956 891504 or 0208 399 6491: Adults - £10; children 7-12 years old - £5 each. All proceeds go to the Lenten Project.

### LENTEN PROJECT BOXES

Please, collect a box as you leave Mass this weekend, and help raise funds to support the Parish Lenten Project 2022.

### SPONSORED WALK

This year, we are asking Parishioners to commit to walk either individually, or as a family, a certain number of miles during the period of Lent. You may wish to commit to walk for 50 miles, 100 miles or more! One parishioner has committed to walk 400 miles! In addition, led by Fr Ignatius, we are going to have a sponsored walk event, where we walk as a group on 2 April (more details to follow). Please contact Elspeth ([elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com](mailto:elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com)) if you are interested in taking part in either committing to walk a distance over Lent or taking part in the sponsored walk event.

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!

### VACANCY AT MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals has a new job opportunity in the London/South England team. The role of 'Supporter Engagement Officer' is an exciting and varied one which will suit someone with good organisational and people skills. The closing date is 24<sup>th</sup> February. For details, see their website.

### FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Kingston foodbank at present is particularly short of potato foods (tinned new potatoes and powdered mash), jam, rice, instant mash, fruit squash, household cleaning items, bleach, washing tablets etc., razors, shaving cream, shower gel and toothbrushes. Thank you for your generosity.

### † BRIAN ENRIGHT – RIP

Kindly pray for Brian Enright, who passed on peacefully Friday, 11 February. Our condolences to Paul, Catherine, and the family. May he rest in peace. Amen.