



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – A

04 December 2022

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – A

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

03 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Edward Howe – RIP (<i>S Howe</i>)
04 Sunday	9.00	John & David Doyle
	11.00	Toni Wiczorek – RIP (<i>1st Anniv</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

05 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	John & Margaret Gowers (<i>FM</i>)
06 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Anton Roy – BD
	19.00	Mary O’Sullivan – 60th BD
07 Wednesday <i>St Ambrose</i> Immaculate Conception – <i>Vigil</i>	9.30	Miranda Family – Thanksgiving
	19.00	Holy Souls
08 Thursday <i>Immaculate</i> <i>Conception</i>	7.00	Church Building Fund Subscribers
	9.30	Mohan Tambimuttu – RIP (<i>Erman</i>)
	11.00	OLI Primary
	19.00	Mgr Philip Moger (<i>Aux Bishop-elect</i>)
09 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Maureen Jackson – WB (<i>Dunseath</i>)
	9.30	Margaret & Philip Barrat (<i>O’Reagan</i>)
10 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Holy Souls
	11.00	Requiem: Victoria Unigwe – RIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – A

10 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Martin Hart – RIP
11 Sunday <i>Gaudete</i> <i>Sunday</i>	9.00	Sean Mathias – WB (<i>Dunseath</i>)
	11.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish
	18.00	Robert & Annie Eales – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

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
Syro Malabar Prayer Group	1st Friday of the month: 7pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES

- 1. CHRISTMAS EVE**
 - 1) 5pm – Vigil Mass 1
 - 2) 7pm – Vigil Mass 2
 - 3) 10pm – Mass in the Night (*Carol singing – 9.30pm*)
- 2. CHRISTMAS DAY**
 - 1) 8am – Mass at Dawn
 - 2) 9.15am – Mass during the Day 1
 - 3) 11am – Mass during the Day 2

A VOICE IN THE WILDERNESS

Today’s Gospel reading (Matthew 3:1-12) focuses on the person of John the Baptist and his mission and message. Besides Mary and Joseph, John occupies a very prominent position in the account of Jesus’s birth and public ministry. Jesus refers to him as the greatest born of a woman (Mt 11:11). His greatness stemmed not just from his relationship to Jesus as his cousin but, above all, from his commitment to carrying out the unique role entrusted to him by Divine Providence as Jesus’ precursor or forerunner. Matthew presents him with two characteristics in this regard. Firstly, he came to prepare the people of Israel for the coming of Jesus. “He is the Elijah who is to come” (Mt 11:14; see Mal 4:5-6). He carried out this mission through preaching and calling the people to conversion and by baptising them at the Jordan as a sign of repentance. His message was straightforward: “Repent, for the kingdom of God is close at hand.”

The evangelist describes his rather eccentric appearance and austere habits. Instead of seeking the comfort of palaces or fine robes and sumptuous meals, John chose the wilderness for his abode and lived a radically simple life (see Mt 11:7-8). He “wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.” Secondly, John’s life and mission foreshadowed Jesus’ life and mission in many ways. In the light of today’s Gospel, both withdrew to the wilderness at the start of their public ministry. This connects them to the biblical tradition associating the wilderness not just with deprivation and suffering, but also with renewal and hope through prayer, reflection, and encounter with God. Thus, it situates them with great prophetic figures like Moses and Elijah who made significant life and ‘career’-changing encounters with God in the wilderness. Both began their public ministry with a clear and firm proclamation of the nearness of God’s Kingdom and calling people to repentance (see Mk 1:15). Both confronted the Sadducees and Pharisees (see Mt 3:7-10; 12:1-14,34). Finally, both died a martyr’s death for speaking truth to power (Mt 14:1-12; 26-27).

During Advent, the Baptist’s voice resounds anew through the scripture and the liturgy in the wilderness of our lives, homes, Church, and community. It is not a voice of desperation but of hope. It is not a voice of condemnation but of reassurance of God’s unconditional love and mercy. It is not a voice that is stifled by political correctness, but one that dares to speak the truth in love (see Eph 4:15). It is not a voice that threatens, but one that invites us to come to God, to return to him with humility and contrition; it challenges us to repent and begin to “produce the appropriate fruit.”

Like John the Baptist, each of us, by virtue of our anointing with the Holy Spirit through Baptism (and Confirmation), is *called and sent* to announce the coming of the Lord and help prepare ourselves and others to welcome him when he comes. ©IAE

PS. *A simple Advent Litany* (shared with priests by our Archbishop)
 Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 You are light in our darkness – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Son of God, save us from our sins – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Son of Mary, deepen our love – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Bring hope into the lives of all people – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Give your peace to all nations – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Be the joy of all who love you – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Bring unity among all who believe in you – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Bless us as we gather here in your name – *Come, Lord Jesus.*
 Lord Jesus, stay with us always – *Come, Lord Jesus.*

Let us pray: May Christ give us his peace and joy and let us share them with others. All peace and glory are his for ever. Amen.

<https://www.catholicdoors.com/prayers/litanies/p03452.htm>

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 35:1-6,10
2ND READING	James 5:7-10
GOSPEL	Matthew 11:2-11

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Evelyn Walter, Maria Simmonds, Martin Kirley, Victoria Unigwe, Veronica Richens, 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 in our 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, 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, and Andy Moolman.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

COLLECTION FOR FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

There will be a second collection next weekend for flowers for the decoration of our Church at Christmas.

NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT

Please NO flowers to be brought to the Lady Chapel or anywhere throughout the Church until Christmas Eve due the quasi penitential nature of Advent and then the Crib being erected. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARDS & REPOSITORY NEWS

The repository is open every Sunday after 9am Mass to sell Christmas cards, 2023 calendars and other gift items. Consider supporting your parish by stocking from the repository. Also, Denise has offered to sell the Christmas cards, £3.50 per box in the Parish Office from 10am to 2pm on Monday – Friday.

PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday at 10.30-12pm in the RDJ Room, except 1st Tuesday.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

There will be four Masses: Wednesday 7 Dec 7pm (vigil); 7am, 9.30am, and 7pm.

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

***MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:** 9am, Monday– Friday.

1. TOY SUNDAY: Sunday 11 Dec at 11am Mass. You are invited to donate a wrapped new toy for a disadvantaged child. Please label the gift with age and if it is for a boy or girl. Thank you.

2. OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE: Wednesday 14 December at 5.00pm in the Church. This Service is a special Church Service that is held for children during Advent and celebrates Christ, who is the Light of the World. Children (and adults) are invited to bring a Christingle to the Service. Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website <http://www.olionline.co.uk>. A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service.

3. PARISH CAROL SERVICE: Sunday, 18 Dec at 4pm.

4. RECONCILIATION SERVICE: Monday, 19 Dec at 7pm.

SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN DAILY ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Advent can be such a busy demanding time, but we encourage you to make some space to reflect and pray this advent. Sign up to receive an email with a very brief thought for the day based on the daily reading. It is an opportunity to listen to God's invitation to you this advent. All you need to do is sign up and then set aside a couple of minutes each day to reflect! Sign up by clicking on the Advent Reflection box via <http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/>

ALTAR SERVERS AT CHRISTMAS

Altar servers are needed for the Christmas Masses as follows: **Christmas Eve 5.00 pm 7.00 pm** and 10.00 pm (please note this starts with carols at 9.30 so you need to be there for **8.45 pm**) and on Christmas Day at 8.00 9.15 and **11.00 am**. There are sign-up sheets in the RDJ room. Many thanks.

WINTERSHALL NATIVITY

The Nativity Journey will be performed between 14-19 December 2022 at Wintershall, near Guildford. This is a wonderful way for families and parishes to journey with the Holy Family and reflect on the true story of Christmas. Please note that there are some restrictions for those with physical disabilities. Tickets are now available for performances between 14-19 December. Visit www.wintershall.org.uk or telephone 01483 892167 for full details.

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.

† MARTIN KIRLEY – RIP

Requiem Mass: Thursday 8 Dec at 12.45pm, followed by committal at Kingston Crematorium at 2.20pm. May his soul rest in peace. Amen.

† ANDREW MEGRAHAN – RIP

Funeral: Friday 9 December, Kingston Crematorium at 1.00pm. May he rest in peace. Amen.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £785.66

Gift-aid: £316.87 **Total: £1,102.53***

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR OCTOBER 2022

A. Cash / cheques – 5,187.88

1. Gift-Aided – 1,894.00

2. Non-G/A – 3,293.88

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – 3,107.00

1. Gift-Aided – 2,842.00

2. Non-G/A – 265.00

C. Contactless Machine – 904.00

Total = £9,198.88 (Last month: £8,079.00)

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

*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

PARENTS SESSION: 05 DEC, 7.30PM in the Church Hall.

NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 10 DEC, 10.30 – 11.30AM.

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.

Thank you for your generosity.

SUPPLEMENTARY PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS

Fr Ignatius will be available at the Parish Office to sign primary school forms on **Tuesday 13 December**, from 3pm to 6pm.

STRICTLY BY APPOINTMENT!

Please, come along with your child. Sign up via <https://koalendar.com/e/signing-of-primary-school-forms>