



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C) – HAPPY MOTHERS’ DAY!

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)
YOU CAN ALSO PARTICIPATE VIA ONLINE
LIVESTREAMING AT <https://www.olionline.co.uk>

26 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Gabriel & Conceicao Santos – 40 th Wedding Anniversary (<i>N Santos</i>)
27 Sun <i>Mothers’ Day</i>	9.00	Mary Creighan – RIP (<i>Karen Fox</i>)
	11.00	Brian Enright – RIP (<i>Keely Family</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

FOURTH WEEK OF LENT – LÆTARE SUNDAY

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

28 Mon <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Caroline & Kelvin – 59 th Wedding Anniversary (<i>Andrews</i>)
29 Tues <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Paul Joseph – RIP (<i>S Joseph</i>)
	19.00	Subrmaniam Punnyalingham
30 Wed <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.30	Susanna Chin – RIP (<i>T Bredl</i>)
	11.00	Requiem Mass: John Morello–RIP
	19.00	Richard O’Flaherty – RIP (<i>Fahy</i>)
31 Thurs <i>Feria of Lent</i>	7.00	Mary Bradley – RIP (<i>Fahy</i>)
	9.30	Irene Powel – RIP (<i>E Powell</i>)
01 Friday <i>Feria of Lent</i>	7.00	Mary Keenan
	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
02 Sat <i>Feria of Lent</i>	9.00	Private

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

02 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Brian McCluskey – WB (<i>L Jones</i>)
03 Sun <i>Mothers’ Day</i>	9.00	Barry Lindfield – RIP (<i>F Deegan</i>)
	11.00	Tremenheere & White Families–WB
	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

Dear God,
 Use me.
 Show me how to take who I am,
 who I want to be,
 and do what I can do.
 Use me for a purpose greater than myself. Amen.
 (Attributed to Martin Luther King Jnr)

REJOICING IN HOPE

We are halfway through Lent. Today, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, is traditionally called *Lætare Sunday*. Based on the opening words of the entrance antiphon in Latin, drawn from Isaiah 66:10-11, “*Lætare, Ierusalem...*” – “Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.” Today, the liturgy draws us to anticipate the approaching joy of the Resurrection at Easter. Practically, it provides some ‘relief’ from the austere penitential character of Lent. Hence, the priest may wear rose coloured vestments instead of the more sombre purple of Lent. Also, the sanctuary may be modestly adorned with flowers. It reminds us that the joy of Easter is around the corner but also prepares us to face the darkness of Good Friday and Holy Saturday with hope.

Easter is a celebration of forgiveness, reconciliation, rebirth, and renewal. It is the reason for Christian joy and hope. In the light of the first reading (Jos 5:9-12), Lent may be likened to Israel’s journey through the desert towards the Promised Land. Though a defining moment in their liberation, the Exodus remained essentially incomplete until the people of Israel arrived and took possession of the land of Canaan. Their entry into Canaan, therefore, marked an end to the indignity of slavery in Egypt: “*Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.*” It reminds us of God’s forgiveness and mercy, without which they would have perished on the way due to their constant loss of faith (see Ps 94 [95]:10-11). During their forty years of sojourn in the desert and afterwards, their unfaithfulness was always surpassed by God’s faithfulness (see Ho 3:1).

Jesus’ teaching in the Gospel (Lk 15:1-3,11-32), the parable of the *prodigal son*, extends this theme further. It reminds us of the overarching focus of Lent, as expressed crisply by the prophet Ezekiel (33:11): “*As I live – it is the Lord Yahweh who speaks – I take pleasure, not in the death of the wicked man, but in the turning back of a wicked man who changes his ways to win life.*”

Curiously, there are two prodigals in the story, the first, though less obvious, being the father. Readily giving off, at the request of his son, a portion of his estate while he was still alive, without any conditions or asking for any guarantees about how he would manage it, can hardly be considered diligent or abstemious. Not to mention welcoming him back after he had squandered everything, returned empty-handed and dishevelled, only to be welcomed with open arms, festal pomp and banquet, and a vintage fattened cow slaughtered to celebrate his homecoming! Certainly, the wastefulness of the errant son is utterly surpassed by the father’s lavished generosity, forgiveness, and mercy. The father’s disposition is indeed legendary. It is striking that, though the prodigal had taken the initiative to return home, confess his wrongdoing and ask for mercy, the father is the one who takes the initiative to go out to welcome him while still at a distance. He does the same with the *good son* who, offended and scandalised by his father’s extravagant actions, would not join the outrageous celebration. Surely, the Father of mercies is always looking out for us, repentant or self-righteous, in the same way. Every genuine reconciliation is always rooted in God’s initiative which moves us to honestly examine ourselves in the light of his lavish love. Through this, we literally come to our senses about 1) our sins, 2) their impact on ourselves and on our relationship with God and others, 3) our deepest need for forgiveness and reconciliation, and 4) the steps we need to take to bring this about.

In the second reading (2 Co 5:17-21), St Paul reminds us of the important role the Church plays in reconciliation. As a victim, it suffers through the sins of its members. But as a mediator, it intercedes with and on behalf of penitents, for God’s mercy and forgiveness, while through the ministerial priesthood it declares them forgiven in the name of the Trinity. Finally, in the Eucharist, it celebrates and rejoices that they are reconciled. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 43:16-21
2ND READING	Philippians 3:8-14
GOSPEL	John 8:1-11

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Eddie Walsh, John Morello, Fr Denis Paul, 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, Nivetheni Robert, Sally Wells, and Giuseppe Ingrassi.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £768.93

Gift-aid: £368.00 Total: **£1,136.93***

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

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

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

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME

PALM SUNDAY: 6.30PM (SAT), 9AM, 11AM, & 6PM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

1. **5PM:** Mass of the Last Supper (1)
2. **8PM:** Mass of the Last Supper (2)
3. **11.45PM:** Night Prayers

GOOD FRIDAY

1. **9AM:** Office of the Readings & Lauds
2. **9.30-10.30AM:** Sacrament of Reconciliation
3. **12PM:** Commemoration of the Passion & Veneration of the Cross (1)
4. **3PM:** Commemoration of the Passion & Veneration of the Cross (2)
5. **7PM:** Stations of the Cross

HOLY SATURDAY

1. **9AM:** Office of the Readings & Lauds
2. **8PM:** Solemn Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY: 9Am, 11AM, & 6PM

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

YOUTH LITURGY TEAM LOGO COMPETITION

Calling all Youth and Young People in our parish! Put your stamp on your Youth Mass. We are running a competition to find a logo for our monthly Youth Mass. The logo will also be used as the parish Youth Liturgy Team logo. It will be the identity of the Youth Mass and should empower the youth. If you have a design in mind (hand-drawn or digital), please send your designs to Jefin who is part of the Youth Liturgy Team: jefinjohngmail.com Deadline: **13th April**. Winner to be announced during our Youth Mass in April.

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

THE LENTEN PROJECT QUIZ 2022 (2ND APRIL 7.45PM)

Time to exercise those little grey cells!! The main hall will be open from 7.30pm, for 7.45pm start. £3 per adult. £1 per child under 16. You are welcome to bring your own food and drink, and all proceeds will go to support the Lenten project charities. Please come and have fun and support these great causes. To book a table call George 07949334349.

LENTEN PROJECT TABLE-TOP SALE

Last weekend's Table-Top Sale was a resounding success. Attended by many Parishioners, we raised an amazing £1,034! Many thanks to all for your help and support.

VACANCY WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking to recruit a part time Organising Secretary to help administer the charity, assist in recruiting new members and in organising events. The appointment based in Westminster Cathedral Clergy House is for 20 hours per week at a salary in the region of £14,500 per annum. The appointment is for 12 months. Closing date 27 March 2022. For further details please visit <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-look-for-an-organising-secretary/>.

NEW FOUNDATION GOVERNOR FOR OLI SCHOOL

The Governing Body of Our Lady Immaculate Primary School are looking for new members. Working in partnership with the school to ensure that our children achieve the very best education is such a rewarding way to support the parish-school community. If you can spare five to ten hours each term to support the Governors and Headteacher in their strategic and spiritual guidance of the school (two evening meetings per term plus a couple of visits to the school per year) please email Rachel Reid (Clerk to the Governing Body) on governors@oli.rbksch.org to find out more information. Please respond by Friday, 1 April 2022.

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.

† JOHN MORELLO – RIP

Kindly pray for Anthony Morello who died on 26 February, aged 77. Our condolences to the family. May he rest in peace. Amen. **Requiem Mass:** Wednesday, 30 March, 11.30am.

† EDWARD (EDDIE) JOSEPH WALSH – RIP

Kindly pray for Eddie Walsh of 17 Oakleigh Ave, who died peacefully at home on 22 March, aged 91. Our condolences to Sheila and the family. May he rest in peace. Amen. **Requiem Mass:** Monday, 11 April, 11am.