



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – A (GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY)**

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**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

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

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

**FOURTH WEEK OF EASTER**

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

01 Monday <i>St Joseph, worker</i>	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
02 Tuesday <i>St Athanasius</i>	9.30 19.00	The Sacred Heart – Thanksgiving Monica Tambimuttu – RIP ( <i>Erman</i> )
03 Wednesday <i>Ss Philip &amp; James</i>	9.30 19.00	Joseph Jaysudhathan – RIP Fr Tom Kocherry – RIP ( <i>Kocherry</i> )
04 Thursday <i>English Martyrs</i>	7.00 9.30	Private Anne McHale – RIP ( <i>S Mills</i> )
05 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00 9.30	HM King Charles III Nathan Louis – RIP ( <i>Louis</i> )
06 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Archbishop Peter Smith – RIP

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

06 Sat ( <i>Vigil</i> )	18.30	Nora Tieiney ( <i>Houston</i> )
07 Sunday	09.00 11.00 18.00	Tim & Joan Wood – RIP ( <i>FM</i> ) <i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish Nicholas Reginald – RIP ( <i>Maria</i> )

**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**

Gracious and loving God,  
we thank you for the gift of our priests.  
Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.  
Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.  
Set their souls on fire with love for your people.  
Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus.  
Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.  
Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.  
Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.  
Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen. ~ **USCCB**

**FOLLOWING THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

The fourth Sunday of Easter is called *Good Shepherd Sunday*. The name reflects the theme of the Gospel reading for the three liturgical years (A, B, and C), namely, on Jesus' self-portrait as the Good Shepherd in John chapter 10:1-10, 11-18, and 27-30, respectively.

Influenced by their pastoral context, it was traditional among ancient Near Eastern peoples to imagine a god, king, or other ruler as shepherd. Against this backdrop, the Hebrew scripture, that is, the Christian Old Testament (OT) extended this metaphor to Yahweh as the shepherd of his people. A classic example is reflected in today's responsorial psalm, where the psalmist confidently declares in Ps 22 (23), "*Yahweh is my shepherd.*" Evidently, the OT refers to God as "*shepherd of Israel,*" the one "*who lead Joseph like a flock*" (Ps 80), and likewise its leaders. However, Yahweh remains ultimately the shepherd of his people since both shepherds and flock belong to him and are answerable to him (see Ez 34:1-10, 17-22).

The Gospels frequently describe Jesus' outreach to the people in terms of a shepherd's care for his sheep: He had compassion for the crowds who were like 'sheep without a shepherd,' he set about to teach them at great length after which he gave them enough to eat (Mk 6:34-44; see Mt 9:36;); sent the disciples out like 'sheep among wolves' (Mt 10:16; Lk 10:3); addressed them as 'little flock' to whom it had pleased the Father to bequeath the kingdom (Lk 12:32); used the parable of the lost sheep to stress God's care for all who might get lost (Mt 18:12-14) and, against the Pharisees and scribes, to explain God's preference for a single repentant sinner over a self-righteous multitude (Lk 12:1-7); and finally, referred to his death with the prophecy of Zechariah 13:7, "*I will strike the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered*" (Mt 26:31; Mk 14:27; Jn 16:32). Applying this imagery to himself especially in the good shepherd discourse in John chapter 10, Jesus identifies himself as the fulfilment of God's promise through Ezekiel, of 1) being himself the shepherd of his flock (34:11-16) and particularly, 2) raising up over them one shepherd, his servant David, who "*shall feed them and be their shepherd*" (34:23).

In today's Gospel, Jesus compliments his pledge of provident care, concern, and protection over his flock with a firm expectation of their openness and readiness to hear his voice and follow his lead. Only those who are open to listen to his voice and follow him, can be his disciples. This has practical implications. As Peter puts it in the second reading (1 Pt 2:20-25), "*to die to our faults and live for holiness;*" this is what it means concretely to listen to him and "*to follow the way he took.*" Jesus also emphasises the gate of the sheepfold. Its significance lies not only on the fact that it serves to distinguish between the true shepherd and the imposter or thief, but also because it gives the sheep access to good pasture. This is a powerful imagery. It reinforces Jesus' declaration in John 14:6, "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*" That is why he established the Church to perpetuate his presence and mission in the world.

As taught by Vatican II, "*the Church is in Christ as a sacrament or instrumental sign of intimate union with God and of the unity of all humanity*" (LG, §1). Hence, it constantly nourishes Christ's flock through the word of God and the sacraments. Through baptism, all Christ's faithful have a share in this mission, but ordained priests are particularly called and commissioned through the sacrament of Holy Orders, to act in the person of Christ the head (CCC §875), the Chief Shepherd, and in his name as shepherds of his flock. Like all Christ's faithful, they can only carry out this mandate effectively if they are united to Christ, attentive always to his voice, and devoted to following in his footsteps. And so, we are invited especially today, to pray for our priests and those in training to become priests. © IAE

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

<b>1ST READING</b>	Acts 6:1-7
<b>2ND READING</b>	1 Peter 2:4-9
<b>GOSPEL</b>	John 14:1-12

## 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: 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.

### DISPENSATION FROM FRIDAY ABSTINENCE – 5 MAY

To assist those celebrating the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III, the Archbishop has granted a dispensation from Friday Abstinence on Friday 5 May.

### PLEASE SUBSCRIBE TO PARISH NEWS

In order to keep up to date with all that is going on the parish, please subscribe to our weekly email via emailing [tolworthnews@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworthnews@rcaos.org.uk)

### 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) 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 by using following link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9121212121?pwd=Q777ddSSjLBucMtsONT>

### 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>

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £913.64

Gift-aid: £378.18 **Total: £1,291.82**

**2<sup>ND</sup> COLLECTION (St George's): £385.39**

### 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.

## ATTENTION: ALL ALTAR SERVERS

We are trying to set up an email contact list for all altar servers and would be grateful if you could email [tolworthAS@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworthAS@rcaos.org.uk) with your name, the Mass you serve at, and email address so we can compile the list. We will then use this to put a Mass rota together. Many thanks for your help, Jacques Lambert.

## 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!