



**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A**

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG

Tel: 020 8399 9550; E-mail: [tolworth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworth@rcaos.org.uk) + [www.olionline.co.uk](http://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**

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – A**

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

18 Sat – <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Peter Fox – RIP
19 Sunday <i>7th World Day of the Poor</i>	09.00	Obinna Daniel Eke – BD
	11.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish
	18.00	Alexius Yap – RIP ( <i>C Yap</i> )
<b>WEEK 33 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR I)</b>		
<b>EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:</b> Monday – Friday at 8.00am		
20 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Suresh Alfred – WB ( <i>S Joseph</i> )
21 Tuesday <i>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9.30	Charles & Anna Lusack’s Intention
	19.00	Dec’d Members of UCM – RIP
22 Wednesday <i>St Cecilia</i>	9.30	Seamus Conmey – WB ( <i>Sadie</i> )
	19.00	Sr Charles Obong’s Intention
23 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Private
	9.30	Francis Sebastian – RIP ( <i>Carmel</i> )
24 Friday <i>Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc &amp; Co.</i>	7.00	Private
	9.30	B Faghan – RIP & Marshall Family
25 Saturday <i>Our Lady</i>	9.00	Hazel D’Aguiar – WB ( <i>N D’Aguiar</i> )
<b>OU LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</b>		
25 Saturday <i>Vigil</i>	18.30	Peter Fox – RIP
26 Sunday <i>Youth Day</i>	09.00	Private
	11.00	Maria & Michael Simmons – RIP
	18.00	<i>Pro Populo</i> – People of the Parish

**OTHER SERVICES**

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

Dear heavenly Father, I thank you for your abundant generosity and for all the talents you have bestowed upon me. May I always use them in a way that honours you and brings glory to your name.

Help me to be a faithful steward of my time, talents, and resources, using them for the benefit of others and for the building up of your kingdom of justice and peace.

Guide me in recognising new talents within myself and grant me the wisdom and perseverance to develop them. Amen.

**SHARING OUR TALENTS**

Once upon a time, in rural South-South Nigeria, there lived two kids next to each other who were close friends, and regularly visited one another’s house. One was generous and the other greedy and stingy. The generous one was always happy to share his food with his friend whenever he showed up as he often did at his mealtime. But the stingy one always made sure he had his meal before or after his friend had come and gone. Of course, his friend took no notice of this. Meanwhile, one day, his friend visited unannounced, just as he was about having his meal. Unfortunately, it was already too late for him to get up from the mat where he sat on the floor, to put the food safely away. Still, not wanting to share with his friend, he quickly shoved the plate under a nearby sofa and sat back, pretending to be arranging some cowrie shells on the mat as his friend came in. As usual, they spent a long time together chatting and playing games till late into the evening. Finally, his friend left, and he quickly dashed for his dinner under the sofa, only to find the plate empty. Some rodents had helped themselves to it! What a painful loss it was indeed because he was afraid to share with his friend.

The third servant in Jesus’ parable of the talents in today’s Gospel (Mt 25:14-30) is afflicted by the same malaise as the stingy kid in the above Ibibio folktale. He receives the master’s talent and hides it away. His excuse is interesting: “*I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground.*” His fear of failure is reinforced by prejudice about the master-investor, “*I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered.*” Overcome by negativity, he becomes blind to the opportunity offered by the talent given to him and, therefore, fails to see it as an expression of trust and a means of empowering himself. He is ungrateful. This, in turn, deepens his fear and suspicion of the master. His attitude radically contrasts with that of the first and second servants. They are grateful for the opportunity given to them. Besides, they understand that the master expects them to make returns for his investment and are not afraid to take risk towards achieving this goal. They echo the perfect wife whom the sage in the first reading (Pr 31:10-13,19-20,30-31) extols not just for being hardworking, reliable, resourceful and profitable to her husband, but also because “*she holds out her hand to the poor, [and] opens her arms to the needy.*” Consequently, the author asserts “*Give her a share in what her hands have worked for and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.*” Their attitude clearly mirrors the master’s – the initial risk taker who by his action also inspires them to follow suit.

The master typifies God while the servants represent his people. Like the master, God bestows gifts on each and all of us. So, we are all gifted. He entrusts different talents to us; hence, we are all talented. It does not matter what the gifts or talents are, whether they are extraordinary or ordinary, great or small, numerous or single. What matters is how we use them and / or what we make of them in God’s service. Like the master, he takes a risk with us not just by entrusting his property to us but also by leaving it to our imagination and initiative how to make proper use of them. Since God did not spare his own Son (Rm 8:32), but risked Him for our sake, we too must be ready to risk all that we have and are if we are to be his true disciples. Through faith, hope and charity, we are empowered to trust God and to take the risk to make use of our gifts and talents in his service. Conversely, doubt, fear, and selfishness lure us to hoard or bury our talents, time, and resources; this, in turn, diminishes these gifts as well as ourselves and others. Particularly, as a Christian people, such attitude and outlook constitute a negation of true discipleship as a call and commitment to bear fruit (Jn 15:16) through the imitation of Christ in the service of God and others, especially the least of Christ’s brothers and sisters – the poor, vulnerable, and outcast. @IAE

**NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS**

<b>1ST READING</b>	Ezekiel 34:11-12,15-17
<b>2ND READING</b>	1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28
<b>GOSPEL</b>	Matthew 25:31-46

## PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Mounir Kabban, 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

### REPORTS ON THE SYNOD OF BISHOPS 2021-23

The Final Report by the Holy See & a reflection by Archbishop John Wilson are available on the parish website, under News / Events.

### SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK

For the Catholic Youth Service: This second collection is usually taken on National Youth Sunday to support Youth Work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service (SCYS).

### CHRISTMAS CARDS & REPOSITORY NEWS

The repository is open every Sunday after 9am Mass to sell Christmas cards, 2023 calendars and other gift items. Consider supporting your parish by stocking from the repository. Also, Denise has offered to sell the Christmas cards, £3.50 per box in the Parish Office from 10am to 2pm on Monday – Friday.

### UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

Our annual Mass for deceased members will be on Tuesday 21 November at 7pm.

A short enrolment ceremony will follow to welcome Trudie as a member of the UCM. Meeting, refreshments & raffle in the Old Chapel until 9pm. All ladies are welcome to join us.

### #REDWEDNESDAY – AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED (ACN)

Please join ACN on Red Wednesday (22 November) to [Break the Silence](#) on the persecution of Christians and all faiths globally. We ask you to pledge your prayer and action this #RedWednesday. To find out more visit [www.acnuk.org/redwednesday](http://www.acnuk.org/redwednesday)

### 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.**

### MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to request a Mass for a specific date and intention, we would like to advise that you give plenty of time (ideally, 6-8 weeks' notice at busy seasons). The Parish Office will continue to make sure that your requests for Masses are assigned as soon as possible but, understandably, on a first-come basis.

### PARISH SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

We are putting together an enlarged choir for the parish Service of Lessons and Carols (17 December, 3pm). If you can sing, please think about joining us for this special and very rewarding event, which rehearses separately from the main choir. This is a very mixed-ability choir. Please contact Rob Howe: 07939 084 797 ([robert.howe@dunelm.org.uk](mailto:robert.howe@dunelm.org.uk)). Friends are welcome too!

The main parish choir now rehearses primarily before the 11am Mass on Sunday. If you would like to find out more about joining, please also contact Rob Howe as above. We do need more singers!

### READERS & EXTR. MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Canon Gerald Bradley, the Episcopal Vicar for the SW Area of our diocese, cordially invites all readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to a Day of Recollection, Prayer, Renewal, and Practical Guidance for your ministry.

**Date:** Saturday 2 December, starting 10am and ending with lunch at 2.15pm. **Venue:** St Boniface Hall, 185 Mitcham Road, Tooting SW17 9PG. Day's programme, on the notice board.

### NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT

The season of Advent begins on Sunday 3 December. Please NO flowers to be brought to the Lady Chapel or anywhere throughout the Church until Christmas Eve due the quasi penitential nature of Advent and then the Crib being erected. Thank you.

### † MOUNIR KABBAN – RIP

Please pray for Mounir Kabban, who died peacefully on Sunday 13 November, aged 80 years. May he rest in peace. Amen.

**Requiem Mass:** Monday 27 November 2023 at 14.30.

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

### LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £693.15

Gift-aid: £441.65 **Total: £1,134.80\***

### ARCHBISHOP'S APPEAL FUND: £518.75

**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.



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

## DEACONATE ORDINATION

Mr Tony Simon, a seminarian from our parish who is studying for the sacred priesthood, is gradually coming to the end of his seminary training in Rome.

We are delighted to announce that he will be ordained deacon, a penultimate step before priestly ordination, by Mar Joseph Srampickal, bishop of the Catholic Syro-Malabar Eparchy of Great Britain. **Date:** Saturday 9 December 2023. **Time:** 2.30pm. **Venue:** St Alphonsa of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral, St. Ignatius Square, Preston, Lancashire. Let us all keep him in our prayers!

### LAMBERT SPORT CLINIC: PARENTS, HAVE FUN. BE FIT!

All parents are welcome to join for an exercise class, after school drop-off on Tuesday mornings, 9am in the Old Chapel. Spend 45 minutes shaking off the stiffness and learning how to move in ways that bring ease to your busy life. Starting on Tuesday 5 December. Only £5 per session. Children are more than welcome to join in the fun! Afterwards, there will be an opportunity to stay for chat and refreshments. For further information, call 020 8133 5694, [lambertsportsclinic.co.uk](http://lambertsportsclinic.co.uk)

### 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.