



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

22 January 2023

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

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

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

21 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Alexus Yap – RIP (CY)
22 Sunday <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	09.00	Dec'd of Fraser Family – RIP (FM)
	11.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People
	18.00	Thomas Chivers & Family (FM)

WEEK 3 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR 1)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

23 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Rosemary Gribble – RIP – (FM)
24 Tuesday <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	9.30	Anne Gnanapragasam (Joseph)
	19.00	Young People & Teachers
25 Wednesday <i>Conversion of St Paul (End of Unity Octave)</i>	9.30	Conversion of Unbelievers
	19.00	George & Pat Buggie – RIP (FM)
26 Thursday <i>Ss Timothy & Titus</i>	7.00	Jebamalai Muthu – RIP
	9.30	Angelica D'Agostino (F D'Agostino)
27 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Holy Souls
	9.30	Emmanuel Tambimuttu – RIP
28 Saturday <i>St Thomas Aquinas</i>	9.00	The Sick and Dying and their Carers

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

28 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Dorothy Hawes (FM)
29 Sunday	09.00	Sammut Family – Ints (Logue)
	11.00	Sheila Taylor – RIP (J Lambert)
	18.00	Antonio Ciaiola – RIP

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

God our Father, you have given us faith in you and in your living word. We ask you to help us grow in that faith as we meditate on your word, so that we may worthily proclaim the word to others, and by the manner of our lives. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Adapted from the Prayer for the Blessing of Readers.

CALLED AND SENT TO PREACH THE WORD

Today, the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, is *Sunday of the Word of God*. It was established by Pope Francis through his Apostolic Letter, *Aperuit Illis*, 30 Sept 2019, “to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the word of God” (§3). According to Pope Francis, “devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of his word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world” (§2). Pope Francis is inviting all of us to rediscover and recover the importance of the word of God and preaching in the Christian life and mission. This is also echoed in today’s readings, especially in the Gospel and second reading.

The proclamation of the Good News was central to Jesus’ life and mission (see Lk 4:18-19). In today’s Gospel, the evangelist Matthew (4:12-23) introduces us to the beginning of Jesus’ ministry in Galilee. He starts with preaching the Good News and calling people to conversion: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.” This is very symbolic. It highlights the importance of the word of God and preaching in the life of faith and for Christian discipleship.

The apostle Paul expresses this memorably in Romans 10:17 when he says, “But it is in that way faith comes, from hearing, and that means hearing the word of Christ.” Similarly, he asserts in the second reading (1 Co 1:10-13,17), “For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the Good News.” Of course, there is no intention here to belittle baptism. As evident in Acts (2:37-41) and sustained in the teaching and sacramental practice of the Church, baptism always presupposes faith and repentance through openness to the word of God on the part of the catechumen or, in the case of infants, vicariously (on their behalf) by their parents and godparents.

The second important step taken by Jesus in today’s Gospel is the calling of the first four disciples / apostles, two pairs of brothers (Peter and Andrew, and James and John). These poor fishermen heard his word. They were open to his call, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” They left everything and followed him. And with them, “he went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom and curing all kinds of diseases and sickness among the people.” This mission is continued today in the Church not just by those in ordained ministries (bishops, priests, and deacons), but also by all Christ’s faithful who, by the anointing of the holy spirit, “shares also in Christ’s prophetic office” (Vatican II, Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, §12). There is, therefore, a salutary reminder to us from the evangelist Matthew and the apostle Paul today: We are all called and sent by Christ to preach the Good News, by word and especially by the witness of our lives. Taking up and remaining faithful to this call and mission requires, among others, the constant deepening and renewal of our union with the One who has called and sent us out to preach and witness to the Gospel. This presupposes being constantly nourished by the word of God through devoted reading, study, meditation, reflection, and praying with the Scripture.

The Sunday of the Word of God provides us a special occasion and opportunity to reflect on the place of the word of God in our life, family, and community. As Francis says, it “should not be seen as a yearly event but rather a year-long event, for we urgently need to grow in our knowledge and love of the Scriptures and of the risen Lord, who continues to speak his word and to break bread in the community of believers” (*Aperuit Illis*, §8). We can start by a commitment to be more attentive during the liturgy of the word (readings and homily) at Mass, setting out time daily or weekly to read, study and reflect on a portion of Sacred Scripture, and learning to pray with Scripture through *Lectio Divina*. Lastly, we pray for the grace to live and practice what we read, believe, and preach. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

1ST READING	Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13
2ND READING	1 Corinthians 1:26-31
GOSPEL	Matthew 5:1-12a

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially Sue Ewen, Benedict XVI, John Hayward, Canon Colm Acton, Jacques Pearce, 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, 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.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OLI YOUTH MASS & FLAME CONGRESS 2023

The OLI Youth Liturgy Team is planning to take a group of young people to Flame 2023, on the 4th of March. The age range of young people is from Year 9 through to university students. Tickets cost £24 and we will be using public transport to travel to Wembley Arena. There will be adult supervision throughout the day. If you are interested, please email tolworthyouth@rcaos.org.uk by Thursday 26 January. Thank you.

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.

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.

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 18th 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.

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.

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.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £717.08

Gift-aid: £429.35 **Total: £1,146.43***

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

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL (SPUC): £381.29

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.

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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 04 FEB, 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.

† JOHN HAYWARD – RIP

Please, kindly remember in your prayers, John Hayward who passed on 30 Dec 2022. May he rest in peace. Amen.

† SUE EWEN – RIP

Please, kindly remember in your prayers, Sue Ewen who passed on at Milverton Nursing Home on Friday 13 January, aged 86 years. May she rest in peace. Amen.