



# Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – C

17 July 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

### SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – C

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

16 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Raymond Brennan – RIP ( <i>J &amp; M Friel</i> )
17 Sun	9.00 11.00 18.00	Alex Moore's Intentions Branca D'Mello – RIP ( <i>FM</i> ) <i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

### WEEK 16 OF THE YEAR (II)

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

18 Mon <i>Feria</i>	9.30	John Fernandes & Family ( <i>P Jeannet</i> )
19 Tues <i>Feria</i>	9.30 19.00	Joe Finn – RIP ( <i>P &amp; B Mulrooney</i> ) Fr Mark Otong – RIP ( <i>IE</i> )
20 Wed <i>Feria</i>	9.30 19.00	Christian Moore's Int ( <i>F Amanpour</i> ) Christopher's Intention ( <i>Anon</i> )
21 Thurs <i>Feria</i>	7.00 9.30	Priest & People of Crayford ( <i>IE</i> ) Thanksgiving ( <i>S Varanat</i> )
22 Friday <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	7.00 9.30	Family & Friends ( <i>IE</i> ) Martin Farrell – WB
23 Sat <i>St Bridget</i>	9.00	John Rayner – RIP ( <i>IE</i> )

### SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF YEAR C

23 Sat <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Mair Gray – RIP ( <i>B &amp; D Marley</i> )
24 Sun <i>World Day of Prayer for Grandparents</i>	9.00 11.00 18.00	Anne Gnanapragasam – RIP Luis Garcia, Anna Libra & Gladis Sundraeanchenty David – RIP

### 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>Syro Malabar Prayer Group</b>	1st Friday of the month: 7pm

### SHARED PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Lord Jesus, 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 heed the words;  
to toil and not seek reward,  
except that of knowing that I do your will. Amen.

~ St Ignatius of Loyola.

### THE DISCIPLE ALWAYS LISTENS

The evangelist Luke continues his account of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. Following the encounter with the lawyer, which concluded with the parable of the Good Samaritan (Lk 10:23-37), in today's Gospel (vv.38-42), Jesus visits the home of his friends Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus (see Jn 11:5). They both welcome him. Martha busies herself with the burden of providing for their guest, while Mary sits at his feet listening to him. So far, no problem! Two different but complimentary expressions of hospitality! But the problem starts when Martha approaches Jesus to complain that her sister has left the serving to her alone. Superficially, it seems like a harmless complaint. Who would begrudge her of wanting to share in the conversation?

A childhood memory of evening story-time whenever we spent a holiday with my grandma always comes to my mind whenever I read this passage. It was customary for the children in the household to gather in the courtyard under the moonlight to listen to 'moonlight stories' by elders – sitting on the floor around them. In view of this, everyone would join hands to quickly sort out after-supper chores, so that no one would miss the story-time from the beginning. It was just natural to run to grandma or any adult to ask them to intervene if anyone was not helping to get things sorted this way. And they always did! My first instinct, therefore, is to sympathise with Martha. Perhaps some if not most of us would sympathise with her too. And so, we may wonder if Jesus is rather too harsh in his response to her?

On a deeper reflection, however, Jesus' rebuke of Martha is not out of place. She is not rebuked for busying herself with serving their guest. In itself, that is a wholesome act. After all, Abraham and especially his wife Sarah did just that in the first reading (Gn 18:1-8). They welcomed, served, and feted God disguised as three guests, and were wondrously rewarded. How much more rewarding for her to fete God himself made incarnate whom Paul in the second reading (Col 1:24-24) describes as "a mystery hidden for generations and centuries and has now been revealed to his saints." Moreover, Martha's labour is clearly profiled in Mathew's account of the final judgement, when Jesus says to the blessed, "for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (25:36). Obviously, she could not have been reprimanded for such work.

Martha is, first and foremost, reproached for *complaining*. Perhaps she would have attracted Jesus' understanding if she were just to ask her sister to help her without complaining. It is interesting that she does not just complain to Jesus about her sister, but against Jesus himself as well. She judges both Jesus and her sister: "Lord, do you not care that my sister is leaving me to do the serving all by myself." Jesus is, therefore, an accomplice. Otherwise, he would not have indulged her apparent laziness and insensitivity. Similarly, Jesus' response, "you worry and fret about so many things, and yet few are needed, indeed only one. It is Mary who has chosen the better part; it is not to be taken from her," is not a dismissal of the intrinsic value of Martha's work. On the contrary, it is a firm rebuke of the implicit judgemental mindset behind her outburst, an outlook that is fuelled by self-righteousness and / or attention-seeking. Of course, Jesus loathed and criticised the same attitude in the religious establishment – the scribes, pharisees, and the lawyers – and those who rejected him and were not readily open to his call (see Mt 6:1-4). Martha reminds us, among others, of the complaining first son in the parable of the prodigal son (Lk 15:29), of the vain pharisee praying in the temple (Lk 18:9-14), and of the seed that fell among thorns, those who welcome the word but allow "the cares of the world and the lure of wealth" to choke it (Mt 3:7,22). Mary, on the other hand, points us towards the absolute priority of obedience to the voice at the transfiguration, "This is my son, the Chosen One, listen to him" (Lk 9:35). She illustrates the seed that fell on good soil, those who "hear and understand the word" and bear various fruits (Mt 3:8,23). She is the archetype mother, brother, and sister of Jesus, "whoever does the will of God" (Mk 3:35). Listening to the Word of God is the fundamental requirement for discipleship and a corrective to the self-absorption that can derail our response to God's call. Martha would do this the next time Jesus visits them (see Jn 11:20-28). © IAE

### NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	Genesis 18:20-32
<b>2ND READING</b>	Colossians 2:12-14
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Luke 11:1-13

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially John Rayner, Fr. Mark Otong, Theresa Rapley, 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, Sue Ewen, Pauline Ferrara, Ann Groves, Thomas Haley, George Trutwein, 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., Kathleen McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, Claire Pender, Christine Howey, Hazel D'Aguiar, Mary O'Mara, Eileen Cullen, Elizabeth Jones, Ray Lewry, Wendy Cook, Jemima Francis, Nivetheni Robert, Sally Wells, Joe Ingrassi, Baby Freddie Page, Philip Leightley, Alison Browning, Clare, and Gerry Hague.

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP (SUNDAY 9AM MASS)

Many thanks to all parents and children for your support of the Children's Liturgy Group this school year. After this weekend (Sunday 9 am Mass), we are on summer holiday until September. We look forward to welcoming you all back then.

### POLISH PRESENTATION – 24 JULY

A short presentation on Polish traditions during the liturgical year will take place on Sunday 24 July in the Church Hall after the 9am Mass by two young people who are visiting our parish from Poland.

### WELCOMERS AT MASS

We have a very loyal team who welcome you to Mass every week, hand out hymn books (and tidy them afterwards), point visitors in the right direction for newsletters and so on, but we could do with a few more. As you can see, the role is quite simple, but very important. If you can join our rota, please email the parish office with your name, Mass attended, and phone number and we will be in touch. Thank you.

### UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS – 19 JULY

Meeting at 7.30pm is cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.

### DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY – 24 JULY

Pope Francis set this special day up two years ago, and this year it is dedicated to the importance of inviting older people to contribute to building a better world. The theme – *"They Shall Bear Fruit Even in Old Age,"* chosen by the Pope, intends to emphasise how grandparents and the elderly are a value and a gift both for society and for ecclesial communities.

### RED MISSION BOXES

Please bring the contents of your Red Mission Boxes to the Church during the next three weeks, so that the money can be counted and sent to *Missio*. Many thanks for your continuing generosity.

### SUMMERTIME 2022 FOR ALTAR SERVERS – 2-5 AUGUST

Altar servers aged 11-17 are all invited. **Venue:** Oratory School, Reading. It is a brilliant few days of prayer and recreation, to be opened with Holy Mass by the Archbishop. Coach transport is available from two venues. Total cost is £199. Forms are available from [www.stanselmsdartford.wordpress.com](http://www.stanselmsdartford.wordpress.com). More information? Contact Fr Stephen Boyle, chaplain to the Guild of St Stephen: Tel: 01322 220075 or email: [dartford@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:dartford@rcaos.org.uk)

### PILGRIMAGE TO WALSHINGHAM – 24 SEPTEMBER

Travel will be by coach from St John Fisher's car park, 207 Cannon Hill Lane, Merton, SW20 9DB. Cost of the coach travel is £30 per person. For more details, please see the poster in the Narthex.

### DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2022

The Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place between 19th and 26th August. We are sad that, like most Lourdes pilgrimages this year, we have not been able to include pilgrims who need medical support. At the same time, we are delighted to be returning to Lourdes after two years of absence. Details are available at [www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/catholic-association](http://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/catholic-association). Southwark contacts: Canon Ed Perera ([edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk)) and Bishop Paul Hendricks ([paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk)).

### HOSANNA HOUSE LOURDES PILGRIMAGE: 9-16 SEPTEMBER

Come and join us to experience a new adventure! We are looking forward to yet another week of prayer, rest, and fun. We will also visit places of interest such as Bartres and Gavarnie in the Pyrenees. Our group includes persons of all ages and those requiring special assistance. Young helpers will be provided training and the required support. Fr. Ignatius will be joining us as Chaplain. For further details please contact Emil Kumar (020 8398 9222) or Dr Ian Coxon (020 8398 3642) or by e-mail: [group537@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:group537@hcpt.org.uk)

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £689.91

Gift-aid: £319.69    **Total: £1,009.60\***

**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA: £358.67**

### TOTAL COLLECTION FOR MAY 2022

A. Cash / cheques – 3,891.07

1. Gift-Aided – 1,198.00

2. Non-G/A – 2,693.07

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – 3,000.30

1. Gift-Aided – 2,550.00

2. Non-G/A – 453.00

C. Contactless Machine – 863.00

**Total = £7,754.37 (Last month: £10,159.70)**

**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

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

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME



Watch this space for information about the next programme!

## 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 potato foods (tinned new potatoes), pot noodles, jam, rice, instant mash, fruit squash, household cleaning items, bleach, washing tablets etc., razors, shaving cream, shower gel and toothbrushes.

**NB:** You may also drop your donations in the narthex on Saturday evenings and Sunday mornings at Mass times, or at the parish office during office hours (10am – 2pm, Monday – Friday).