



08 DECEMBER 2024



spiritans

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - C

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. Michael Ezenwamadu, CSSp, michaelezenwamandu@rcaos.org.uk
Curate: □ **Secretary:** Mrs Denise Kidd

Messengers of the Lord of light.

John the Baptist is a messenger of repentance. Repentance for John is for us to know that there is hope, no matter how dark, gloomy and sad our life has become. The light of Christ is ever shining to guide us in our life's journey. John's message is: don't give in to despair and darkness. Darkness can be things that take away your positivity or the hopelessness of a situation. Darkness can be about a struggle with an illness, the aches and pains of old age, losing the struggle with failing abilities and entering a nursing home. For some, darkness is the inevitable losing of a loved one through death or heartbreak. Darkness can be about the deep hatred that burns in your heart for someone, or even dealing with an inescapable addiction that dehumanises. Sometimes, darkness can become so thick that we can have difficulty seeing through to our guiding light. John points to Jesus because He is the real light that destroys darkness and guides us home. In whatever way darkness shows itself in our lives, Christ has come to be our light. Wherever there is darkness in our family, in our friendships and in our community, Christ has come to shed light on all those areas of our lives to restore peace, harmony and joy. Always focus on Christ's light. We need this light to defeat the power and effects of darkness. Also, Christ has commanded us to let our light shine before all, to use whatever means we have at our disposal to relieve the suffering of others and drive out the darkness that shrouds the lives of so many. It is always better to light a candle than to curse the darkness. Its only through the light of Christ shining through us that the darkness of despair and hopelessness in our world can be dispelled.

Fr. Michael

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 08 DECEMBER 2024 — 15 DECEMBER 2024

(FEASTS: 09 THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY SOLEMNITY, MEMORIALS: 13 ST LUCY, 14 ST JOHN OF THE CROSS)

Sat 07	18.30: Adrian Noronha - 19th Birthday.	
Sun 08	09.00: Anthony Michael Hodgson - RIP, 25th Ann (<i>J Hodgson</i>)	
	11.00: Angela Bailey - RIP (<i>OLI Parish</i>)	18.00: Subscribers to Church building fund
Mon 09	09:30: Nubia & George Carro - 39th Wedding Ann	
	11.30: FUNERAL - Delia Hudson - RIP	
	19.00: Holy Souls	
Tues 10	09.30: Rosalind Byrne - RIP, 20th Ann (<i>Tessa</i>)	19.00: Thanksgiving (<i>J Fernandes</i>)
Wed 11	09:30: Martin Hart - RIP, 24th Ann	19.00: Robert & Annie Eales RIP
Thurs 12	07.00: Dec'd Mems of Amanpour Family	09:30: Dec'd Mems of Kearins Family
Fri 13	07.00: Holy Souls	09:30: Connolly Family - WB (<i>M Tett</i>)
Sat 14	09:00: Dec'd Mems of Howley Family (<i>Martina</i>)	
Sat 14	18:30: Clement & Karyina Joseph - RIP	
Sun 15	09.00: Ottavio D'Agostino (<i>F D'Agostino</i>)	
	11.00: Maria La Paz Cabarrbias - RIP (<i>Jose</i>)	18.00: People of the Parish

EUCCHARISTIC 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 NOVENA:	TUESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA:	WEDNESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION:	FIRST SATURDAY - of the month, after morning Mass
SYRO-MALABAR VIGIL	FIRST FRIDAY - of the month

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially

Angela Bailey, Delia Hudson and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May their souls rest in peace. Amen

THE SICK: 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, Elizabeth Jones, Wendy Cook, Tony Cook, Nivetheni Robert, Baby Freddie Page, Clare & Baby Polly, Gerry Hague, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Ian Beard, Qiaochen Shi, Ida Rebello, Ravenna Ahmed, Jesse Osborne, Vinitha Sherin, Jisha Nelson, Ralph Smallwood, Adam Martin, Mark Draper, Tim & Janice Ryan, Lionel Holland, Nan Healy, Allan Cook, Colin Stevens and Joan Frost.

Our Lady Immaculate RC Church, Tolworth

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 30: 19, 30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Penitential Act: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, (*And, striking their breast, they say:*) through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God. **Amen**

Opening Prayer:

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

First reading

Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction,
O Jerusalem, and put on the robe of the righteousness
from God; put on your head the crown of the glory of
the Everlasting. For God will show your splendor
everywhere under heaven. For your name will
for ever be called by God: 'Peace of righteousness
and glory of godliness.' Arise, O Jerusalem, stand
upon the height and look towards the east and see
your children gathered from west and east, at the
work of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has
remembered them. For they went forth from you on
foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring
them back to you carried in glory, as on a royal
throne. For God has ordered that every high
mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and
the valleys filled up to make level ground, so that
Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The
woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at
God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy in
the light of his glory with the mercy and
righteousness that come from him.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 125(126)

*What great deeds the Lord worked for us! In-
deed, we were glad.*

When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **R**

The heathens themselves said: 'What marvels
the Lord worked for them!'

What marvels the Lord worked for us!

Indeed we were glad. **R**

Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.

Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing:
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **R**

Second reading

Philippians 1:3-6,8-11

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my re-
membrance of you, always in every prayer of mine
for you all, making my prayer with joy because of
your partnership in the gospel from the first day until
now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good
work in you will bring it to completion at the day of
Jesus Christ. For God is my witness, how I yearn for
you with affection of Christ Jesus. And it is my
prayer that your love may abound more and more,
with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may
approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blame-
less for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of right-
eousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory
and praise of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Lk3:4,6

Alleluia, alleluia!

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 3:4,6

In the fifteenth year of the reign Tiberius Caesar,
Pontius Pilate being governor of Judaea, and Herod
being tetrarch of the Galilee, and his brother Philip
tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and
Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priest-
hood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came
to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. And
he went into all the region around the Jordan, pro-
claiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness
of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of
Isaiah the prophet,

'The voice of one crying wilderness:

"Prepare the way for the Lord, make his paths
straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every
mountain and hill shall be laid low, and the crooked
shall become straight, and the rough places shall
become level ways, and all flesh shall see the
salvation of God.'"

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of
heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I
believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten
Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God
from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made. *(At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow)* For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. **Amen**

Prayer over the Offerings:

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings, and, since we have no merits to plead our cause, come, we pray, to our rescue with the protection of your mercy.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Communion Antiphon Bar 5: 5; 4: 36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights, and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment, we humbly beseech you, O Lord, that, through our partaking in this mystery, you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth and hold firm to the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO EVERY PARISHIONER - As we celebrate our Patronal feast on Sunday and Monday. May God continue to bless and protect us all under the patronage of our Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be tea and coffee after both the 9am and 11am Mass.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND - PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND SECOND COLLECTION: - OLI PARISH DEVELOPMENT FUND (PDF) This second collection is to assist the parish to save and pay for major projects and minor repairs. The church light system is being replaced for better light during our Masses. Thank you as always for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND - FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS There will be a second collection next weekend for flowers for the decoration of our Church at Christmas.

EVERGREEN FOLIAGE FOR CHRISTMAS - If you have evergreen shrubs or bushes in your garden and can spare a few branches? Please bring to the Church next weekend (14th & 15th December). Our lovely flower arrangers are collecting green foliage for the Christmas displays. Thank you.

OLI YOUTH MINISTRY: Sunday 8th December, 4.15 - 5.30 pm. We are excited to invite all young

people, Year 7 to the age of 21, to our next Youth Ministry Event in the Parish Hall. A signed consent form for young people under the age of 18 is required to attend. Consent forms are available in the Narthex.

SIGNING OF PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS Fr Michael will be available to sign school forms for primary school admissions on Monday and Tuesday 9th & 10th December 2024, from 3.30pm to 4.30pm at the presbytery. Please book an appointment using the link: <https://koalendar.com/e/primary-school-signing202425>

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

1. MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

9am, Monday-Friday. Please join us to pray the Psalms & Intercessions daily.

2. PARISH SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS: The Parish Service of Lessons and Carols is on Sunday, **15th December at 3pm.** Please do come along to this. We have put together a special enlarged choir for this traditional service, which consists of readings from Sacred Scripture and lots of traditional Christmas music. There will be mulled wine and mince pie in the Parish hall afterwards.

3. RECONCILIATION SERVICE:

Monday, 16th December at 7pm. The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the important spiritual preparations that we can and should make during Advent. Visiting priests will be available to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation

4. OLI CHRISTINGLE SERVICE:

Wednesday, 18th December at 5pm in the Church. This Service is a special Church Service that is held for children during Advent and celebrates Christ, who is the Light of the World. Children (and adults) are invited to bring a Christingle to the Service. Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website <http://www.olionline.co.uk>. A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASSES

1. CHRISTMAS EVE 24TH DECEMBER:

5pm - Vigil Mass 1.

7pm - Vigil Mass 2.

10pm - Mass in the Night (*Carol singing - 9.30pm*)

2. CHRISTMAS DAY, 25TH DECEMBER:

8am - Mass at Dawn

9.15am - Mass During the Day 1

11am - Mass During the Day 2

3. NEW YEAR'S EVE 31ST DECEMBER:

10pm - Eucharistic Exposition with Benediction

11.15pm - Holy Mass to welcome the New Year.

4. NEW YEAR'S DAY, 1ST JANUARY, 2025:

9.30am - Morning Mass

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

FR. MICHAEL WILL BE AWAY THROUGH OUT THE MONTH OF JANUARY FOR HIS MISSION LEAVE - if you have anything that you will like to discuss with him, please, do it as soon as possible in the month of December.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS - From Friday 21st December until Monday 6th January 2025.

THE USE OF THE NEW LECTIONARY IN OUR MASSES Started last weekend. There are copies of the Mass book for those that prefer it, thanks so much for all those that gifted the new lectionary to the Church.

CHRISTMAS PRISONER'S GIFT BAGS IS STILL ON - We are collecting gift bags to be distributed on Christmas eve to the prisoners in Wandsworth Prison. If you wish to donate a gift bag or money for a gift bag please speak with Fr. Michael & Denise for specifications and give to the Parish Office by 20th December. Thanks for your generosity.

FR. MICHAEL WILL LIKE TO INVITE PARISHIONERS Who may want to do a reflection on a particular Sunday reading or a very relevant issue that can be published in our Sunday newsletter to do so. The reflection can be sent to Fr. Michael or the Parish office before Wednesday of the week. It is part of the tradition of studying the word of God.

No Flowers In Advent: The season of Advent began on Sunday 1 December. Please **NO** flowers to be brought to the Lady Chapel or anywhere throughout the Church until Christmas Eve due to the quasi-penitential / somber nature of Advent and then the Crib being erected.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £378.56

Non-Gift-aid: £870.21

Total: £1,248.77

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 2024

Cash / cheques – £4,469.28

1. Gift-Aided – £1,283.07

2. Non-G/A – £3,186.21

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,345.00

1. Gift-Aided – £2,145.00

2. Non-G/A – £200.00

C. Contactless Machine – £1,652.81

Total = £8,467.09 (Last month: £8,384.18)

Thank you for your generosity to your parish.

Please make **cheques** payable to: **RCAS Tolworth**

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.

OBITUARIES:

ANGELA BAILEY: Kindly pray for Angela Bailey who passed away on 20th November.

Funeral: OLI, Thursday 19th December, 11.00am

DELIA HUDSON: Please pray for Delia Hudson who passed away suddenly on Tuesday 19th November aged 62yrs.

Funeral: OLI, Monday 9th December, 11.30am

A middle-aged woman has a heart attack and is taken to the hospital. While on the operating table she has a near death experience. During this experience, she sees God and asks him, "Is this it"? God says, "No" and explains that she has another 30 years to live. Upon her recovery, she decides to just stay in the hospital and have a face lift, liposuction, tummy tuck, and so on. She even has someone come in and change her hair color. She figures since she's got another 30 years, she might as well make the most of it. She walks out of the hospital after the last operation and is killed by an ambulance speeding by. She arrives in front of God and complains, "I thought you said I had another 30 years." God replies, "I didn't recognize you!"

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TIBERIUS
PILATE
JUDEA
HEROD
PHILIP
ITURAEA
LYSANIAS
ABILENE
ANNAS
CAIAPHAS
JOHN
ISAIAH

