



NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 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		
NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A		
LIVESTREAM LINK: https://www.olionline.co.uk		
12 Sat – <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Peace in the World
13 Sunday	09.00	Patrick Grogan – RIP (<i>P Grogan</i>)
	11.00	The Holy Father’s Intentions
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish
WEEK 19 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR I)		
EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am		
14 Monday <i>St Maximilian Kolbe</i> <i>The Assumption of the BVM (Vigil)</i>	9.30	Parish Altar Servers
	19.00	Joseph & Justina Edet – RIP
15 Tuesday <i>The Assumption of the BVM</i>	9.30	Collectors & Counters
	19.00	Fr Joseph Edem’s Intentions
16 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Holy Souls
	19.00	Rosary Anthony – RIP (<i>Letizia</i>)
17 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Vocations to the Priesthood
	9.30	Catherine Yap’s Intentions
18 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Readers & Extraordinary Ministers
	9.30	Parish Sacristans
19 Saturday <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Church Cleaners
TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A		
19 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Margaret & Thomas Kane – RIP
20 Sunday	09.00	Lankes Fernando – WB (<i>Lance</i>)
	11.00	Joseph Xavier – RIP (<i>A Xavier</i>)
	18.00	

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

O my God, fill my soul with holy joy, courage and strength to serve you.
 Enkindle your love in me and then walk with me along the next stretch of road before me.
 I do not see very far ahead,
 but when I have arrived where the horizon now closes down,
 a new prospect will open before me
 and I shall meet with peace. Amen.

St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross [Edith Stein] – 9 August.

A TEST OF FAITH

Crisis is not always something negative. Though understood as “a time of intense difficulty or danger,” it can also impact positively on us and our relationships. In an otherwise fast-moving world characterised not least by cascading changes and chances, crisis can help both individuals and society to pause, reflect, examine, or re-examine themselves and their priorities and choices.

Whether negative or positive, crises are normally pedagogic; they are educational. They offer us rare opportunities for introspection and/or retrospection. This is true especially for believers. Crises can help us not just to connect deeply with our frailty and fear but, above all, to be more aware of God’s presence with us and his love for us.

For believers, crisis is not an impediment to faith. Instead, it helps us to grow in faith, and to deepen our loyalty and commitment to God and his service. For like gold is tested and refined by fire, faith is tested, strengthened, and purified by crisis. This is why the apostle Peter exhorts believers to rejoice even in their trials: “*This is a great joy to you, even though for a short time yet you must bear all sorts of trials; so that the worth of your faith, more valuable than gold, which is perishable even if it has been tested by fire, may be proved – to your praise and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed* (1 Pe 1:6-7). Through crisis we are led to encounter God and, consequently, are strengthened in our faith and commitment to serve God and our brothers and sisters. This is reflected in today’s Liturgy of the Word.

In the first reading (1 Kg 19:9,11-13), the prophet Elijah had a special encounter with God while in deep personal and spiritual crisis. He became a fugitive because of the evil queen Jezebel who had vowed to kill him in revenge (1 Kgs 19:2) for his slaughtering of the prophets of Baal (1 Kgs 18:40) after their failure to prove themselves as true prophets at the contest at Mount Carmel (1 Kg 18:19-39). Hunted, isolated, depressed, and abandoned, he asked God to take his life (1 Kg 19:3-4). However, fortified by a mysterious nourishment by an angel (1 Kg 19:5-8), he journeyed forty days and nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of the Lord, where he sheltered overnight in a cave. There, he had an amazing encounter with God whose presence he discerned neither in the mighty wind that shook the mountain nor in the earthquake or fire, but in “*the sound of a gentle breeze*.” Of course, his experience contrasts with Moses’ who on the same mountain (Sinai) felt God’s presence through thunder, lightning, and fire (Ex 19:16,18) as well as those of the apostles on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:2) and Paul and Silas (Acts 16:26).

A similar experience is told in the Gospel (Mt 14:22-33). The disciples encountered the Lord at a moment of crisis. Buffeted by stormy winds and turbulence on the sea, they were afraid for their life, feeling abandoned by their Master who was out on the mountain alone praying. Unfortunately, their lack of faith prevented them from recognising him when eventually he came towards them “*at the fourth watch of the night*” (3am-6am), walking on the sea.

As voiced by Peter – “*‘Lord,’ he said, ‘if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water’*” – the disciples’ reluctance to believe and trust Jesus without verification or proof (recall the encounter with Thomas – Jn 20:25) is a negation of faith, that is, “*believing without doubting what God has revealed*.” Sometimes (perhaps oftentimes!) we may have enough faith to venture out of the tempest-tossed boats of our life and calling and walk on the water towards Jesus. However, most times we lack enough faith to withstand the heavy winds and waves and risk sinking, unless we are humble and bold like Peter to reach out to Jesus, “*Lord! Save me!*” or with the psalmist, “*Let us see, O Lord, your mercy, and give us your saving help*.” By looking unto Jesus who is the author and finisher of our faith (Hb 12:2), our crises would become opportunities for growth and development. ©IAE

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS	
1ST READING	Isaiah 56:1,6-7
2ND READING	Romans 11:13-15,29-32
GOSPEL	Matthew 15:21-28

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Alice Ibekwe, Henry Smith, Mary Carmel Allison, Andre Desbruslais, Genoveffa Riti, 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: £

Gift-aid: £ Total: £*

**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), 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 or 07851 070036.

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 for further details.

TOWARDS FR JOSEPH'S FAREWELL

Fr Joseph will be taking up his new assignment as assistant priest at St John Fisher, Merton in the first week of September. There will be a farewell Mass and celebration to thank him for his ministry in the parish on Saturday 2 September at the 6.30pm Mass, followed by a reception in the parish hall. Envelopes are available in the narthex for donations towards a farewell gift to him.

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.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

TUESDAY 15 AUGUST: ASSUMPTION OF THE BVM

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (BVM) is a Holyday of Obligation, that is, equivalent to a Sunday, when Catholic faithful (clergy and laity) are required to attend Mass unless impeded by a just cause.

There will be **three Masses** in the parish: Monday 14 August, **7pm (Vigil)** and **9.30am** and **7pm** on Tuesday 15 August.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES: 1 – 23 AUGUST

The parish office will be closed for summer holiday from the 1st of August and will reopen on Thursday 24 August. In emergency, email Fr Ignatius directly at ignatiusedet@rcaos.org.uk.

SAFEGUARDING ALERT

A new DBS check system is being implemented which cuts down on most of the paperwork. Ahead of its start date, ALL those in the parish with a DBS clearance are asked to email the Parish Safeguarding Representative immediately with their 1) name 2) Date of Birth 3) date of their currently held DBS certificate.

If you have or are stepping down from your role, please reply to the email address below.

Anyone with a DBS clearance older than 3 years will be required to be re-checked under the new system. I know that it is holiday time but please respond asap as no-one without a current certificate will be allowed to continue in any role. Please send details to: tolworthsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk Thank you.

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.

1ST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION 2023-24

Do you have a child or children in Year 3 or above from September, and would like them to begin the programme of preparation for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in June 2024?

If so, please attend the meeting for parents, ahead of formal registration for the programme. The meeting is on Monday September 4th at 7pm in the parish hall and is expected to take approximately 1 hour.

At this meeting, you will be given information about the programme and requirements for registration.

All the children's sessions (except for Second Reconciliation) will be held on Saturdays from 10.30am to 11.30am

Throughout the preparation programme, parents are expected to play a vital and active role. The children are expected to attend every session and attend mass every Sunday.

NB: The children will need to know simple prayers before they register. A prayer sheet is available for collection after Mass.

† ALICE IBEKWE – RIP

Please pray for Alice, mother of Angela Etumnu who passed on in Nigeria on 17 July, aged 73 years.

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 rog84@hotmail.com or 07958343979. A-Level Biology tuition is also available."