



PENTECOST SUNDAY – A

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY (END OF EASTER SEASON)
LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://www.olionline.co.uk>

27 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Anne Davis – WB (<i>R Tibbs</i>)
28 Sunday	09.00	Margaret & Thomas Kane – RIP
	11.00	Roman Szymanski – RIP
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

WEEK 8 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR I)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am

29 Monday <i>Mary Mother of God</i>	9.30	Sugumar – B/D
30 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Dennis Peiris – RIP (<i>Mrs Peiris</i>)
	19.00	Robert Hicks – RIP (<i>D Mulcahy</i>)
31 Wednesday <i>The Visitation</i>	9.30 19.00	Tony Fazal – RIP (<i>P Fazal</i>) Mariyamma & Asiwatham – RIP
01 Thursday <i>The Eternal High Priest</i>	7.00	Winifride Fynn – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	9.30	Tony & Denise Kidd – W/A (<i>Tett</i>)
	11.30	Requiem Mass: Peter Summers
02 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Mary Gallagher – WB
	9.30	Maria Rosaria D’Agostino (Taylor)
03 Saturday <i>St Charles Lwanga</i>	9.00	Keith Lewis – RIP (<i>L Lewis</i>)

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

03 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Pat Buchanan (<i>P Buchanan</i>)
04 Sunday	09.00	R & G Jankowski – RIP
	11.00	June Hall – RIP (<i>M East</i>)
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

OTHER SERVICES

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

Come, Holy Spirit, Creator blest,
 and in our souls take up thy rest;
 come with thy grace and heavenly aid
 to fill the hearts which thou hast made.
 O comforter, to thee we cry,
 O heavenly gift of God Most High,
 O fount of life and fire of love,
 and sweet anointing from above.
 Thou in thy sevenfold gifts are known;
 Thou, finger of God’s hand we own;
 Thou, promise of the Father,
 Thou who dost the tongue with power imbue.

FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Christian Pentecost, like many defining Christian festivals, has deep roots in Judaism, that is, the Jewish religion and tradition. The account of the first Christian Pentecost in today’s first reading (Acts 2:1-11) underlines this reality when it states: “*When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them.*” In other words, there was Pentecost before Pentecost!

Pentecost was originally a Jewish harvest festival (Ex 23:16), *Shavuot* in Hebrew. Celebrated fifty days after the first day of the Jewish Passover – hence the name, Pentecost (the Greek word for fifty) – it was initially a feast of thanksgiving for the first fruits after the wheat harvest, also called the Festival of Weeks (Ex 34:22). But it took on a more spiritual outlook after the destruction of the Second Temple (see Ez 1:1-4; 2 Chr 36:22-23) by the Romans during their siege of Jerusalem in AD70. With that, the focus of the festival shifted to the commemoration of the giving of the *Torah* (the Law), that is, the first five books of the Hebrew Bible (the Christian Old Testament) to Moses by God on Mt Sinai (Ex 19:1-20:21; see Deut 4:10-13), also fifty days after the first day of Passover.

The above Jewish backgrounds are both reflected in the narrative and significance of the Christian feast of Pentecost. The powerful wind-like sound which filled the entire house where they had gathered and the parted tongues of fire are reminiscent of the theophany, the spectacular manifestation of God during the giving of the Law to Moses on Mt Sinai. As the book of Exodus recounts, “*Moses led the people out of the camp to meet God; and they stood at the bottom of the mountain. The mountain of Sinai was entirely wrapped in smoke, because the Lord had descended on it in the form of fire. Like smoke from a furnace the smoke went up, and the whole mountain shook violently*” (Ex 19:17-18). The liturgy acknowledges this connection by including this passage (see Ex 19:3-8,16-20) as an alternative first reading for the Vigil of Pentecost. For the giving of the Law brought to completion the Exodus, the freedom from slavery in Egypt. Likewise, by the giving of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, the work of our Redemption through the Paschal Mystery is completed. And the Christian people are set free from sin and death, to live in freedom as children of God, the first fruits of his creation (Jm 1:18).

According to Cardinal Raniero Cantalamessa, the renown Franciscan friar and preacher of the Papal Household, this correlation makes “*clear that the Holy Spirit is the new law of Christianity, the interior law, no longer written on stone tablets but on the tablets of flesh*” (*Sober Intoxication of the Spirit*, p.118). As “the principal of the new covenant,” the Holy Spirit is the life-wire of the Christian life and mission. Without the Holy Spirit there can be no discipleship, nor Christian life and mission. The two accounts of the impartation of the Holy Spirit in the first reading and the Gospel (Jn 20:19-23) could not agree any more. Despite the differences in their emphasis and scope, both Luke and John agree that the disciples – and the Church – would not exist nor function without the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. This holds true for both the leaders and members of the Church alike irrespective of their provenances. So, St Paul reminds us in the second reading (1 Co 12:3-7,12-13), that we have received a variety of gifts from the same one Spirit in which we were all baptised and given to drink. And for doing good!

In celebrating the feast of Pentecost, we are invited not only to narrate, recount, or remember this wondrous event, but also to dispose ourselves to be filled with the same Holy Spirit that filled Our Lady, the apostles and the disciples with the fire of divine love. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

1ST READING	Exodus 34:4-6,8-9
2ND READING	2 Corinthians 13:11-13
GOSPEL	John 3:16-18

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Esme Mills, Cyril Fernando, Peter Summers, Maud Chandler, 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, 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, Ian Beard, Anne Shea, and Joe Lancaster.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SOLEMN VESPERS AND BENDICTION: PENTECOST DAY

Please, join us to celebrate solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer of the Church) of Pentecost and Eucharistic Exposition with benediction today, starting at 4.30pm.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEDICATION OF OLI CHURCH

Our church will be 60 years since it was dedicated on 31 May 1963. It is a special day in the parish. We hope to mark it with a special celebration before the end of the year. Meanwhile, as a community of 'living stones' (1 Pe 2:5) that make up the OLI Church, let us all try to rededicate ourselves, individually and collectively, to the service of God and neighbour on this happy occasion.

There will be prayers for all parishioners, past and present, at the 9.30am and 7pm Masses. We would like to encourage as many parishioners as are able to try to attend any of two Masses.

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

There will be a mini procession after the 11am Mass of Corpus Christi on 11 June 2023. The children who are receiving First Holy Communion on 10 June will be celebrating their Thanksgiving and will all take part in the procession. More details next weekend!

YOUR CHOIR NEEDS YOU

Can you sing, read music, or play the organ? We desperately need people to join the 11am choir here at OLI who enjoy singing and, ideally who have some ability to read music. Men's and women's voices are needed. Please, contact Rob Howe 07939 084 797 or robert.howe@dunelm.org.uk

VISIT BY THE BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP

This missionary group from the Holy Land, will visit us next weekend 3-4 June to briefly talk about the Holy Land and sell religious articles made from Olive Wood to help and support poor Christian families. Any help you can give to them will be highly appreciated, for "when you help the poor you help our Lord."

AFRICAN-CARIBBEAN NIGHT

It was a fantastic evening! Moreover, a whopping £1,825.00 was raised for the Parish Lenten Project 2023! Many thanks to all organisers and contributors.

JUMBLE SALE

An amazing sum of £287.00 was raised for the Parish Lenten Project 2023! Many thanks to all organisers and contributors.

ROSE'S PICTURE BOOK FOR LENTEN PROJECT

Congratulations to little Rose Jimmy. Her picture book has raised an amazing £542.50 for the Parish Lenten Project 2023!

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/Our-Lady-Immaculate-Church-is-fundraising-for-Roman-Catholic-Archdiocese-of-Southwark) Thanks for your support!

FOOD BANK DONATIONS: RENEWED APPEAL

"Food banks are seeing more people than ever coming to them for help, many of whom need emergency support for the first time...across the UK, local food banks gave out close to 3 million emergency food parcels last year. Over a million of these parcels were provided for children."

These are recent words of the Trussell Trust. Please continue to be generous with your food donations. All non-perishable food items are welcome. Thank you.

† PETER DENNIS SUMMERS – RIP

Please pray for Peter Summers who passed on peacefully at home on Saturday 13 May, aged 89 years. Our condolences to Hazel and the family. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Requiem Mass: Thursday, 1 June, 11.30am.

† ESME MILLS – RIP

Kindly pray for Esme Mills who passed on peacefully at St George's Hospital on Thursday 18 May, aged 104 years. Our condolences to Nick and the family. May she rest in peace. Amen.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £920.92

Gift-aid: £435.59 Total: **£1,356.51**

2nd Collection (CCN): **£249.02**

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR APRIL

A. Cash / cheques – £8,700.20

1. Gift-Aided – £2,746.00

2. Non-G/A – £5,954.20

B. Standing Orders/Bank Transfers– £3,331.00

1. Gift-Aided – £3,046.00

2. Non-G/A – £285.00

C. Contactless Machine – £1,129.00

Total = £13,160.20 (incl Easter – £6,443.18)

Last month: £8,393.97

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.

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.

CONFERRAL OF CONFIRMATION

Canon Gerard Bradley, the Episcopal Vicar for the South West Area of our Archdiocese will be visiting our parish on Friday, 9 June 2023 at 7pm to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on 20 of our young people who have been preparing to renew their Baptism and be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Many thanks to their catechists, parents, sponsors, and all who have been supporting them on this journey. Please, keep them in your prayers as they make final preparations. Many thanks.

CELEBRATION OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Forty-two children will be receiving the Lord for the first time in the Holy Eucharist on Saturday 10 June 2023 at 9am.

Many thanks to their catechists, parents, family, and all who have been supporting them on this important step in discipleship. Kindly continue to keep them and their families in your prayers. Thanks!