



FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (QUADREGESSIMA) – B

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT – B

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

17 Sat – Vigil	18.30	Jacy Hoey – RIP (<i>J McGuinness</i>)
18 Sunday	09.00	Valerian Miranda – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	11.00	James Walsh – RIP
	18.00	Catherine Yap

FIRST WEEK OF LENT

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am

19 Monday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Kevin Maloney – WB (<i>F Deegan</i>)
20 Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Jack Hoey – RIP (<i>P Grogan</i>)
	19.00	Freda Cantwell – WB
21 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Thanksgiving (<i>A Xavier</i>)
	19.00	John Walsh – RIP
22 Thursday <i>Chair of St Peter</i>	7.00	Sr Franca Edet's Intention
	9.30	Ray Wong – RIP (<i>J Wong</i>)
23 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Private (<i>IE</i>)
	9.30	Angelita Casignado – RIP (<i>J Wong</i>)
24 Saturday <i>Feria</i>	9.00	Mary Tong – RIP (<i>J Wong</i>)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – B

24 Sat – Vigil	18.30	James Morrello – RIP (<i>P Morrello</i>)
25 Sunday	09.00	Dec'd of F D'Agostino Family (RIP)
	11.00	Daisey Bourne – RIP
	18.00	Incoming Priests (<i>IE</i>)

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

Loving God,
when our boat is rocked
by poverty, illness or disaster, you quiet the waves,
and lead us safely to shore.

When we work hard,
but still go hungry,
you walk beside us,
calling, "cast out your nets," there is enough for all.
Lead us, Lord, to play our part in calming the storm
and sharing your gifts
so all people
may look to the future with hope. Amen.
CAFOD Family Fast Day Prayer 2024.

A COVENANTED PEOPLE

The word 'Covenant,' occupies a prominent place in the Hebrew Scripture (the Old Testament) and in the New Testament. It frames God's relationship with humanity, represented especially by the call and election of the people of Israel as his chosen people. With them God set up a covenant. According to the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church of Vatican II, this was "done by way of preparation and as a figure of that new and perfect covenant, which was to be ratified in Christ, and of that fuller revelation which was to be given through the Word of God Himself made flesh" (*Lumen gentium*, §9).

The Christian people are given a share in this sacred bond through the sacraments of Christian initiation – Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. They are constituted into a covenanted people. This is underscored in the readings of the first Sunday of Lent (Year B).

In the first reading (Gn 9:8-15), the sacred writer highlights the saving and transforming power of God's covenant with Noah and his sons after the Flood. It created a new people and marked a new beginning. Clearly, the pact was not between equals. Neither was it jointly triggered. The initiative rested absolutely on God, the superior party. By his own free will and out of his love and mercy, he 'bound' himself to them and their descendants and every creature, promising never to destroy the world again by flood.

For Christians, the flood and the accompanying covenant foreshadow holy baptism and the new life of grace that emerges from it. The apostle Peter explains this in the second reading (1 Pe 3:18-22) when he asserts, "That water is a type of the baptism which saves you now, and which is not the washing off of physical dirt, but a pledge made to God from a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ." Thus, at the blessing of the baptismal water at the Easter Vigil, the priest declares: "O God, who by the outpouring of the flood foreshadowed regeneration, so that from the mystery of one and the same element of water would come an end to vice and the beginning of virtue..." Through the liberating and transforming power of baptism, believers enter into a covenant relationship with God. They pledge to renounce Satan and all his works and empty show. Equally, they profess belief in the Holy Trinity, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the dead, and life everlasting. Through these promises, they are linked spiritually to the everlasting covenant made by Christ with his blood (Lk 22:20). However, like the people of Israel after the covenant with Noah, our relationship with God is far from perfect. We are not always faithful to our baptismal promises. We often fall into temptation, turn our backs against God, and sin. Nonetheless, despite our unfaithfulness and sinfulness, God never revokes his promise (2 Tm 2:13). As the apostle explains, in the fullness of time he sent his only Son to lead us back to himself through his paschal mystery: "Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God."

Our covenant relationship with God is constantly sustained and renewed through ongoing conversion. It is nurtured by the Word of God, prayer, the sacraments, especially Confession and the Eucharist, and by charitable works. Lent offers us a unique opportunity to achieve this, individually and collectively. Like Jesus in the Gospel (Mk 1:12-15), during Lent, we are particularly invited to withdraw into the wilderness of our souls to rediscover our true selves, review and deepen our relationship with God and others and be equipped to resist temptation and evil. This will empower us, like Jesus, to witness to the presence and power of the Kingdom by our thoughts, words and actions. Jesus' first public proclamation – "The time has come ... and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News," requires immediate and honest response from all of us this Lent and always. © IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18
2ND READING	Romans 8:31-34
GOSPEL	Mark 9:2-10

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially Ann Groves, Tony Butcher, Joan McGovern, Michael Ekong, Kathleen Doyle, Nick Furlong and Bernadette Braid, 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, Thomas Haley, George Trutwein, Frances Cox, Mary Ryan, 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, Elizabeth Jones, Ray Lewry, Wendy Cook, Tony 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, Nee Collier, Ida Rebello, Ravenna Ahmed, Jesse Osborne, Shirley Nicholson, Vinitha Sherin, Jisha Nelson, and Ralph Smallwood.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £857.02

Gift-aid: £376.50 **Total:** £1,233.52*

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.

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SESSION: 24 FEBRUARY

LENTEN PROGRAMME 2024

- Stations of the Cross:** Friday after 9.30 Mass (*English*) and 6pm (*Syro Malabar Community*)
- Vespers** (*Evening Prayer of the Church*): Sunday 18 Feb 4pm
- Vespers** (*Evening Prayer of the Church*): Sunday 3 March 4pm
- Service on the 7 Last Words on the Cross:** TBC
- Lenten Reconciliation Service:** Monday 25 March 7pm

PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

24-31 May 2024 for a charter flight from Birmingham or a Eurostar option from St Pancras, 23-31 May. For further information, please contact 020 8848 9833; or visit www.soll-lourdes.com; or call your parish contact, Allan Cook on 020 8399 4368.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

"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

SOLEMN VESPERS & BENEDICTION: 18 FEBRUARY 4PM

All are warmly welcome to pray the Evening Prayer of the Church on Sunday 18 February at 4pm. It will be concluded with Benediction with the Blessed Sacrament.

SECOND COLLECTION: CLERGY SUPPORT FUND

The clergy of our diocese have given us so much. They have been there for us in our happiest moments and comforted us when we have lost loved ones. Supporting priests in their retirement is one way to show your appreciation for all they have done for our parishes.

You make supporting our clergy in retirement possible, find out how to donate to the Clergy Support Fund at www.rcaos.org.uk/donate/CSF You can also donate via telephone during office hours Mon-Fri **020 7960 2504** or by using the Clergy Support Fund envelopes available today at the back of the Church. Please continue to keep our Priests in your prayers. Thank you!

NEXT WEEKEND: CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY COLLECTION

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day (23 February) appeal will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Use the envelope in church or give online at cafod.org.uk.

CHURCH FACILITIES KEYS' REGISTER

All parishioners keeping keys to Church facilities (church, safes, halls, etc.) are required to notify the parish office by Friday 23 February to enable proper inventory to the incoming parish priest.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS: TUESDAY 20 FEBRUARY

This will be a Quiz and raffle, with refreshments as usual. Reminder from the Treasurer: if you have not yet paid your annual subs (£16) these are now due.

SOUTHWARK CATHOLIC YOUTH

The Southwark Catholic Youth Service has re-launched several activities in 2024 for those aged 10-35. For more details about what is on offer, please sign up to our network at tinyurl.com/scysnetwork or scan the QR code on poster to receive regular updates.

COMMUNITY AFTERNOON TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT

Richard Challoner School invites local pensioners to a **Community Afternoon Tea and Entertainment** from 2 to 4pm on Thursday 14 March at the school. Our Hospitality and Catering students will be preparing the food, and there will be entertainment provided by our Music and Drama students. If you would like to attend, please complete this Google Form by Wednesday 6 March. <https://forms.gle/F9twf5XaYAJNo17U7> – the number of guests will be limited to 50 people in total. Transport – personal arrangement!

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT

1. SPONSORED WALK: On Saturday 9th March 2024, there is going to be a challenging 38 km (24 mile) sponsored walk to raise funds for the Parish Lenten Project. Setting off from OLI Church, we plan to walk along the river to Richmond and then walk a circuit of Richmond Park, before retracing our steps. If you think that the full walk is too far, please do come along and walk part of the course with us. Please contact Elspeth (elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com) if you are interested in taking part. We will give you information on how to sponsor us in due course. Many thanks for your support!

2. TABLETOP SALE 16TH & 17TH MARCH: This popular event will be held after the 6.30 Mass on Saturday 16 March and after the 9.00 and 11.00 Masses on Sunday 17 March. Items sold will include plants; kitchenware; toys and games; DVD's and audiobooks; books and much much more! Refreshments will be provided, and it will be a great opportunity to catch up with friends and support the Lenten Project.

NB: 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

† ANN GROVES – RIP

Please pray for Ann Groves who died at Kingston Hospital on Friday 9 February, aged 83 years. **Funeral:** Monday 26 February at 2.30pm. May she rest in peace. Amen.