



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

29 OCTOBER 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:** TBA + **Deacon:** Rev. Al Callan (Retd) + **Secretary:** Mrs Denise Kidd

School: Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School + **Headteacher:** Mr Ben Martin

MASS INTENTIONS AND PRAYERS

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

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

28 Sat – <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Kim Lannon – RIP (<i>Houston</i>)
29 Sunday	09.00	Mary Callahan – WB
	11.00	Rachel Rodrigues – BD
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

WEEK 30 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR I)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am

30 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Rosary Anthony – RIP
31 Tues – <i>Feria</i> <i>All Saints - Vigil</i>	9.30	Nancy Ryan – RIP (<i>M Tett</i>)
	19.00	Private
01 Wednesday <i>All Saints</i>	7.00	
	9.30	<i>Pro Populo (OLI Primary joining)</i>
	19.00	Antonisamy, Jebamalai, & Janaki
02 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	The Holy Father's Intention
	9.30	Lewis Family Dec'd – RIP (<i>L Lewis</i>)
	19.00	All the Faithful Departed
03 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Private
	9.30	Rajani Reginald – RIP
04 Saturday <i>St Charles Borromeo</i>	9.00	Joseph & Justina Edet – RIP (<i>Yap</i>)

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A

04 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Private
05 Sunday	09.00	Private
	11.00	Stella & Seymour Tremenheere
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

OTHER SERVICES

Eucharistic Exposition	Monday – Friday: 8am
Morning Prayer (<i>Lauds</i>)	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

AN ACT OF LOVE

O my God,
 I love you above all things
 with my whole heart and soul,
 because you are all good and worthy of all my love.
 I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you.
 I forgive all who have injured me
 and I ask pardon of those whom I have injured.
 Amen.

LOVING GOD AND NEIGHBOUR

“The moral test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life, the children; those who are in the twilight of life, the elderly; those who are in the shadows of life, the sick, the needy and the handicapped” (H Humphrey).

These words, spoken by then US vice president, Hubert Humphrey at the dedication of Hubert Humphrey Building in Washington, D.C on 1 November 1977, do not only apply to governments but also to all human beings, especially to believers who profess faith in God as Creator and Father of all. They are confirmed in today's readings.

In the first reading (Ex 22:20-26), God instructs the people of Israel through Moses on how to act toward strangers, widows, orphans, and others in difficult circumstances: “*Tell the sons of Israel this: ‘You must not molest the stranger or oppress him ... You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan ...’*” Notably, no reason is given as such for the other categories (widow, orphan, poor debtor). Presumably, as members of the Chosen People, the command, “*You will not exact vengeance on, or bear any sort of grudge against, the members of your race, but will love your neighbour as yourself*” (Lv 19:18), seems to suffice as a guide. Instead, the consequences of disobeying the instruction are spelt out. However, an explanation is given concerning the stranger: “*for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt.*” Maybe, this is an allusion to the Golden Rule, “*Do to others what you would like done to you.*” Yet, the Judeo-Christian foundation for the love of neighbour, including strangers is much deeper (see below). Meanwhile, in Lv 19:34, the same instruction is given but with added emphasis that makes it similar to what is said earlier in the same chapter (see above) about fellow Jews. Perhaps already anticipating the expansion of the neighbour to include non-Jews, typified in Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan (see Lk 10:29-37).

In the Gospel (Mt 22:34-40), Jesus is questioned by the Pharisees about which commandment is the greatest. In response, he appeals to two texts in the Hebrew Bible (the Christian Old Testament): “*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind ... You must love your neighbour as yourself*” (see Deut 6:5 & Lv 19:18, respectively). Though correlated, Jesus is careful to distinguish between love of God and love of neighbour. They are neither completely separable nor identical. The love of God always takes the first place; hence, the first and the greatest commandment. Because the love of neighbour “*resembles it,*” it is, by nature, a reflection of the love of God, though imperfectly. In other words, the love of God is the foundation and criterion of the love of neighbour. Similarly, the love of neighbour makes manifest the love of God. So, though distinct, both are inseparable: “*Anyone who says, ‘I love God’ and hates his brother, is a liar, since whoever does not love the brother whom he can see cannot love God whom he has not seen. Indeed, this is the commandment we have received from him, that whoever loves God, must also love his brother and sister*” (1 Jn 4:20-21). Equally, no one who genuinely loves his/her neighbour could, strictly speaking, be said to hate God (see Mt 25:31-46).

At every Eucharistic celebration we gather around the Table of God's Word and the Table of the Holy Body and Blood of Christ at the invitation of Jesus who is the incarnate love of God (Jn 3:6; 1 Jn 4:10), not as strangers but as members of his body (Eph 5:30; see 1 Co 12:12-27). The moral test of the character of our weekly / daily eucharistic assembly lies not so much on the size of our congregation, the length of our prayers, the beauty of our liturgy, the eloquence of our teaching / preaching etc., but in the way we genuinely witness to the love of God in words and actions, within and especially beyond the borders of our family, circle of friends, and community. May the Holy Spirit guide us to know who that stranger in our life might be, longing for a kind word and/or a welcome. ©IAE.

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Malachi 1:14-2:2,8-10
2ND READING	1 Thessalonians 2:7-9,13
GOSPEL	Matthew 23:1-12

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Fr Francis Henry, 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, Clare & Baby Polly, Gerry Hague, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Eric Powell, Tony & Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Mary L Taylor, Ian Beard, Qiaochen Shi, Jack Hoey, Nee Collier, Ida Rebello, and Ravenna Ahmed.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS – WEDNESDAY 1 NOVEMBER

Being a Holy Day of Obligation, all Catholics are required to attend Mass unless impeded by a just cause.

To facilitate this, there will be four Masses in the parish: the vigil on **Tuesday 31 October, 7pm, and 7am, 9.30am, and 7pm** on 1 November.

NB: OLI Primary School will be joining at the 9.30am Mass.

HOLY SOULS DAY – THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER

There will be three Masses in the parish: **7am, 9.30am, and 7pm**. There will be a special service of commemoration for parishioners and relations of parishioners who have passed on between last year's and this year's All Souls Day. A family member or friend would be invited when their names are called out, to light a votive candle in their memory, while we pray for them. At the end, all who attend will be invited to light a votive candle for their departed ones.

NOVEMBER LIST

The month of November is specially dedicated to the commemoration of the faithful departed, through prayer, penance, and Holy Mass. Holy Souls' envelopes are now available in the Narthex; please, collect an envelope and fill in the names of your departed family members and friends. If you would like to make an offering towards ongoing Masses for the Holy Souls, kindly indicate the enclosed sum on the envelope. Thank you.

NB: Please use the regular Mass intention envelopes if you want to request a Mass for a particular person.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

If you would like to be included in the programme, please visit the parish website and download the full application form. **The closing date for applications will be Sunday 5 November.**

This is open to any young person in year 9 or above at school, or in college, and you regularly come to Mass in Our Lady Immaculate Parish and have received your First Holy Communion.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £704.10

Gift-aid: £370.23 **Total:** £1,074.33*

2ND COLLECTION (SMA): £381.05

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@caos.org.uk or 07851 070036.

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



The Lenten Project AGM was held on Sunday 15 October 2023. At this meeting the charities, which the Parish will be supporting for Lent 2024, were chosen. A copy of the minutes will be on the parish website (Community/Lenten Project).

Five charities were nominated in total and all five were adopted.

The charities are:

- ✓ Cusmano Orphanage Centre – Uganda. To help with the renovation of the orphanage.
- ✓ Divya Chhaya Society – India. Providing health care to a destitute & malnourished population.
- ✓ Aidrikings Foundation – Cameroon. Providing support to parents with children who have Down's syndrome.
- ✓ Miani Children's Home – Sri Lanka. Providing food and education to orphaned children.
- ✓ St Theresa's Hospital – Nigeria. Refurbishment of the outpatients department.

If you would like to organise or participate in an event during Lent 2024 please contact Phil Townsend on 8399 3481 or email Townsend4@blueyonder.co.uk.

BLESSING OF GRAVES: SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER

Surbiton Cemetery: 2pm and Kingston Cemetery: 3pm.

Please gather in the Chapel for a short service before blessing of each grave at the graveside!

DEANARY MASS FOR DEPARTED CLERGY

The annual Mass for deceased priests and deacons who have served parishes in our deanery will be celebrated on Friday 17 November 2023.

Venue: St Ann's, Kingston Hill at 12.00 noon.

Parishioners are encouraged to attend.

CHURCH LIGHTING

Having successfully completed the installation of the new sound system, we are now looking at replacing the lighting system, which is no longer fit for purpose. However, from recent experience, obtaining various quotes, interviewing companies, going backwards and forwards over the specifications, having the process signed off by the diocese after amendments, waiting for an installation date, may take not less than six months. Rest assured we are working towards a new lighting system, but please bear with us in the meantime.

RED MISSIO BOXES

Please bring the contents of your Red *Missio* Boxes to the church during the month of November, so that the money can be counted and sent to *Missio*, where it is very much needed. Any queries, please contact Mary C Taylor Tel: 07985 659266. Many thanks for your continuing generosity.

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.