



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church  
**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (A)**

26 March 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**

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – A**

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

25 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Ina Grimes – RIP ( <i>Jack &amp; Mary</i> )
26 Sunday <i>RCIA – 3<sup>rd</sup> Scrutiny</i>	09.00	Mario & Guiseppina – 60 <sup>th</sup> W/A
	11.00	Dcn Fred Carter – RIP ( <i>J Lambert</i> )
	18.00	Michele De Christofaro – RIP

**FIFTH WEEK OF LENT**

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

27 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Margaret & Thomas Kane – RIP
28 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Roman & Giulietta Jankowski – RIP
	19.00	Filomena & Siobhan – W/D
29 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Paul Joseph – RIP ( <i>Stella</i> )
	19.00	Emmanuel Tambimuttu – RIP
30 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Kitty Regan – RIP ( <i>K Fox</i> )
	9.30	Arthur & Gaye & Family
31 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Monica Tambimuttu – RIP
	9.30	Irene Powell – RIP ( <i>E Powell</i> )
01 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Susanna Wong – RIP ( <i>T Bredl</i> )

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A)**

01 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	John Davis – RIP ( <i>A Davis</i> )
02 Sunday	09.00	Rajani Reginald – RIP
	11.00	Severine Rodrigues – RIP
	18.00	Pro Populo – People of the Parish

**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**

Father, I abandon myself into your hands;  
do with me what you will.  
Whatever you may do, I thank you:  
I am ready for all, I accept all.  
Let only your will be done in me,  
and in all your creatures –  
I wish no more than this, O Lord.  
Into your hands I commend my soul:  
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart,  
for I love you, Lord, and so need to give myself,  
to surrender myself into your hands without reserve,  
and with boundless confidence,  
for you are my Father, Amen. ~ *Bl Charles de Foucauld*

**NEW LIFE IN CHRIST**

Generally, the readings and prayers of the Mass during the last two weeks of Lent steer us towards the Paschal Mystery of our Lord's death and resurrection. This is illustrated in today's Gospel (Jn 11:1-45). The raising of Lazarus from death is the seventh sign given by Jesus in the fourth Gospel. It is also the most important sign because it directly foreshadows his own death and resurrection. For Jesus who raises Lazarus after four days in the tomb must himself die and rise again after three days (Mt 16:21; Mk 8:21; Lk 9:22).

Further, Jesus' humanity and divinity are powerfully displayed through this episode. As true man, Jesus knew, as St Paul exhorts, how to "rejoice with those who rejoice and weep with those who weep" (Rm 12:15). He was not only comfortable with joy and happiness. He was also deeply touched by human misery and, therefore, wept at the death of Lazarus. His closeness to Martha, Mary and Lazarus was as genuinely human as one could get. He was a friend indeed, sharing with them in good times (Lk 10:38) as well as in adversity. Yet, his commitment to the Father's will was his utmost priority. No human ties, not even to his earthly parents (Lk 2:49; cf. Mt 12:46-50), could detract from it. Thus, as John tells us, despite his love for the siblings, he did not abandon his duty for them; "he stayed two more days where he was" before going over to Judaea to see them. His divinity was wondrously manifested when he raised Lazarus to life. He brings this about in two stages. First, he asked that the stone be rolled off the tomb. We remember here the prophecy of Ezekiel in the first reading (Ez 37:12-14): "I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people." Then, he turned to the Father in supplication, trusting in his steadfastness. And finally, "he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!'" Instantly, the dead Lazarus heard his voice and obeyed – and is brought back to life. This echoes Jesus' prophecy in John 5:25: "I tell you most solemnly, the hour will come – in fact, it is here already – when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and all who hear it will live." Preface of today's Mass sums it up very well: "For as true man he wept for Lazarus his friend and as eternal God raised him from the tomb." Similarly, it continues, "taking pity on the human race, he leads us by sacred mysteries to new life."

We are also inspired by Martha and Mary's encounter with Jesus. They do not pretend about their pain at their brother's death and their frustration or probably disappointment that Jesus seemed to have arrived a bit too late. They believed his presence would have prevented his death. Yet, their faith remains remarkable. For Martha, all hope was not lost because she believed God will grant whatever Jesus asks. She had faith in Jesus. As "the resurrection and the life," Jesus offers all who believe in him eternal life, which is "to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ whom he has sent" (Jn 17:3). Martha clearly echoes this in her confession of faith. The passage from death to life corresponds to the transition from unbelief to faith. Hence, Jesus' question to Martha, "Do you believe this?" to which she responds emphatically, "Yes Lord ... I believe you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world." In the tomb, Lazarus personifies the power of death, but raised from the tomb, he shows the power of faith. So, Jesus embodies the fulfilment of Ezekiel's prophecy, "And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people." Just as the death and raising of Lazarus forecasts Jesus' death and resurrection so is the latter the pledge of our ransom from death and possession of a new and eternal life. To nurture and grow this new life of grace, we are told in the second reading (Rm 8:8-11), to give up unspiritual things and be open to allow the Spirit of God to live in us. Lent can help us embrace the new life in Christ if we are ready to hear his voice in the dead zones of our life and obey him. ©IAE.

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

<b>1ST READING</b>	Isaiah 50:4-7
<b>2ND READING</b>	Philippians 2:6-11
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 26:14-27:66

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Mary Burrows, Canon Martin Lee, Canon Michael Bunce, Fr Paul Teece, Owen Walter, 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.

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### LENTEN SERVICE – SEVEN LAST WORDS ON THE CROSS

There will be a Lenten Service involving readings and reflections on the seven last words of Jesus on the Cross on Sunday, 26 March at 4.30pm. All are warmly welcome.

### 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: EASTER FLOWERS

There will be a second collection next weekend for flowers to decorate our church for the Easter festivities. Thanks in advance.

### HOLY WEEK: SERVERS REHEARSAL

Altar servers who have signed up to minister during the Holy Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil) are required to attend a practice on Sunday 2 April 2023 at 12.30 pm in the church and jobs will be allocated then.

**EASTER OFFERING FOR THE CLERGY:** Envelopes are available on the desk in the narthex.

### 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, we had 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.

If you would like to sponsor us, please either pop some money in an envelope and post through the Presbytery door, or use the following Justgiving site:

[Our Lady Immaculate Church is fundraising for Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark \(justgiving.com\)](https://www.justgiving.com/Our-Lady-Immaculate-Church-is-fundraising-for-Roman-Catholic-Archdiocese-of-Southwark) Many thanks for your support!

### SOUTH INDIAN EVENT – SATURDAY, 15 APRIL @ 7.30PM

You are cordially invited to taste a homemade 3-course Indian dinner, with Indian talent, culture and entertainment organised by the Syro Malabar Community. Church Hall, £15 per adult, children under 5, £5 & family £50. Proceeds go to the Lenten Project. To book a table contact Jommy @ 07738652931 or Sheba @ 07505279725

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £901.05

Gift-aid: £329.55 Total: £1,230.60

**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection for Poor Parishes: £329.54**

**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](http://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.

Any queries? Please contact Allan Cook: [tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworthgac@rcaos.org.uk) or 0208 8399 4368.

## THE SACRED TRIDUUM

In the Sacred Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday), the Church celebrates the greatest mysteries of our redemption, keeping by means of special celebrations the memorial of her Lord, crucified, buried, and risen. The special celebrations on each of these three days form a unit and should be observed as such faithfully by the Christian people – clergy, religious, and laity. We would encourage all parishioners who are not impeded by a just cause (e.g health, age, or essential duty) to make every effort to attend these solemn celebrations in memory of our Lord's Paschal Mystery. Parents should also encourage their children to take part.

### MARIO & GIUSEPPINA PIERSIMONI – 60<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING

Congratulations to Mario and Giuseppina Piersimoni on their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Wishing them continuous love and many blessings for the years ahead, as we also thank them for their longstanding commitment and contributions to the parish.

*Tante auguri per le vostre Nozze di Diamante!*

## 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.

### † MARY BURROWS – RIP

Please pray for Mary Burrows (sister of Anne Dray), who died on Monday night, 13 March (4 days before her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday). Mary ran the Brownies at OLI for many years, taking them every year to camp. She lived in Tolworth until 4 years ago when she moved to Gloucestershire, to be near 2 of her 5 daughters. May she rest in peace. Amen.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Friday after 9.30am Mass

## HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME 2023

### 1. PALM SUNDAY (02 APRIL)

**Saturday (01/04), 6.30pm; 9am, 11am, and 6pm.**

Blessings of Palms and procession to the Church from the Hall at 9am and 11am Masses.

### 2. MONDAY (03 APRIL)

**7PM** – Penitential Service with Individual Confessions (*visiting priests will be available also*)

### 3. MAUNDY THURSDAY (06 APRIL)

**9AM:** Office of Readings & Lauds

**4PM:** Sacrament of Reconciliation

**5PM:** Mass of the Last Supper

**8PM:** Mass of the Last Supper followed by watching at the Chapel of Repose, closing with Night Prayer before Midnight.

### 4. GOOD FRIDAY (07 APRIL)

**9AM:** Office of Readings & Lauds

**9.30-10.30AM:** Sacrament of Reconciliation

**11AM:** Service of Passion with Children

**3PM:** Commemoration of the Passion & Adoration of the Cross

**7PM:** Way of the Cross

### 5. HOLY SATURDAY – EASTER VIGIL (08 APRIL)

**9AM:** Office of Readings & Lauds

**8PM:** Easter Vigil in the Holy Night & Sacraments of Initiation

### 6. EASTER SUNDAY (09 APRIL): 9AM; 11AM; AND 6PM