



22 DECEMBER 2024

FOURTH 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, michaelenzenwamandu@rcaos.org.uk
 □ **CURATE:** Fr Bonaventure Ssebyanzi CSSp □ **SECRETARY:** Mrs Denise Kidd
 □ **SCHOOL:** Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School □ **HEADTEACHER:** Mr Ben Martin



spiritans

Send down your spirit like a dewfall

The 4th Sunday of Advent is about light and love. The circle of candles will be complete and we recognise that God is preparing to do something magical, in terms of love, by sending us his only Son. It reminds me of the words in the Mass "send down your spirit like a dewfall" which I always listen out for and which I think are so beautiful. The image that I have is of the moments between darkness and light, when the droplets of dew form on the grass and shrubs in my garden. It is a quiet, mysterious and gentle moment when God's spirit kisses the earth with life giving water and soon passes as the sun rises. Let us share the message of love and light this week by smiling at strangers so that they may see the gentle mystery in us.

Mary Reed

Love makes everyday a Christmas for us.

Christmas is not just a narrative of hope, love and faith that transcends time, but it is the summit of God's love that is aimed at impregnating our imagination, giving birth to new life and relationships with God. While memories of Christmas shopping, dinner with family, carol services, minced pies and mulled wine may be strong and linger, what is ever significant is the enduring love of God that makes everyday a Christmas for us. This love is a beacon of light that shines in the midst of our darkness and guides us to a new beginning and hope. We are reminded that it is in the darkest night that the stars shine most brightly. **Fr. Michael**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 22 DECEMBER 2024 — 29 DECEMBER 2024

Sat 21 18.30: Nancy & Noel Ryan - RIP (*M Tett*)

Sun 22 09.00: Ray Lewry - RIP (*K Fox*) **11.00:** Kathy Cook - WB (*E & L McName*)
18.00: Stella Tremenhoe - Ints & Michael O'Malley WB (*P Mulrooney*)

Mon 23 09.30: Steve - RIP (*Joan & Family*)

Tues 24 09.30: Anthony & Mary Murphy (*E Murphy*)

Christmas Eve:

17.00: Anna Quinn & Fam - Ints (*K Jeetoo*). **19.00:** Freda Cantwell Wellbeing (*J.Dunseath*)
22.00: People of the Parish

Christmas Day:

Wed 25 08.00: Pat McMahon & Fam - Ints (*K Jeetoo*)
09.15: Joan Lavelle - RIP **11.00:** Alice Smith - Ints

Thurs 26 07.00: Margaret McDonough (*E Murphy*) **09.30:** Eileen & Terry Sullivan 55th Wed Ann

Fri 27 07.00: Jean McGuigan & Fam - Ints **09.30:** John Walsh (RIP) (*J.Dunseath*)

Sat 28 09.00: Eddie Savage RIP 20th Ann (*J Savage*)

Sat 28 18.30: Isac & Lucy - Thanksgiving Wedding Anniversary

Sun 29 09.00: Paul Joseph - RIP (*Stella & Family*)

11.00: Joanne & Leigh - 17th Wed Ann **18.00:** Rodrigo Tigol, Nabikita Ferrolina & all
 the souls in Purgatory (*S & A Pintor*)

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

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died 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, Gerry Hague, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Ian Beard, Qiaochen Shi, Ida Rebello, Ravenna Ahmed, 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 45: 8

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Saviour.

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:

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First reading

Micah 5:2-5a

Thus says the LORD:

You, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 80(79):2ac, 3b, 15-16. 18-19. R4

Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.

O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse up your might and come to save us. **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself. **R**

May your hand be on the man at your right hand,
the son of man you have confirmed as your own.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R**

Second reading

Hebrews 10:5-10

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not

desired, but a body have you prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "Behold, I have come to do your will, O God, as it is written of me in the scroll of the book." 'When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings' (these are offered according to the Law), then he added, 'Behold, I have come to do your will'. He does away with the first in order to establish the second. And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 1:38

Alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord;
let it be to me according to your word.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.'

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 resurrec-

tion of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen

Prayer over the Offerings:

May the Holy Spirit, O Lord, sanctify these gifts laid upon your altar, just as he filled with his power the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

Is 7: 14

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Prayer after Communion

Having received this pledge of eternal redemption, we pray, almighty God, that, as the feast day of our salvation draws ever nearer, so we may press forward all the more eagerly to the worthy celebration of the mystery of your Son's Nativity. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHRISTMAS
- THE SAVIOR IS BORN -



Fr Michael & Fr Bonaventure
Wish all parishioners a Holy and very Happy Christmas, and pray for God's blessings on your families, friends and homes. May the joy of the New Born King fill your hearts and your homes with peace and joy.

FEASTS & MEMORIALS AFTER CHRISTMAS

Feasts:

- 26th *St Stephen Deacon & First Martyr*
- 27th *St John Apostle & Evangelist*
- 28th *The Holy Innocents Martyrs*
- 29th *The Holy Family of Jesus*

2025:

- 1st *Mary, the Holy Mother of God*

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL WHO DONATED TO THE CHRISTMAS BAGS FOR PRISONERS - With your help, generous donations and kindness we managed to collect over 100 bags. They were gratefully received by the prisoners in Wandsworth Prison. Thank you.

THANKS SO MUCH TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE GREAT WORK THAT YOU DO and thank you to all who have worked so hard to make Christmas 2024 both prayerful and beautiful at Our Lady

Immaculate, Tolworth, we thank all those who helped to clean and decorate the Church, who donated to our projects, the choir, Catechists, those who organised the Carol, Christingle, Christmas Tea, advent services, Sacristans, MC, altar servers, Eucharistic ministers, welcomers and every volunteer in this Church. May God reward you all abundantly.

A letter from Santa to Jesus Christ.

My dear precious Jesus, I did not mean to take your place, I only bring toys and things and you bring love and grace. People give me lists of wishes and hope that they come true; but you hear prayers of the heart and promise your will to do. Children try to be good and not to cry when I am coming to town; but you love them unconditionally and that love will abound. I leave only a bag of toys and temporary joy for a season; but you leave a heart of love, full of purpose and reasons. I have a lot of believers and what one might call fame; but I never healed the blind or tried to help the lame. I have rosy cheeks and a voice full of laughter; but no nail - scarred hands or a promise of the hereafter. You may find several of me in town or at a shopping centre; but there is only one omnipotent you, to answer a sinner's call. And so, my dear precious Jesus, I kneel here to pray; To worship and adore you on this, your holy birthday

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

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

THE COLLECTION TAKEN AT ALL CHRISTMAS MASSES IS YOUR GIFT TO YOUR PRIESTS AND THE SPIRITANS.

It will be used for the mission. As usual, envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you are a member of the parish Gift Aid scheme, please enter your gift aid number on the envelope to enable tax to be reclaimed for the benefit of the parish. Thank you so much for your kindness and generosity.

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.

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.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

“Last year, our community of food banks distributed 3.1 million emergency food parcels – the most ever in a single year. We need urgent action on hunger in the UK. People are being pushed to the brink because they don’t have enough money to live on.”

These are the recent words of the Trussell Trust. Please continue to be generous with your food donations. All non-perishable food items are welcome. Thank you for your generosity.

OBITUARIES:

MICHAEL PHELAN: Kindly pray for Michael Phelan, who died in Edinburgh on 14th December. He was 85 years old. Michael taught in Wimbledon College for many years.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £378.31

Non-Gift-aid: £659.05 **Total: £1,037.36**

2nd Collection: £709.48

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.

IMPORTANT: Please include your Gift Aid number in your online instruction to your bank. Non-Gift Aid donors, please include the letters NGA in the instruction to the bank.

Any queries? Please contact Lance Louis: tolworthgac1@rcaos.org.uk or 07851 070036.

It was just before Christmas and the magistrate was in a happy mood. He asked the prisoner who was in the dock, ‘What are you charged with?’ The prisoner replied, ‘Doing my Christmas shopping too early.’ ‘That’s no crime’, said the magistrate. ‘Just how early were you doing this shopping?’ ‘Before the shop opened’, answered the prisoner.

What is one of the best Christmas presents that you can give and receive? A broken drum. Why? Because you can’t beat it!

I got a Christmas card full of rice in the post today. I think it was from my Uncle Ben.

Where does Santa Claus go swimming? The North Pole

Which of Santa’s reindeer has bad manners? Rude-olph!

What falls but never gets hurt? Snow!

H	A	E	L	H	A	D	U	J	A
E	A	T	O	T	M	B	O	W	D
L	B	I	M	E	O	Y	J	R	E
I	L	U	R	B	M	O	W	A	S
Z	E	R	O	A	L	A	T	H	S
A	S	F	E	Z	H	E	R	C	E
B	E	D	L	I	H	C	O	Y	L
T	P	A	E	L	O	T	E	A	B
M	O	T	H	E	R	S	O	Z	L
D	E	S	I	M	O	R	P	M	E

MARY	JUDAH	ZECHARIAH
ELIZABETH	CHILD	LEAPT
WOMB	BLESSED	FRUIT
MOTHER	JOY	PROMISE

