



FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C) – PRAY FOR PEACE IN UKRIANE!

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

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

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

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

FIRST WEEK OF LENT

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

07 Mon <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Regina Sellammahi –RIP (<i>Madona</i>)
	11.00	Requiem Mass: Agnes Matthews
08 Tues <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Emily D’Silva – Int. (<i>A & M D’Silva</i>)
	19.00	Janaki Gandhimathi – RIP (<i>Mary</i>)
09 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Marie-Hélène Cook – WB (<i>Nubia</i>)
	19.00	Rosamma Simon’s Intentions
10 Thurs <i>Feria of Lent</i>	7.00	Eileen Tull – RIP
	9.30	Luke Walsh – RIP (<i>Mr & Mrs Walsh</i>)
11 Friday <i>Feria of Lent</i>	7.00	Mary Trussler – RIP(<i>FM</i>)
	9.30	Timothy Aseervatham – RIP (<i>Louis</i>)
12 Sat <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.00	Michael Donovan – RIP (<i>A Donovan</i>)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

12 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Mary Campbell & Mary Langton (<i>Maria Campbell</i>)
13 Sun	9.00	Tim Sheehan – RIP (<i>Keely</i>)
	11.00	Denis Deasy – RIP (<i>Cummins</i>)
	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
Charismatic Prayer Group	Friday, 7.30pm, Old Chapel
Stations of the Cross (Friday in Lent)	6PM: Syro Malabar 7PM: English Language

SHARED PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord, teach me to be generous.
Teach me to serve you as you deserve;
to give and not to count the cost,
to fight and not to heed the wounds,
to toil and not to seek for rest,
to labour and not to ask for reward,
save that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.
(*St Ignatius of Loyola*)

BEING FAITHFUL TO THE FATHER’S WILL

On the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading normally focuses on Jesus being tempted by the devil in the desert. The setting of the story between his baptism and the beginning of his public ministry, underlies the significance of the episode in the unfolding identity and mission of Jesus as God’s faithful servant who is always preoccupied with nothing except the Father’s will (Jn 6:38; see Mt 26:39,42).

The message of today’s Gospel (Lk 4:1-13) is, therefore, not only about Jesus being tempted by the devil but about his triumph over the devil not just by challenging both the temptations and the tempter, but ultimately by remaining faithful to the will of the Father. Considering each of the three temptations as an attempt by the tempter to derail Jesus from the will of the Father, makes clear that the supreme power of Jesus over the temptations and the tempter consists in his unflinching dedication to the Father’s will. Besides, the context of the temptations reminds us of the opportunistic and deceptive nature of temptations and the tempter.

The first temptation is very decisive. “*If you are the Son of God, tell this stone to turn into a loaf.*” Famished after forty days and nights of fasting and exposure to the elements in the desert, the devil could not have chosen a better starting point. On the surface, this appears to be an innocent if not also a sensitive concern for Jesus’ wellbeing. On a closer look, however, the ploy of the devil is obvious. The hypothetical expression, “*If you are the Son of God,*” is clearly sarcastic and patronising. The same mockery would be echoed by one of the two thieves beside him on the cross who taunted him, “*If you are the Christ save yourself and us*” (Lk 23:39). Surely, the One who would change water into wine (Jn 2:9) did not need to prove who he was to the devil. Hence his response: “*Scripture says: Man does not live on bread alone.*”

Concretely, the first temptation reminds us of, and warns us against the danger of indiscriminate consumerism. Fed by insatiable greed and selfish acquisition even at the expense of others, especially the poor and vulnerable, unbridled consumption contradicts God’s will and undermines friendship, solidarity, and the common good. Our deepest needs cannot be reduced to tangible materials, luxury items, or consumables. That is why the possession and enjoyment of them in abundance do not always guarantee lasting satisfaction or peace. Instead, as studies have shown, consumerism normally results in emptiness and discontent. For believers, God is the ultimate fulfilment of our deepest desire. As St Augustine says, our souls cannot find rest except in him. We achieve this when we align our will to God’s will. Jesus does this by saying NO to the devil and his scheming. The other two temptations also follow a similar trajectory.

In the second temptation, the devil clearly wants Jesus to reject the Father outrightly and choose him instead by worshiping him based on a bogus promise. Of course, this is sheer posturing by the devil because the world and all they contain belong properly to God alone, and nothing came into being except through his Word (Jn 1:1-3). In response, Jesus reasserts God’s supreme prerogative over our loyalty as expressed in the first commandment. There’s a warning here against idolatry under any guise (wealth, power, fame, self).

Lastly, the devil wants Jesus to perform a spectacle by throwing himself off the parapet of the Temple without getting hurt. Notably, the tempter appeals to the Scriptures to persuade Jesus to obey him. Jesus’ response is quite telling: “*It has been said, ‘You must not put the Lord your God to the test.’*” Here again, Jesus does not only say No; he challenges the tempter and, consequently, remains resolute to God’s will. May our Lenten observances help us to follow in his footsteps and stay faithful to the Father’s will. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

1ST READING	Genesis 15:5-12,17-18
2ND READING	Philippians 3:17-4:1
GOSPEL	Luke 9:28-36

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Olive McMullon, Agnes Matthews, Mary Felton, Elizabeth Nichols, Maureen Melia, John Morello, 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: £720.91

Gift-aid: £372.65 **Total: £1,092.84***

Retired & Sick Clergy: £392.27

**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), 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

2ND COLLECTION TODAY: For the support of poorer parishes in the diocese. Thank you for your generosity.

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 6th March**, which will not be extended.

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

SAVING GRACE: A DIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT

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

UKRAINE CIVILIAN MEDICAL DONATIONS

If you feel you would like to donate, please bring your donations to St Mark's Church, St Mark's Hill, KT6 4LS. The donations needed are medical supplies, first aid kits, bandages, baby items and personal hygiene items. Including non-prescriptions drugs (paracetamol or ibuprofen), dried baby milk, nappies, Adult and child toothpaste and brushes, shampoo, body wash and women's sanitary items. Thank you.

FAMILY FAST DAY – 11 MARCH

CAFOD Family Fast Day this Lent is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world. On Friday 11 March, can you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people in poverty? Please collect a Fast Day envelope from Church this week and give whatever you can. Thank you.

LENTEN PROJECT 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, on 2 April, there is going to be a challenging 38 km (24 miles) sponsored walk. Setting off from OLI Church, we plan to walk along the river to Richmond and then walk a circuit of Richmond Park, before retracing our steps. Please contact Elspeth (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

LENTEN PROJECT TABLE-TOP SALE: 19 & 20 MARCH

This popular event will be held after the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday, 19 March and after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses on Sunday 20th March. Items sold will include brand-new, top-quality china and glass; toys and games; books and much much more! Refreshments will be provided, and it will be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and support the Lenten Project.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK – STOP NEW ABORTION THREAT

Baroness Sugg has tabled an amendment to the Health and Care Bill that would make 'DIY' at-home abortion permanent. It is vital that as many Peers as possible oppose this amendment.

Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website that makes it easy for you to send an email to a randomly assigned Peer asking them to oppose the amendment. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/DIYabortionthreat to contact your MP now. It only takes two minutes.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS (UCM): AGM

Tuesday, 15 March at 7.30pm in the Old Chapel. We shall be electing a Committee for the coming year. This year Tolworth Foundation celebrates its 77th year as part of the National UCM. 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.