



# Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – A

23 April 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 OF EASTER

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

22 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Maureen Peters – RIP ( <i>Jack &amp; Mary</i> )
23 Sunday	09.00	Furlong's Family Dec'd – RIP
	11.00	Tom McGuinness – RIP
	18.00	Pro Populo – People of the Parish

### THIRD WEEK OF EASTER

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

24 Monday <i>St George</i>	9.30	Anne Gnanapragasam – RIP
25 Tuesday <i>St Mark</i>	9.30	Patrick Parker – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
	19.00	Richard O'Flaherty – RIP ( <i>Fahy</i> )
26 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Healy Family Dec'd – RIP
	19.00	Jebemalai Muthu – RIP ( <i>Mary S</i> )
27 Thursday <i>T</i> <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Maura O'Flaherty – WB ( <i>Fahy</i> )
	9.30	Ottavio D'Agostino ( <i>Franco</i> )
28 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Brigette & Dec'd Family & Co ( <i>FM</i> )
	9.30	Thanksgiving ( <i>Anon</i> )
29 Saturday <i>St Catherine</i>	9.00	Mary Linstead – RIP( <i>FM</i> )

### 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (*Good Shepherd Sunday*)

29 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Nora Tieiney ( <i>Houston</i> )
30 Sunday <i>Vocation to the Priesthood</i>	09.00	Private
	11.00	Anna & Roman Szymanski
	18.00	Emmanuel Tambimuttu – RIP

## OTHER SERVICES

<b>Eucharistic Exposition</b>	Monday – Friday: 8am
<b>Morning Prayer (<i>Lauds</i>)</b>	Monday – Friday: 9am
<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	Saturday: 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.00pm
<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

Risen Lord,  
you are our companion on the way.  
Help us to experience your closeness to us,  
constantly conscious of your presence in our midst,  
for you are always walking alongside with us  
on our life's journeys, especially in difficult moments.  
Open our eyes to recognise you,  
our hearts to welcome you,  
and our arms to embrace you,  
especially in the poor and needy,  
the stranger and the lonely,  
and in all who yearn for your comforting presence. ~AIE

## LEARNING FROM THE EMMAUS EXPERIENCE

*"Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?"* With these words, the two disciples on the way to Emmaus express their relief and excitement after they recognised the risen Lord at the *breaking of the bread*.

The setting is Easter Sunday. We cannot tell if the two otherwise unknown disciples were on a scheduled journey or fleeing Jerusalem for fear of the Jews. But their frustration and despair because of the crucifixion is obvious. Acknowledging this, they said to him, *"Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free."* Their disbelief of the women's story about the empty tomb and its confirmation by the apostles (Lk 24:1-12) is also evident. They were deeply troubled because *"of him they saw nothing."*

There are three key moments in the story. First, *"Jesus himself came up and walked by their side,"* but they did not identify him. The evangelist Luke mentions that *"something prevented them from recognising him,"* namely, their hesitant faith, for they were *"So slow to believe the full message of the prophets."* So, Jesus sets about to cure their doubt, by explaining the scriptures to them. Oddly, they still did not recognise him as he talked with them. His interaction was, nonetheless, comforting. Hence, they begged him to stay with them that evening. This first moment mysteriously prepared them for the second during which *"their eyes were opened and they recognised him,"* while at table, when *"he took the bread and said the blessing; then broke it and handed it to them."* Finally, moved by their encounter, they *"set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem"* where they narrated their experience to the apostles and others. They were totally changed by the encounter to become witnesses.

Through this narrative, the evangelist Luke illustrates the significance of the Eucharist. In his account, the *breaking of the bread* is the climax of Jesus' earthly ministry at the Last Supper (Lk 22:19); it brings about and discloses his presence after the resurrection (Lk 24:35); and constitutes the heart of the young community that would form the nucleus of the early Church after his ascension and Pentecost (Acts 2:42). This is why Vatican II's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, describes the Eucharist as *"the source and summit of Christian life"* (§11). The Emmaus story is, therefore, not just a narration of a past encounter. It testifies to the living presence of the risen Lord in the Eucharistic gathering of his Church. About this, Vatican II, teaches in its Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy: *"Christ is always present to his church, especially during the liturgy ... He is present through the sacrifice of the Mass ... most fully under the eucharistic elements ... He is present through his word, in that he himself is speaking when scripture is read in church"* (§7).

We are drawn at every Eucharistic celebration, first to the *Table of the Word* where we are nourished through the readings and the *breaking of the word* in the homily. The ministry of readers is not just important, it takes on a 'sacramental' character. For readers at Mass lend their voices to God to address us. So, preparation through study, reflection, and prayer is to be cultivated in view of participation at Mass, especially by those who exercise the ministry of proclaiming God's word in Church. The Emmaus experience reminds us that when we prepare well to listen and are attentive to God's word, our hearts will certainly be warmed by the *breaking of the word*. This, in turn, will help us to lift them up to Lord properly when we turn to the *Table of the Eucharist*, ready to recognise him at the *breaking of the bread*. Surely, to recognise him at the *breaking of bread* is beyond a mental or intellectual process. It entails striving to conform ourselves to his *real presence* spiritually by receiving him worthily in Holy Communion and practically by becoming the 'sacrament' (concrete expression) of his real presence to our brothers and sisters, to those who yearn for his comforting presence on their journey. ©AIE.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

<b>1ST READING</b>	Acts 2:14,36-41
<b>2ND READING</b>	1 Peter 2:20-25
<b>GOSPEL</b>	John 10:1-10

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Audrey Rotherham, 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, Ian Beard, Anne Shea, and Joe Lancaster.

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### 2ND COLLECTION: ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL

St George's Cathedral, Southwark, is the mother church of the Diocese. This collection helps to meet the cost of its upkeep.

### 2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: PRIEST TRAINING FUND

The priesthood has always been essential to the life of the Church, from the time of Jesus until today. Good Shepherd Sunday is the day we pray for vocations, for our priests, and take up the Priest Training Fund second collection. This fund pays for the formation of candidates to become priests in our Archdiocese.

We are blessed to have 3 men in formation to the Priesthood for our Archdiocese. However, it costs £30,000 a year to sponsor each seminarian. They study for 6 years before being ordained a Catholic priest. We therefore rely on your generous support and prayers. Please support our priests of the future with a gift today.

### KSC & UCM CAKE AND BOOK SALE: SUNDAY 14 MAY

Calling all cake bakers and cake eaters...there will be delicious cakes on sale in the parish hall after 9am and 11am Masses on Sunday 14 May. Readers will love an assortment of books to suit all tastes at bargain prices. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee while you browse. Please bring your cakes and books to the Hall from 8.30am. All proceeds will go to the Parish Lenten Project.

### LENTEN PROJECT JUMBLE SALE: 20 MAY 1.30 – 3.00PM

Please come along and pick up a real bargain. Top quality items will be sold at rock bottom prices. If you would like to donate anything, please bring it along to the Parish Hall on the morning of the sale. No rubbish please! Many thanks for your support!

### AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN EVENING: 20 MAY, 7.30PM

Saturday, 20 May, 7.30pm – 11.30pm. Please, come and enjoy a variety of African & Caribbean food and entertainment. Adults - £10; children 7-12 years old - £5, Families £25. All proceeds go to the Lenten Project. Tickets on sale after Mass or call 0208 3999550.

**SOUTH INDIAN NIGHT:** An amazing sum of **£2,130.00** was raised for the Lenten Project. Thank you to the Syro-Malabar Community for a terrific organisation, hospitality, and entertainment and to all who participated in or supported the event.

### LENTEN PROJECT SPONSORED WALK 2023

Led by Fr Ignatius, last Saturday 25 March, a group of intrepid parishioners embarked on a challenging 38 km (24 mile) sponsored walk. Please sponsor us! 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/campaign/our-lady-immaculate-church-is-fundraising-for-roman-catholic-archdiocese-of-southwark) Thanks for your support!

### VOCATIONS TO THE PRIESTHOOD AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Have you ever considered you may be called to the priesthood or the religious life? Southwark Vocations will be hosting a 60-minute webinar on **Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm** entitled **The Good Shepherd Calls** where different presenters will share their experiences about discovering God's plan for each one of us. Please join us by [registering for this event in advance](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9876543210) by using following link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9876543210>

### SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Message from Bishop Paul Hendricks. "For many years it has been my privilege and pleasure to take part in our diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. After the restrictions of the past few years, I am delighted that we are now once more able to include support for pilgrims who need assistance for medical or mobility reasons. In Lourdes, those who are often marginalised are placed at the centre, and we who travel with them are blessed by their presence. I warmly invite you to join us." **DATE:** 18-25 AUGUST 2023.

<https://www.tangney-tors.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/southwark-ca>

### 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. Thank you so very much for your generosity!

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

**Non-Gift-aid:** £347.85

**Gift-aid:** £686.99 **Total: £1,034.84**

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION (Farewell Gift): £289.23**

### TOTAL COLLECTION FOR MARCH

A. Cash / cheques – £4,792.97

1. Gift-Aided – £1,554.00

2. Non-G/A – £3,238.97

B. Standing Orders/Bank Transfers– £2,673.00

1. Gift-Aided – £2,390.00

2. Non-G/A – £283.00

C. Contactless Machine – £928.00

**Total = £8,393.97 (Last month: £8,080.69)**

**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.

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

## LIVING AND SHARING DISCIPLESHIP JOY: A DAY OF EVANGELISING FORMATION – 29 APRIL

The Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis will be holding a Day of Evangelising Formation on 29 April in Wimbledon, offering those involved in evangelisation, formation, and catechesis both practical skills and spiritual insights.

This hope-filled and empowering day is designed for those in various roles of parish ministry. Both active parishioners in the areas of evangelisation, catechesis and formation and parish ministry leaders will come away with spiritual insights and practical skills to apply broadly in their lives and ministry.

**Venue:** Sacred Heart, Wimbledon, SW19 4LU.

**Time:** starting at 9:30am and finishing at 3:30pm.

**Cost:** £15 per person, if you book a parish group of more than 5, the cost is £12.50 per person. Please bring your own lunch. For further information please contact [aec@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:aec@rcaos.org.uk) or visit, <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/dayofformation2023>