



# Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – A

26 February 2023

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

Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: [tolworth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworth@rcaos.org.uk) + [www.olionline.co.uk](http://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

### FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – A

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

25 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	John J Morello – RIP ( <i>P Morello</i> )
26 Sunday <i>Day for the Unemployed</i>	09.00 11.00 18.00	Barry Lindfield – RIP ( <i>Frances</i> ) Francesca D'Agostino Fam – RIP Prop Populo – For the People

### FIRST WEEK OF LENT

**EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:** Monday – Friday at 8.30am

27 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Vincent Burrows – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
28 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30 19.00	Moore Family ( <i>F Amanpour</i> ) Patrick Casey – RIP ( <i>Wills</i> )
01 Wednesday <i>St David</i>	9.30 19.00	Thanksgiving – Jeyaseelan Fam OLI Church Cleaners ( <i>T Rutter</i> )
02 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00 9.30	Ernest & Anne Humphries' Ints. Lavelle Family – WB
03 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00 9.30	Joseph Antonisamy – RIP Angelica D'Agostino – RIP ( <i>Franco</i> )
04 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Lucy Phillip – WB ( <i>Nubia &amp; George</i> )

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – A

04 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Xavier Rodrigues ( <i>Rodrigues</i> )
05 Sunday <i>RCIA – First Scrutiny</i>	09.00 11.00 18.00	Joe Cullinan – RIP ( <i>P Grogan</i> ) Denis D'Mello – RIP ( <i>FM</i> ) Prop Populo – For the People

### OTHER SERVICES

<b>Morning Prayer (Lauds)</b>	Monday – Friday: 9am
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.15pm
<b>Youth Mass</b>	Last Sunday: 6pm Mass
<b>St Anthony of Padua</b>	<b>Tuesday:</b> after morning and evening Masses
<b>Our Lady of Perpetual Help</b>	<b>Wednesday:</b> after morning and evening Masses
<b>Our Lady of Fatima</b>	1st Saturday of the month
<b>Syro Malabar Prayer Group</b>	1st Friday of the month: 7pm

### SHARED PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Give up harsh words: Use generous ones.  
Give up unhappiness: Take up gratitude.  
Give up anger: Take up gentleness and patience.  
Give up pessimism: Take up hope and optimism.  
Give up worrying: Take up trust in God.  
Give up complaining: Value what you have.  
Give up stress: Take up prayer.  
Give up judging others: Discover Jesus within them.  
Give up sorrow and bitterness: Fill your heart with joy.  
Give up selfishness: Take up compassion for others.  
Give up being unforgiving: Learn reconciliation.  
Give up words: Fill yourself with silence and listen to others.  
~ *CAFOD Prayer for a Special Lenten Fast.*

### NOT LIVING ON BREAD ALONE

Lent is a favourable time, a season of salvation (see 2 Co 6:2). It is a blessed and gracious season of conversion and return to the Lord, during which we are drawn closer to God in a special way, armed with the ancient disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

Obedience and trust in God are integral to the path of conversion, repentance, reconciliation, and communion along which the Lord invites us to walk during this season of grace and mercy. Without trust and obedience, we cannot enter into, experience, or sustain any genuine relationship with God and, by extension, with others for the sake of God. This is highlighted by the invitation at the imposition of ashes on our heads to mark the start of Lent during the liturgy of Ash Wednesday as it enjoins us to “*repent and believe the Gospel.*” Of course, *believing the Gospel* does not just consist of subscribing to *articles of faith* in the Scripture, Tradition, and Church Teaching. It involves a total submission of mind, intellect, and will to God.

In today’s readings, the fall of Adam and Eve in the first reading (Gen 2:7-9;3:1-7) is juxtaposed with the faithfulness of Jesus in the Gospel (Mt 4:1-11). These, as St Paul emphasises in the second reading (Rm 5:12-19), have lasting impact on humanity.

Adam and Eve’s sin consists first and foremost in lack of trust in God, which breeds envy, and then disobedience. These three elements are expressed in the dialogue between Eve and the serpent. She is persuaded by the tempter that eating from the forbidden tree at the middle of the garden rather than lead to death, would make their eyes open so that they “*will be like gods, knowing good and evil.*” According to the Catechism, “All subsequent sin would be disobedience toward God and lack of trust in his goodness” (§397). Genesis uses figurative language to express the abuse of human freedom and its consequences for humanity. The ultimate meaning of the story of the first fall is “*revealed only in the light of the death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ*” (CCC, §388). Hence, the declaration by St Paul in the second reading, “Adam prefigured the One to come, but the gift itself considerably outweighed the fall.”

The final victory of Christ, the *Second Adam*, is prefigured in his triumph over the devil in the wilderness. Against the three temptations, Jesus establishes himself as a model disciple, the obedient servant of God who, unlike Adam and Eve in the first reading and the rebellious people of Israel (Is 30:9), remains faithful. His forty days and nights in the desert remind us of Israel’s experience in the wilderness (see Dt 8:2-3). Like Israel Jesus is tempted by hunger (Ex 16:2-8), “*If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to turn into loaves;*” tempted to put God to the test (Ex 17:1-4; see Dt 6:16), “*If you are the Son of God he said ‘throw yourself down;*” and tempted to idolatry (Ex 32), “*I will give you all these...if you fall at my feet and worship me.*” However, unlike Israel, he neither complains nor succumbs to temptation. Instead, relying on the Word of God in Deuteronomy (8:3, 6:16, and 6:13, respectively) he resists and dismisses the devil.

Jesus’ triumph over the three temptations can also be seen as a firm rejection by Jesus of a false understanding of his messianic mission. His was certainly neither an economic (see Jn 6:15) nor political (Jn 18:36) messiahship and, therefore, could not be carried out by the false means suggested by the devil. His firm renunciation of the allure of power, fame (spectacle), and wealth is an example and encouragement as well as a challenge for us especially during this graceful season of Lent when we are invited to renew our commitment to the “*campaign of Christian service ... as we take up battle against spiritual evils*” (Collect of Ash Wednesday).

Nourished by God’s Word may we like Jesus grow in our trust and obedience to the Father through the power of the Holy Spirit. ©IAE.

### NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	Genesis 12:1-4
<b>2ND READING</b>	2 Timothy 1:8-10
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 17:1-9

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all those who have recently died, especially James Leo Barnes, Richard Sangster, 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, Peter Summers, and Ian Beard.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

**Non-Gift-aid:** £637.49

**Gift-aid:** £356.50 **Total: £993.99\***

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

**Thank you for your generosity to your parish.**

*Kindly consider making your regular contribution to the Church via standing order (form available at [online.co.uk](http://online.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](mailto:tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk) or 0208 8399 4368.

**LENTEN SERVICE:** Sunday, 5 March, 4.30- 5.30pm

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

1. Friday after 9.30am Mass
2. Friday, 5 – 6pm: Syro-Malabar Community.

### GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER

SycamOre is an online course exploring our Catholic faith and suitable for individuals and couples alike. It runs throughout Lent, with weekly one-hour sessions on Tuesday evenings from 8-9pm starting on February 28 For more details or to register, visit the website: [Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis \(rcaos.org.uk\)](http://Growing in Faith Together — Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (rcaos.org.uk))

### LENTEN PROJECT SPONSORED WALK 2023

This year, we are asking Parishioners to commit to walk either individually, or as a family, a certain number of miles during the period of Lent. You may wish to commit to walk for 50 miles, 100 miles or more! In addition, led by Fr Ignatius, on Saturday 25 March, there is going to be a challenging 38 km (24 mile) sponsored walk. Setting off from OLI Church, we plan to walk along the river to Richmond and then walk a circuit of Richmond Park, before retracing our steps. Please contact Elspeth ([elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com](mailto:elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com)) if you are interested in taking part in either committing to walk a distance over Lent or taking part in the sponsored walk event. We will give you information on how to sponsor us in due course. Many thanks for your support!

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### SECOND COLLECTION: SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS

The Clergy Support Fund of the Archdiocese of Southwark provides care for priests in their old age and retirement, and in their time of ill health. A gift to this worthy fund will ensure a dignified retirement for our priests, after they have dedicated a lifetime of service to Christ, His Church, and His People. In 2022, the Clergy Support Fund provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1.33 million. With the number of priests over the age of 65 steadily increasing, so too will the financial obligation to the Archdiocese. Please be generous today with a gift to the Clergy Support Fund and continue to keep our priests in your prayers.

You may donate online at <https://rcaos.org.uk/donate/csf> or via telephone Mon-Fri 9am-5pm: **020 7960 2504** or by cash / cheque using the envelopes at the back of the church. Thank you.

### 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

### ATTENTION: ALL GIFT-AID MEMBERS!

Gift Aid envelopes for the coming tax year will be available for collection in the Old Chapel after each Mass next weekend 4/5 March. Please come yourself or ask a friend or family member to collect for you.

Gift Aid donors who give by standing order or online should also come to collect their special packs of envelopes for Easter and Christmas and other special collections. Anyone wishing to join the parish gift aid scheme should come to ask for details.

### ATTENTION: EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion who would like to be included in a rota for distribution of Communion at weekend Masses, should kindly notify the parish office by email or phone call during the week. Please, indicate the time of Mass. A brief refresher will be organised as soon as names are compiled. Thank you.

### RENEWED IN HOPE: A RETREAT FOR LENT 2023

Introduced by Archbishop John Wilson, led by members of the Spirituality Commission. The Archdiocese is offering a retreat experience for individuals and parishes during Lent 2023. Drawing on the Mass readings for the Sundays of Lent, Renewed in Hope will help us find fresh ways of living and working in hope, in the company of Jesus. We live in a divided world, where many are struggling to survive. Through his life, death and resurrection, the suffering and risen Christ continues to make all things new. This retreat is designed for individuals and for parish groups and is based on a weekly video accompanied by suggested exercises for prayer and reflection.

See [www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope](http://www.southwarkdsc.org.uk/renewedbyhope) for more details, and for registration, follow <http://eepurl.com/hVT7Dv>.

### RICHARD CHALONER SCHOOL

Are consulting stakeholders on their desire to join Christ the Redeemer Catholic Education Trust. To find out more and submit feedback go to [www.ctrctet.org.uk](http://www.ctrctet.org.uk) by Friday 3 March.

### 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.

### † LILLIAN (PEGGY) O'CONNOR – RIP

Please kindly pray for Peggy who passed on at Kingston Hospital on Wednesday 8 February, aged 89 years. Our condolences to Tracey, David, and the family. May she rest in peace. Amen. **Requiem Mass:** Friday, 10 March, 1.30pm.