



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church  
**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A**

16 JULY 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**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A**  
**LIVESTREAM LINK: <https://www.olionline.co.uk>**

15 Sat – Vigil	18.30	Chris McGuinness – RIP
16 Sunday	09.00	Joan O'Brien – RIP ( <i>Houston</i> )
	11.00	
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – For the People

**WEEK 15 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR I)**

**EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am**

17 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Branca D'Mello – RIP ( <i>FM</i> )
18 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Fr Felix Hilary Ekong – RIP
	19.00	Parish Gift-aiders
19 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Helen Navaratnan – RIP ( <i>Louis</i> )
	19.00	OLI Church Cleaners
20 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Holy Souls
	9.30	Anna Clarke – RIP ( <i>A Davis</i> )
	10.30	<b>Requiem:</b> Rosary Anthony RIP
21 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Fr Felix Hilary Ekong – RIP
	9.30	Prisco Buenafe ( <i>J Espiritu</i> )
22 Saturday <i>St Mary Magdalene</i>	9.00	Peter Summers & all deceased members & family members of KSC – RIP

**SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A**

22 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Jimmy McHale & Family
23 Sunday	09.00	
	11.00	Deacon Al Callan & Family
	18.00	

**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**

**PRAYER BEFORE READING THE HOLY BIBLE**

Father, anoint me with your Holy Spirit, so that as I read your eternal word, your word may penetrate my whole being and transform me.  
 Grant me the blessing to be a faithful disciple in believing the Word of God and that I may be a light shining upon all who are in darkness.  
 Amen.

**EXPERIENCING THE POWER IN GOD'S WORD**

Among the Ibibio people of the Niger Delta region of Nigeria where I was born and had my early upbringing, the spoken word is very important. Words are generally believed to bring about what they express. Hence, good parents / grandparents are always careful with what they say to their children / grandchildren, especially when they are not happy about something or their behaviours. In the same vein, the blessing of a parent / grandparent is highly priced and coveted while a curse by them is scary. In other words, for the Ibibio people, words are fundamentally performative; they have consequences.

A similar worldview is revealed in the Hebrew tradition, both in the Old and New Testaments. The prophet Isaiah expresses this powerfully in the first reading (Is 55:10-11). Just as the rains and snow do not fall to the earth without tangible impact, the Lord says, "so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do." This is demonstrated in the creation narrative in Genesis 1: "And God said, 'Let there be... and there was ...'" (see Jn 1:3). Likewise, the Roman centurion said to Jesus, "Only say the word and my servant will be healed" (Mt 8:8). Notably, God's word is creative because it is not only an extension of God's being and power but, ultimately, as the fourth gospel asserts, God himself: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (Jn 1:1). The interior capacity of God's word is underlined here. Once uttered it is unfettered. It just acts. Automatically!

Now, in relation to human beings, God's word (indeed, God himself) is always susceptible to rejection and / or outright opposition. The story of the fall of the first man and woman (Gen 3) and the experiences of the prophets and apostles (see Jr 20:7-8; Ez 2:2-7; Am 7:10-15; Acts 4:13-20) are strong reminders to us that God's word does not function magically or in a deterministic manner as if human response to it is completely unnecessary. As God respects human freedom and places himself literally at our disposal, so does his word. This is revealed, above all, in the New Testament in the mystery of the incarnation. According to St John, the incarnate word was not recognised by the world which was made through him or accepted by his people to whom he came (Jn 1:9-11). Yet "to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God" (Jn 1:12).

This truth is echoed in Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed in today's Gospel (Mt 13:1-23). Like the seed that is scattered on different soil types, the word of God requires appropriate conditions in the recipients to unleash its inner potentials. As Jesus explains, the four soil types correspond roughly with four spiritual dispositions. Understanding is fundamental to them. Its absence in the first three soils and presence in the fruitful soil is quite telling. As a gift of the Holy Spirit, it helps us to grasp the meaning of revealed truths which are known by faith. It assists us to appreciate and enjoy them in such a way that our faith ceases to be sterile and passive but fruitful and active, inspiring a newness of life modelled after our Lord. We grow in understanding of the faith especially through prayer and ongoing study / investigation. That is why it is not just enough to attend Mass on Sunday if we want to deepen our faith and commitment as disciples. We must create time for personal prayer, scripture reading, spiritual reading and, when possible, spiritual retreat. This way we would foster and sustain the second disposition, that is, deep rootedness in faith, which provides a buffer not only in moments of trials, temptations, or persecutions but also against the third barrier, namely, the worries and enticements of the world.

God is constantly sowing his word in our hearts particularly through the ministry of the Church. To experience its transforming power, we must be open to welcome it with faith, work hard to grow in its knowledge and practice by the grace of the Holy Spirit. ©IAE

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

<b>1ST READING</b>	Wisdom 12: 13,16-19
<b>2ND READING</b>	Romans 8:26-27
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 13:24-43

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Fr Leonard Taylor, Fr Felix Ekong, Charles Godfrey, Marion Treweek, Rosary Anthony, 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, Terence O'Driscoll, Clare & Baby Polly, Gerry Hague, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Eric Powell, Tony & Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Mary L Taylor, and Ian Beard.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £919.87

Gift-aid: £306.20 Total: **£1,226.07\***

**2ND COLLECTION (Stella Maris): £353.11**

*\*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 [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 Lance Louis: [tolworthgac1@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworthgac1@rcaos.org.uk) or 07851 070036.

## WORLD YOUTH DAY EVENT (LONDON): 5 AUGUST

World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon this summer. If you can't attend the main event, why not join WYD in London – a day celebration on Saturday 5 August 2023 from 11am-5pm in the church by Leicester Square. **Programme:** music • prayer • talks • activities • Mass, bringing together a young community of different nationalities in one faith! **Venue:** Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. To register a group or individually, please fill in the form: [bit.ly/wydlondon](http://bit.ly/wydlondon)

## SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF UNBORN CHILDREN

Vacancy for Executive Assistant (21hours pw) whose role is to work with the Executive Director in ensuring the smooth and successful operation of SPUC's governance, administration, and finance departments. Salary details, on request. For further information and application form, email [jobs@spuc.org.uk](mailto:jobs@spuc.org.uk) or call 020 7091 7091

## ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON AREA FOR 6 MONTHS

Henry is in his third year studying engineering at Imperial College and is looking for a room to rent from October to Easter. He will be on placement for the rest of the year, so he only needs to be in London for about 6 months.

He is very quiet, kind and family-minded, and would be a good lodger/tenant. If you know of anyone who might be able to offer a room to let, please contact Cecilia Hatt: [ceciliahatt@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ceciliahatt@yahoo.co.uk).

## PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

### A THANK YOU MASS FOR DEACON AL CALLAN

Deacon Al was ordained to the permanent diaconate in 1992. He has served the people of our parish and the deanery selflessly for more than three decades. As he is retiring officially from active parish ministry, the parish would like to thank him and Trudie for their many years of devoted services to the parish before and after his ordination as a deacon.

There will be a Thank You Mass for him on Sunday, 23 July at the 11am Mass, to celebrate his ministry and services to the people of our parish. This will be followed by a reception in the parish hall.

Envelopes are available for donations towards a retirement gift. Also, if you would like to bring some food / drink to share on the occasion, please indicate by signing the sheet at the narthex.

### SUMMER HOLIDAY

We would like to wish all parishioners a very refreshing summer. Journey mercies to all on vacation or staycation as we look forward to having everyone back safely and healthily after the holiday. In the same vein, we would like to welcome all who are visiting our parish during the holiday. We hope that you will enjoy your stay and be enriched by your participation with us in the sacred liturgy.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY GROUP (SUNDAY 9AM MASS)

Many thanks to all parents and children for your support of the Children's Liturgy Group this school year. After this weekend, we are on summer holiday until the beginning of September. We look forward to welcoming you all back at the start of the academic year.

### WORK IN OUR LADY CHAPEL

Scaffoldings were installed in Our Lady Chapel on Monday 10 July and will remain in place for a couple of weeks for decorating and other minor repair works. For Health and Safety reasons, the Chapel will be out of use throughout the duration of work.

### UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 18 July at 7.30pm - 9pm in the Old Chapel. This will be a Bring and Buy Sale. and raffle. Please bring some finger food to share. All ladies are welcome to join us.

### ADULT BAPTISM & RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

Are you interested in the Catholic Church and want to know more? Have you ever thought of becoming a Catholic? Are you an adult, baptised Catholic but not yet confirmed? If you, or someone you know, would say 'Yes' to one of these questions, Fr Ignatius would be glad to hear from you. The parish has a small group that will meet informally every week from the start of October that may help answer your questions about the Church and, if you wish, enable you to take further steps.

### MARCH FOR LIFE UK: 2 SEPTEMBER

March for Life UK takes place in London on Saturday 2 September. Please, join thousands of people at this family-friendly event to speak up for unborn children who cannot speak for themselves. See [marchforlife.co.uk](http://marchforlife.co.uk) for further details.

### 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.

### † ROSARY ANTHONY – RIP

Kindly pray for Rosary Anthony who passed on peacefully at Kingston Hospital on Friday 30 June, aged 70 years. May he rest in peace. Amen. **Requiem Mass:** Thursday, 20 July, 10.30am.

### † MARION TREWEEK (NÉE PIPER) – RIP

Please pray for Marion who passed on in South Africa on 12 July, aged 83 years. Marion grew up attending OLI from a young girl until she left England some years ago. May she rest in peace, Amen.

### TUTORING IN SCIENCES

**From Roger Balachandran:** "Are you looking for an experienced Science Teacher to tutor a student in Years 7-11 in any of the 3 sciences? Please contact Roger on [rogb84@hotmail.com](mailto:rogb84@hotmail.com) or 07958343979. A-Level Biology tuition is also available."