



Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – B

04 FEBRUARY 2024

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – B

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

03 Sat – Vigil	18.30	John Davis – RIP (<i>A Davis</i>)
04 Sunday	09.00	Alice Smith
	11.00	Rosaria Papa & Family Dec'd–RIP
	18.00	Tony Butcher – RIP

WEEK 5 IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR 2)

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION: Monday – Friday at 8.00am

05 Monday <i>St Agatha</i>	9.30	Private Intention (<i>Anon</i>)
	11.30	Requiem Mass: Nick Furlong RIP
06 Tuesday <i>Ss Paul Miki & Co.</i>	9.30	Monica, Fergus & Regan Family
	19.00	Private (<i>IE</i>)
07 Wednesday <i>Feria</i>	9.30	Fred Torres Ramos – RIP (<i>S Mills</i>)
	11.00	Requiem Mass: K Doyle RIP
	19.00	Private (<i>IE</i>)
08 Thursday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Private (<i>IE</i>)
	9.30	Angelica D'Agostino – RIP
09 Friday <i>Feria</i>	7.00	Sid Listead – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	9.30	L & V Seger + G & K Batty – RIP
10 Saturday <i>St Scholastica</i>	9.00	Joseph & Rose Surry – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – B

10 Sat – Vigil	18.30	Weadick Family (<i>P Olliffe</i>)
11 Sunday	09.00	Annie Sharman – RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	11.00	Private (<i>IE</i>)
	18.00	James Tumilty – RIP (<i>FM</i>)

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

Heavenly Father, I thank you for loving me.
 I thank you for sending your Son,
 our Lord Jesus Christ,
 to the world to save and to set me free.
 I trust in your power and grace
 that sustain and restore me.
 Loving Father,
 touch me now with your healing hands,
 for I believe that your will is for me
 to be well in mind, body, soul and spirit. Amen.
Attributed to St Pio Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

HEALING AND SALVATION

Healing was an integral part of Jesus' ministry. The numerous accounts of healing (and exorcism) recorded in the New Testament, especially in the Gospels and Acts of the Apostles, clearly illustrate its significance for his mission and for his disciples and the early Church. He gave his apostles and disciples the mandate to carry out the same mission (Mk 6:7-13; Lk 10:9), which is equally extended to the Church today. This ministry is carried out in various ways, by different persons and institutions within and outside the Church.

In its healing outreach, the Church strives to imitate its founder, Jesus Christ who, in today's Gospel (Mk 1:29-39), performs two healings at the beginning of his public ministry. First, he heals the mother-in-law of one of his close associates, Simon Peter. Her healing appears simple and direct: *"He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up."* The three actions at play here are very significant and hugely symbolic. **He went to her!** It is noteworthy that Jesus does not wait for her to come to him (*she was already 'incapacitated' by the ailment*) or for someone else to bring her to him. No, he takes the initiative. He goes over to meet her where she was – lying helpless. This is the meaning of the mystery of the incarnation. That God comes to the aid of helpless humanity by becoming man in the Person of his Son Jesus Christ! **He took her by the hand!** By holding her hand, Jesus shows solidarity with her, thereby, identifying also with her pains, anxiety, fears, and frustration. The touch of Jesus also affirms her. Though far from the travails behind Job's laments in the first reading (Job 7:1-4,6-7), the touch of Jesus reassures her that she's not alone, that He (God) cares, and is there to help. Finally, **he helped her up!** Clearly, the presence and touch of Jesus do not only signify Jesus' desire to help. They do also bring about what they signify – restoration and wholeness: *"And the fever left her, and she began to wait on them."* As the news of her healing spreads, many others who were sick or possessed are brought to him after sunset – and he heals them all. In the same way, Jesus comes to us always in the Holy Eucharist, making himself present to nurture us on our life's journey through the work of our human hands, the fruits of our labour, in the Holy Eucharist.

By healing the sick and casting out demons (as in today's Gospel), Jesus responds concretely to human suffering. He is not interested in speculations about the cause of such suffering. His focus is on those afflicted by suffering to set them free and offer them new life and hope. Further, his actions manifest his solidarity with and compassion for the sick and afflicted (see Is 53:5). Furthermore, through healing and exorcism, Jesus demonstrates the in-break of the Kingdom of God in the here and now (see Lk 11: 20). Thus, Jesus' healing is pointer to his ultimate mission, salvation – *"because he will save his people from their sins"* (Mt 1:21). Fascinatingly, *"salvation"* and *"healing"* come from the same Latin root, *"salus,"* which means *"health."* To save is, therefore, to bring to health and wholeness in the holistic sense. Communion with God is central and decisive in our quest for such holistic health and wholeness since we cannot find rest, as St Augustine says, except in God. On this note, in the second reading (1 Co 9:16-19,22-23), Paul says, *"I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost."*

The Church's mission is not only to save souls literally, but to save the whole person – body, soul, and spirit. Like Christ, the care of the sick is central to the mission of the Church today. This mission is carried out spiritually especially through the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick, but also through Penance and the Eucharist and, materially, through the Church's work in social and healthcare services. God's care for the sick is also reflected in the commitment of doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants, chaplains, and all who take care of those who suffer in any way. © IAE

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

1ST READING	Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46:1
2ND READING	Corinthians 10:31-11:1
GOSPEL	Mark 1:40-45

PRAYERS REMEMBRANCE



Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died, especially 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, Ann Groves, 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, and Jisha Nelson.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SECOND COLLECTION

There is a second collection this weekend for Pax Christi.

PALM BRANCHES FROM LAST PALM SUNDAY

By Catholic custom, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are derived from the blessed palm branches from the previous Palm Sunday. We would like to receive these by Sunday 11 February. Kindly drop them in the designated basket in the narthex. Many thanks.

MORE ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We are still short of servers. If you have made your First Holy Communion, kindly consider joining. Please contact Jacques Lambert on 02083972793 or JacquesLambert@rcaos.org.uk.

LOOKING FOR A SHARED ACCOMODATION?

Suitable for single students / workers, and close to public transport. For more information, please ring 07908 000280.



Our Lady Immaculate Church Parish Lenten Project

Distribution of the Lenten Boxes commences after all Masses this weekend 3/4 February and next weekend 10/11 February. This is so that you have them by the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday (14 February). Please put in any loose change you can afford and return it the first week after Easter Sunday.

Like most things these days, the cost of the boxes has shot up in price. They are now 70p each. So, we would kindly ask you only to take a box if you're going to return it. Similarly, if you have boxes at home which have not been used, please return them and leave in the Narthex. This means more money goes to the five charities the Parish has adopted for 2024 and they desperately need the money.

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

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS



LAST WEEKEND

Non-Gift-aid: £816.33

Gift-aid: £373.05 **Total:** £1,189.38*

2ND COLLECTION (Racial Justice): £275.78

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR JANUARY 2024

A. Cash / cheques – £4,393.12

1. Gift-Aided – £1,431.69

2. Non-G/A – £2,961.43

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £3,105

1. Gift-Aided – £2,885.00

2. Non-G/A – £220.00

C. Contactless Machine – £2,150.40

Total = £9,648.52 (Last month: £10,532.25)

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

Kindly consider making your regular contribution to the Church via standing order (form available at online.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.

NEW PARISH PRIEST & CURATE

As I announced three weeks ago, Archbishop John has kindly approved my request for a leave to work in the Diocese of San Angelo, Texas (USA) for three years.

The pastoral care of the parish has been entrusted by him to the Holy Ghost Fathers (Spiritans or CSSp) of the English Province with **Fr Michael Ezenwamadu CSSp** currently parish priest of St Mary Magdalene, Brockley as Parish Priest and **Fr Boniface Ayoo CSSp** as his assistant.

I will be leaving the parish after morning Mass on 2 March.

Though I will say a proper thank you in due course, I would like to thank everyone in the parish for your love, prayers, encouragement, collaboration, and generosity since I joined this wonderful ecclesial family of OLI in September 2018. I could not have asked for a better parish as a parish priest. Thank you also for your kind understanding and good wishes since my leaving was announced.

I have no doubt that, in the true OLI spirit of active participation and collaboration between the clergy and people, you will warmly welcome and support my successor and his assistant. Thanks.

NB: A farewell celebration will be organized in early Summer!

† KATHLEEN MARY DOYLE – RIP

Please pray for Kathleen Doyle of 33 Ravenscar Road who died at home on Thursday 11 January aged 90 years. **Funeral:** Wednesday 7 February at 11.00am. May she rest in peace. Amen.

† NICK CHARLES FURLONG – RIP

Please pray for Nicholas Furlong of 31 Collingwood Avenue who died at Kingston Hospital on Saturday 13 January aged 78 years. **Funeral:** Monday 5 February at 11.30am. May he rest in peace. Amen.

† VICTOR D'COSTA – RIP

Please pray for Victor D'Costa, brother of Thelma D'Costa who passed on suddenly but peacefully on Tuesday 23 January at his home in Lichfield. **Funeral:** St Joseph's, Lichfield, Friday 9 February at 11.00am. May he rest in peace. Amen.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

NEXT CHILDREN SESSION: 24 FEB, 10.30 – 11.30AM.

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.