



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

15 January 2023

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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

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

14 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Lavelle Family's Intentions
15 Sunday <i>Peace Sunday</i>	09.00	Tim & Family (<i>Louis</i>)
	11.00	Martin Kirley – RIP (<i>K Kelleher</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

WEEK 2 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR 1)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

16 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Walter Sice – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
17 Tuesday <i>St Anthony, Abbot</i>	9.30	Denise Alfred (<i>M Barnes</i>)
	19.00	Priestly & Religious Vocations
18 Wednesday <i>Feria (Octave of Christian Unity)</i>	9.30	Sammut Family's Intention (<i>Logue</i>)
	19.00	Needs of Christian Missionaries
19 Thursday <i>Feria (OCU)</i>	7.00	Florence & Ethel Eales – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	9.30	Pathrose Puthenkudy – RIP
20 Friday <i>Feria (OCU)</i>	7.00	Holy Souls
	9.30	John Morello – RIP (<i>P Morello</i>)
21 Saturday <i>St Agnes (OCU)</i>	9.00	Kunjelia Ouseph – RIP (<i>Varghese</i>)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

21 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Alexus Yap – RIP (<i>CY</i>)
22 Sunday <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	09.00	Tim & Family (<i>Louis</i>)
	11.00	Martin Kirley – RIP (<i>K Kelleher</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – 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

Remember us, O God:
 from age to age be our comforter.
 You have given us the wonder of time,
 blessings in days and nights, seasons, and years.
 Bless your children at the turning of the year
 and fill the months ahead with the bright hope
 that is ours in the coming of Christ.
 You are our God, living and reigning,
 forever and ever. Amen.
Prayer for the New Year (Anon)

DISCIPLESHIP: A CALL TO WITNESS

A disciple is not just one who listens to the Teacher or Master. A true disciple always strives to imitate, to follow the Teacher or Master and, by so doing, witness to him or her. So, the disciple always points beyond him/herself. Though not 'a disciple of Jesus' in the strict sense, John the Baptist embodies the qualities of the ideal Christian disciple. As the precursor or forerunner of Jesus, he came and existed for the singular purpose of bearing witness to Jesus and helping the people of Israel to recognise and welcome him when he came. He did not compete with Jesus for attention or relevance.

In today's Gospel (Jn 1:29-34), the Baptist puts paid any possible controversies among his followers about his true identity and mission compared to the Jesus. He speaks unequivocally about him as Jesus comes towards him. His words of witness are as clear as they are deeply theological and symbolic.




First, John identifies Jesus as "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." This is a remarkable title. The evangelist John here has John alluding possibly to the Passover Lamb which was a watershed in the liberation of the people of Israel from Egypt (Ex 12:3-4). For shortly after, the evangelist tells us about Jesus going to Jerusalem for the Passover (Jn 2:13). As a son of a priest, John was very familiar with the daily ritual of sacrificing a lamb in the morning and evening in the Temple by the priests for the sins of the people (Ex 29:38-42). Against this backdrop, through his Paschal Mystery (his suffering, death, and resurrection), Jesus sacrifices himself on the Cross and his blood brings forgiveness of sin not only for the Jews but for the whole world. This universal character of Jesus' mission as the Messiah is predicted in the first reading by the prophet Isaiah (49:3,5-6): "It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth." Compared to the daily temple ritual sacrifices which dealt with the manifestations of sin (sins in plural), the sacrifice of Christ as the Paschal Lamb is superior and conclusive since it brings about complete deliverance from sin (Hb 10:11-14). The re-enactment of this same sacrifice in an unbloody manner at every Eucharistic Celebration is highlighted when we echo the Baptist shortly before Holy Communion as we say or sing *the Lamb of God*, and then in the proclamation by the presiding priest celebrant, "*Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.*"

Second, John confesses Jesus' superiority over him by virtue of his divinity, his eternal existence as God's word through whom all things were made and who was with God at the beginning and was God (Jn 1:1-4). Third, he confesses that he did not know him by his own effort, but by a revelation during his baptism when the Holy Spirit descended upon him. Fourth and finally, based on the above, John firmly declares, "Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God." John's witness is, therefore, rooted not just on hearsay, but also on his personal encounter through the power of the Holy Spirit. That is why he speaks with confidence and conviction.

The Baptist reminds us today of our vocation and mission as Christ's missionary disciples. Through the anointing of the Holy Spirit in Baptism (and Confirmation), we have received the power and the mandate to witness to Christ, to the truth of the Gospel, and God's kingdom (Acts 1:8). We are to point the way to Jesus, to lead others to him, to beam his light on all peoples and extend the good news of salvation to all, through our words and deeds. As Paul VI said, today our world is in dire need of believers who are not just preachers but also witnesses. Discipleship is a privilege that comes with enormous responsibility. Like the Baptist, we pray for the grace to witness to Jesus with humility, confidence, and personal conviction. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 8:23-9:3
2ND READING	1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17
GOSPEL	Matthew 4: 12-23

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE		PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS	
	Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Benedict XVI, John Hayward, Canon Colm Acton, Jacques Pearce, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May they rest in peace. Amen.	SECOND COLLECTION: WHITE FLOWER APPEAL The second collection this weekend is for the annual White Flower Appeal of the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). It is their largest single fundraising event and contributes an important part of their annual income. It allows them to plan confidently for the year ahead and to ensure that they can maintain their full range of educational and political work. Thank you for your generosity.	
	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.	MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE MINISTRY OF BISHOP PATRICK LYNCH On Wednesday 18 January 2023, 6:00pm. At St Georges Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7HY, to be followed by a Reception in Amigo Hall. UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS There will be no meeting this month. Our next meeting will be on Tuesday February 21st at 7.30pm in the old chapel and will be a discussion evening. All ladies in the parish are welcome to join us. N.B. Will all members please note that Annual Subscription of £16 is due before 31 January. Please put money in an envelope marked UCM through the Presbytery door asap. Please include your name, address, postcode, and phone number. Thank you.	
WEEKLY COLLECTIONS		POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI There are a limited number of prayer cards upon the death of Benedict XVI in the Narthex, should you wish to collect one.	
	LAST WEEKEND Non-Gift-aid: £763.20 Gift-aid: £354.00 Total: £1,117.20* <i>*Excluding standing orders & online payments – the monthly total of which will be published on or after the first weekend of every new month.</i> CRIB OFFERING: £710.95 TOTAL COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 2022 (EXCLUDING CHRISTMAS OFFERING) A. Cash / cheques – £2,934.51 1. Gift-Aided – £858.47 2. Non-G/A – £2,076.04 B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,095 1. Gift-Aided – £1,955.00 2. Non-G/A – £140.00 C. Contactless Machine – £564.42 Total = £5,593.93 (Last month: £8,840.99) Thank you for your generosity to your parish. <i>Kindly consider making your regular contribution to the Church via standing order (form available at online.co.uk), or by online banking:</i> 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.	MASS INTENTIONS If you wish to request a Mass for a specific date and intention, we would like to advise that you give plenty time (ideally, 6-8 weeks' notice at busy seasons). The Parish Office will continue to make sure that your requests for Masses are assigned as soon as possible but, understandably, on a first-come basis. MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MGR. MATTHEW DICKENS MINISTRY AS VICAR GENERAL On Saturday 28 January 2023 at 12.30pm. At St Georges Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Rd, SE1 7HY, to be followed by a Reception in Amigo Hall. COMMUNITY AFTERNOON TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT Richard Challoner School invites local pensioners to a Community Afternoon Tea and Entertainment from 2 to 4pm on Thursday 26 January at the school. Our Hospitality and Catering students will be preparing the food, and there will be entertainment provided by our Music and Drama students. If you would like to attend, please complete this Google Form by Wednesday 18 th January. https://forms.gle/kRYPLdow923yohmF9 The number of guests will be limited to 50 people in total and we are unable to offer transport to the event.	
FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME		LAMBERT SPORTS CLINIC The Medical Health Service is now open. The Clinic has the latest technologies and includes General Practice, Dermatology, Blood Analysis etc. To book an appointment call 020 8133 5694 or contact@lambertsportsclinic.co.uk Meanwhile, free weekly classes ideal for male and female seniors looking to stay active and incorporate some more exercise in their week on Wednesdays, 10-11am.	
NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 21 JAN, 10.30 – 11.30AM.		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.	
CONTACTLESS PAYMENTS		† JOHN HAYWARD – RIP Please, kindly remember in your prayers, John Hayward who passed on 30 Dec 2022. May he rest in peace. Amen.	
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.			