



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church  
**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**

27 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

<b>MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS</b>		
<b>EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>		
<b>YOU CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE VIA ONLINE LIVESTREAMING AT <a href="https://www.olionline.co.uk">https://www.olionline.co.uk</a></b>		
26 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Holy Souls
27 Sun <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	9.00	Catherine Enoch & Family – WB
	11.00	Tim Sheehan – RIP ( <i>Saunders &amp; Sparrow Family</i> )
	18.00	Vincent Burrows – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
<b>EIGHTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (CYCLE II)</b>		
<b>EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:</b> Monday – Friday at 8.30am		
28 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	De Souza & Sequeira Families – RIP
	11.00	Requiem Mass: Jimmy Ballesteros
01 Tues <i>St David, Patron of Wales</i>	9.30	Holy Souls
	19.00	John Walsh – RIP ( <i>J Dunseath</i> )
02 Wed <b>Ash Wednesday: Day of fast &amp; abstinence</b>	7.00	Holy Souls ( <i>J Dunseath</i> )
	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
	19.00	Holy Souls
03 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Joseph Antonisamy – RIP ( <i>Mary</i> )
	9.30	Angelica D'Agostino – RIP ( <i>Franco</i> )
04 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Freda Cantwell – WB ( <i>J Dunseath</i> )
	9.30	Roger Fu – WB ( <i>J Wong</i> )
05 Sat <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Denis D'Mello – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		
05 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Jimmy & Carroll – WB
06 Sun	9.00	Joe Cullinan – RIP ( <i>P Grogan</i> )
	11.00	Alex Moore – WB ( <i>F Amanpour</i> )
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

<b>OTHER SERVICES</b>	
<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.

**THE CHALLENGE OF EVANGELISING WITH CREDIBILITY**

“The Church is an evangeliser, but she begins by being evangelized herself... [she] is evangelised by constant conversion and renewal, in order to evangelise the world with credibility.” With these words, Pope Paul VI emphasised, in his post-synodal apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii nuntiandi*, on evangelisation in the modern world (1975, §15), the importance of the evangelisation of the evangeliser as a precondition for effective and credible evangelisation. He stressed that, “for the Church, the first means of evangelisation is the witness of an authentically Christian life” (EN, §41). Thus, he underscored the importance of personal and corporate witness in the life and mission of the Church in all its members and institutions. Without walking our talk, practising what we preach, we would lose the capacity to attract others to listen as well as the credibility to persuade their acceptance and adherence to our message. As he puts it: “Modern man listens more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if he does listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses” (EN, §41).

The above words of Paul VI have resonances in today’s liturgy of the word, especially in the Gospel (Lk 6:39-45). Jesus concludes his *sermon on the plain* by offering his followers three pertinent lessons on how to be good disciples. First, reminding us that the blind cannot lead the blind, Jesus challenges us to remove the plank from our own eyes first so that we can clearly see the splinter in others’ eyes and help them deal with it. He warns against self-righteousness and hypocrisy; just keeping the letters of the commandments is not enough. A good disciple must go beyond this minimal and, therefore, inadequate standard. Mere good actions alone are not enough; the motives and intentions behind them are as important if not more so. Second, he condemns pride and arrogance which are generally associated with self-righteousness. Last but not the least, he encourages humility and integrity. This requires readiness to practice self-criticism, that is, an honest self-examination of oneself fully aware, as Jesus says, that “a man’s words [and deeds] flow out of what fills his heart.” Hence, the first reading warns: “Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of men” (Ec 27:5-8).

To be sure, Jesus’ warning does not imply that we are condemned to silence and should not speak out about persons and issues. Such interpretation will completely miss both his message and example. Through baptism, we are also a prophetic people, called and missioned to speak the truth in love (Ep 4:15), to announce God’s message, proclaim his kingdom and call people to conversion (Mk 1:15; see 15:15-16). As Christ’s disciples, telling the truth to and about others and issues should always be conducted with a spirit of love, compassion, and mercy, and not from self-righteousness and condemnation, conscious of our own struggles and shortcomings (see Jn 8:7-11). Nonetheless, our shortcomings and struggles cannot be normalised either. Jesus’ words and examples should always be the norm for us as his missionary disciples (Mt 11:29; see 1 Co 11:1).

The values promoted by Jesus are imbibed, nurtured, and cultivated through a life-long commitment to interior conversion, which can only come about by openness to Jesus’ teaching and imitating his example. This is what he means when he says, “The disciple is not superior to his teacher,” because the disciples cannot invent their own values (see Jn 15:16). So, “the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher,” precisely by modelling his thoughts, words, and actions after the teacher. If the teacher is the ultimate model, then he remains the ultimate yardstick for the disciple’s integrity which, in turn, gives credibility to his / her mission as an evangeliser.

As we start Lent this week on Ash Wednesday, we pray for more openness to self-criticism as we walk the path of true conversion through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving or charitable deeds. ©IAE

<b>NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS</b>	
<b>1ST READING</b>	Deuteronomy 26:4-10
<b>2ND READING</b>	Romans 10:8-13
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Luke 4:1-13

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Olive McMullon, Agnes Matthews, Jimmy Ballesteros, Brian Enright, Tim Sheehan, 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, Jemima Francis, and Nivetheni Robert.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £676.55

Gift-aid: £421.20 Total: **£1,097.75\***

EVC, Uganda Appeal: £737.44

*\*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 [online.co.uk](http://online.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

### CLERGY SUPPORT FUND: SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

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.

### SAVING GRACE: A Southwark Diocesan retreat for Lent

Introduced by Archbishop John Wilson and led by members of the Spirituality Commission of our diocese, the diocese is offering a retreat experience for its people and parishes during Lent 2022, beginning on the first Sunday of Lent and ending in Easter week. Drawing on the Old Testament readings for the Sunday of Lent, saving Grace will explore our shared story as the people of God. Individuals can access Zoom groups organised by the Spirituality Commission. These will run on different days of the week and times of day, and links will be listed on the spirituality website. To sign up and receive materials directly, please visit:

[https://eepurl.com/hnK\\_Rz](https://eepurl.com/hnK_Rz)

### 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!

### UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS' AGM

Tuesday, 15 March 15<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Old Chapel.

We shall be electing a Committee for the coming year and welcome nominations for the posts of President, Secretary, and Treasurer. After the business there will be light refreshments. Please make every effort to attend. This year Tolworth Foundation celebrates its 77<sup>th</sup> year as part of the National Union of Catholic Mothers. Let us look forward to many more years of being part of this wonderful organisation. All ladies are welcome to join us.

### 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.

### † JIMMY BALLESTEROS – RIP

Kindly pray for James Ballesteros (Jimmy), who died on Saturday, 29 January, aged 93. Our condolences to his niece, Josephine, and other members of his extended family. **Requiem Mass:** Monday, 28 February, 11am. **Committal:** Kingston Crematorium. May he rest in peace. Amen.