



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – A

08 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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

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

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

WEEK 1 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR 1)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.30am

09 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Carmel, Sarah, Jennifer & Families – WB (<i>M-J Gray</i>)
10 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Holy Souls (<i>K Fox</i>)
	19.00	Benedict XVI – RIP
11 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Anne Martin (WB) & Will Martin – RIP
	19.00	Deceased Parishioners – RIP
12 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	The Carers of the Sick in our Parish
	9.30	M, P & Hosey Family – WB
13 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Sick & Housebound Parishioners
	9.30	Joseph Rex Family – Thanksgiving
14 Saturday <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Holy Souls

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

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

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

Grant me, O Lord my God,
a mind to know you,
a heart to seek you,
wisdom to find you,
conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance in waiting for you,
and a hope of finally embracing you. Amen.
St Thomas Aquinas (28 January)

RECALLING AND RELIVING OUR BAPTISM

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord is both an end and a beginning. It marks the end of the 'private life' of Jesus, and the commencement of his public life and ministry. Liturgically, this is symbolically aligned with the end of Christmas and the beginning of the Ordinary Time of the year, a 33/34-week period after Christmas leading up to Lent (Ash Wednesday) and from after Easter (Pentecost) to the Solemnity of Christ the King, that is, before Advent. During this period, the liturgy takes us through the life of Christ. It is not 'ordinary' in a literal sense as, for example, being bland, that is, compared to 'extraordinary.' The name is linguistically derived from the ordinal numerals or ordinal number words (first, second, third) used for identifying or counting the weeks. Besides, theologically, the weeks can also be said to be 'ordinary' because it falls outside the celebration of two defining mysteries associated with the life and mission of Christ, namely, the Incarnation (Christmas) and the Paschal Mystery (Easter) and the periods of preparation for them.

The account of the Lord's Baptism by the evangelist Matthew in today's Gospel (3:13-17), underscores the significance of Jesus' baptism. The interaction between Jesus and John expresses the mutual esteem and respect with which both held each other, as well as their humility and self-effacing disposition. Overall, the Baptism of Jesus is significant for the following four reasons among others.

First, an endorsement of John and indication of Jesus' divinity. By approaching John and asking to be baptised, Jesus confirms him and his mission (cf. Mt 11:7-11). John's response confirms Jesus' identity. It also highlights his humility which is emphasised by his insisting to be baptised "to fulfil all righteousness." John's baptism was for repentance (Acts 19:4). As true God and true man, Jesus was sinless and, therefore, had absolutely no need to be baptised. Second, a revelation of Jesus as the *Messiah*, the Anointed One. The descent of the Holy Spirit on him and the voice from heaven that spoke in witness to him as the Beloved Son, constitute an *epiphany*, the unveiling of his true identity and mission. Third, the inauguration of his public ministry. After his baptism, Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness where he was tested by the devil after forty days and nights of prayer and fasting. After that, he launched his public ministry officially by proclaiming the kingdom and calling people to conversion (Mt 4:17). Fourth and finally, the institution of the sacrament of baptism and its necessity for salvation (see Jn 3:5). According to St Thomas Aquinas, Christ asked "to be baptised so that he might sanctify the waters, so that he might wash away our stains, and so that he might demonstrate what it was necessary for us to do" (*Summa Theologiae*, 3a, q.9, a.1). This is echoed in the Preface of today's Mass when it states, "For in the waters of the Jordan you revealed with signs and wonders a new Baptism."

This mystery is re-enacted in holy baptism. Thus, through the sacrament of baptism, we receive remission of sins (see 1 Pe 3:21) and divine filiation which establishes us as adopted sons and daughters of God (see Eph 1:5) and are configured to Christ by an indelible *character* (mark), and incorporated into the Church, the Body of Christ (see Code of Canon Law, c.849). The importance of baptism as the basis of the Christian life cannot be overemphasised. As we celebrate Jesus' baptism today, we recall our own baptism. Primarily, we give thanks to God for giving us a share in the mystery of his Son's life, death, and resurrection through baptism. In addition, we recall the commitments we made or that were made on our behalf by our parents and godparents when we were baptised. To reject Satan and all his empty promises, to believe in God who is One and Triune (Trinity), and to live in newness of life and love. Finally, we pray for the grace to live our baptism with courage as missionary disciples of Christ. Let us find time today and reflect on this! ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Isaiah 49:3, 5-6
2ND READING	1 Corinthians 1: 1-3
GOSPEL	John 1: 29-34

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



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.



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.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND – WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2023

The annual White Flower Appeal is SPUC's 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.

CONFIRMATION PARENTS MEETING

Tuesday, 10 January at 7.20pm in the Church Hall.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE MINISTRY OF BISHOP PATRICK LYNCH

On Wednesday 18 January 2023, 6:00pm at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7HY, to be followed by a Reception in Amigo Hall.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MGR. MATTHEW DICKENS MINISTRY AS VICAR GENERAL

On Saturday 28 January 2023 at 12.30pm at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, 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 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.

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:

1. **Vathiry Sacred Heart College, Sri Lanka** – provides education for children in Sri Lanka who would not receive education otherwise.
2. **Bastar Dharma Kshema Samiti, India** – to build a therapeutic park for children with mental health and learning disabilities.
3. **Mobile Manna Foundation, Nigeria** – working with people with mental health issues who have been abandoned.
4. **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

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.

† JOHN HAYWARD – RIP

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

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £1,018.55

Gift-aid: £339.71 **Total:** **£1,358.26***

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

*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

NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 21 JAN, 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.

IN GRATITUDE

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