



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church

01 January 2023

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG

Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: tolworth@caos.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

MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://www.olionline.co.uk>

31 Saturday	18.30	Rita Tibbs' Intentions (A Davis) <i>Vigil</i>
01 Sunday	09.00	Rajani Reginald – RIP
	11.00	Tony Fazal – RIP (P Fazal)
	18.00	Pro Populo – For the People

WEEKDAY OF CHRISTMAS TIME

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

02 Monday <i>Ss Basil & Gregory</i>	9.30	Peter Burns & Family (K Fox)
03 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Nikoll Ndoka Niklelaj – RIP
	19.00	Ian Wallace – RIP (M-J Gray)
04 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Personal Intentions (B Roy)
	19.00	Bernard Thefaut – RIP (M C Taylor)
05 Thursday <i>Feria</i> Epiphany (Vigil)	7.00	John Tumilty – RIP (FM)
	9.30	Benedict XVI – WB
	19.00	Pro Populo – For the People
06 Friday <i>The Epiphany of the Lord:</i> Holy Day of Obligation	7.00	Private
	9.30	Patrick & Mary McAleenan – WB (With OLI School attending)
	19.00	Pro Populo – For the People
07 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Catherine Yap – WB

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

07 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Heather Trutwein – RIP (Trutwein)
08 Sunday	09.00	Mohan Tambimuttu – RIP (Erman)
	11.00	Abdul & Victoria Nannis – RIP
	18.00	Pro Populo – For the People

OTHER SERVICES

Morning Prayer of the Church	Monday – Friday: 9am
Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.15pm
Youth Mass	Last Sunday: 6pm Mass
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
Syro Malabar Prayer Group	1st Friday of the month: 7pm

SHARED PRAYER OF THE WEEK

For the blessing of homes on the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord – 6 January:

Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfilment of thy law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP OF SOUTHWARK Pastoral Letter for the Sunday after Christmas 2023 Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ

It is a great joy to be able to greet you in this Christmas season and at the beginning of the new calendar year of 2023. I extend to you, and you families and loved ones, every blessing and good wish as we continue to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. I also assure you of my prayers and warm best wishes as a new year unfolds. Towards you, from my heart, I make my own the ancient words given by God to Moses: *'May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord uncover his face to you and give you his peace.'* (cf. Num 6: 24-26)

Today, we unite ourselves, in a special way, to the Mother of God, Mary most holy. In the small chapel at Archbishop's House there is a very beautiful statue of Our Lady. It is carved according to the Eastern Christian tradition of icons, the holy images of Our Lord, his Mother and the saints. There is a particular style of icon of Our Lady called the *Hodegetria*. This Greek name carries the meaning of *'Our Lady who points the way.'* Our chapel statue is based on this. Our Lady holds the Christ Child tenderly in one arm. She looks out towards us, while pointing with her other hand to the Lord Jesus. Through her loving gaze, she draws us close, but only so that she can direct us to Christ. This is her vocation as Mother of God, Mother of the Church and Mother of every disciple: to point us to Christ

St Paul recalls that we have each been adopted into a new life in Christ. We are sons and daughters of God, in and through God's Son. We are brothers and sisters in Christ, sharing one Heavenly Father. In a related sense, Mary is also spiritually our heavenly Mother. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we have God as our common Father. As brothers and sisters in Christ, we also share one holy Mother. There are no orphans in Christ.

What might it mean for Mary our Mother to point the way for us to the Lord Jesus? Of many possible answers, here are three simple responses.




First of all, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by showing us what it means to be disciples. By her own example, she teaches us to trust that all things are possible for God. Through her faith, she shows us how to allow God's plan and purpose for our life to unfold, just as she did for her own life. At Cana she told people to do whatever Jesus said. She could only do this because she believed he was the Son of God. She continued to believe in times of joy and in times of sorrow, always walking the pathway of hope. Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by her own pattern of discipleship.

Second, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by teaching us to treasure the things of faith and to ponder them in our heart. She knows the importance of the inner life, of prayer and of contemplation. She invites us to know the Lord Jesus personally in our heart and to consider prayerfully the words of Scripture. How can we really be disciples unless the external practice of our faith is rooted in our interior living relationship with Christ? Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus by witnessing to the needy to prayerfully reflect on the things of life in the light of faith.

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NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7
2ND READING	Acts 10: 34-38
GOSPEL	Matthew 3:13-17

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Canon Colm Acton, Jacques Pearce, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.	<p>Thirdly, and finally, Mary points the way to the Lord Jesus because she is our spiritual Mother. She prays with us and for us. She is our friend in heaven. We can ask her to pray for us, for our needs and our worries. And, while certainly praying for us, she always invites us to come to her Son with confidence. Mary only ever points beyond herself to the Lord Jesus. She helps us to find him, to know him, love him and serve him.</p> <p>Dear friends, as the New Year opens we look to Christ, the beginning and the end of all things, to whom all time belongs. Whatever this year brings, we will face it with Christ. For her part, Our Blessed Mother points the Church, and each disciple, to her Son so that we can name him Jesus, the one who saves; so that we can name him Lord, brother and friend. With great faith, we step forward along the way towards the future, united with Christ and with Our Lady. Like her we are called to be disciples of joy, disciples who by their witness point the way to the Lord Jesus who always needs to be born anew through us to our waiting world.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">With my prayers and every blessing for this Christmas Season and the New Year Yours devotedly in Christ + John Wilson</p>	
	Please remember and pray for the sick, the housebound and all who care for them, especially those in our parish community: Vanessa Andrew, Martin Dray, Sue Ewen, Pauline Ferrara, Ann Groves, Thomas Haley, George Trutwein, Esme Mills, Frances Cox, Mary Ryan, Joan McGovern, Rita Reginald, Thomas O'Connor, Jimmy Simon, Sarah Mills, Samar Staussi, Annita Smith, Shirlene A., Kathleen McGuinness, Kathleen O'Connell, Claire Pender, Hazel D'Aguiar, Mary O'Mara, Eileen Cullen, Elizabeth Jones, Ray Lewry, Wendy Cook, Nivetheni Robert, Joe Ingrassi, Baby Freddie Page, Philip Leightley, Clare & Baby Polly, Gerry Hague, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Eric Powell, Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Mary L Taylor, and Benedict XVI.		
WEEKLY COLLECTIONS		<p>PARISH OFFICE The Parish Office is closed for Christmas and will re-open on Thursday 5 January at 10am. For urgent pastoral needs (e.g., Sick Calls), please ring 0208 899 9550 ext 3. Thank you.</p> <p>NEW YEAR EVE (31 DECEMBER) 18.30 – Normal Saturday Vigil Mass of Sunday 22.00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 23.00 – Mass to welcome the New Year</p> <p>6 JANUARY – THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD It is a holy day of obligation; Catholics are, under normal circumstances expected to attend Mass. There will be four Masses in the parish: Thursday, 5 Jan (Vigil) – 7pm and Friday 6 Jan – 7am, 9.30am (<i>with OLI School attending</i>), and 7pm.</p> <p>CRIB OFFERING Our parish Crib Offering this year will go to support the Catholic Children's Society's (CCS) Southwark Crisis Fund, which provides help for local families who are facing real hardship and have nowhere else to run to. You can donate at the Crib or via the CCS website www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.</p> <p>PARISH LENTEN PROJECT 2023 The Lenten Project AGM was held on 27 November 2022. Five charities were nominated, and four charities were adopted by the committee members present. The charities are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vathiry Sacred Heart College, Sri Lanka – provides education for children in Sri Lanka who would not receive education otherwise. Bastar Dharma Kshema Samiti, India – to build a therapeutic park for children with mental health and learning disabilities. Mobile Manna Foundation, Nigeria – working with people with mental health issues who have been abandoned. Mary Queen of Heaven Inc, Philippines – working with children who are being sexually exploited. If you would like to organise or participate in an event during Lent 2023, please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk</p>	
	<p>LAST WEEKEND Non-Gift-aid: £3,311.29 Gift-aid: £1,355.51 Total: £4,566.80* TOTAL COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 2022</p> <p>A. Cash / cheques – £5,268.99 1. Gift-Aided – £2,062.00 2. Non-G/A – £3,206.99</p> <p>B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,888 1. Gift-Aided – £2,676.00 2. Non-G/A – £212.00</p> <p>C. Contactless Machine – £684.00 Total = £8,840.99 (Last month: £9,198.88) Thank you for your generosity to your parish. <i>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.</i></p> <p>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</p>		
<p>*Excluding standing orders & online payments – the monthly total of which will be published on or after the first weekend of every new month.</p>			
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME		<p>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. There's currently a high stock of pasta at the centre. So, they would appreciate alternative items such as rice, lentils, and chickpeas.</p>	
<p>NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 07 JAN, 10.30 – 11.30AM.</p>			
CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS			
<p>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. Thank you for your generosity.</p>			
IN GRATITUDE			
<p>On behalf Fr Joseph, I want to thank all of you, dear sisters and brothers, for your warm wishes and generosity to us in different ways during the Christmas festivities. May the Lord bless and keep you and make his countenance shine upon you and all of yours now and always. Amen. Wishing you all a healthy and prosperous New Year 2023. Ignatius Edet, PP</p>			