



THE HOLY FAMILY - 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

One Parent is Worth a Thousand Teachers.

An elderly woman decided to prepare her will and told her Priest she had two final requests. First, she wanted to be cremated, and second, she wanted her ashes scattered over the shopping mall. "shopping mall?" the preacher exclaimed. "Why shopping mall?" "Then I will be sure my daughters will visit me twice a week for she visits the shopping mall twice a week and never visits me." Family life is not easy and one notable thing about the family of Jesus is that they had a lot of problems. They lived all their lives in the deep shadow of the cross. During Christ's infancy they fled the country in fear and sought shelter in Egypt as refugees in order to avoid the violence of King Herod. They were a family away from home, lost and lonely, terrorized and afraid. They were also economically poor. They remind us that suffering is part of family life. Suffering seeps under every doorway and may come in many forms. However, despite all these, they stayed together, they were there always for each other. They never let go of each other even as death stared on them. In the space of our family, we are completely irreplaceable. It is where we are loved and known. we are seen exactly as we are with our greatness and with our darkness. And no matter what, you are never given up on, never pushed away, never forgotten, never denied. We do not choose our family but we can choose to open our hearts wide to receive from them and to love them with all our hearts. Remember, it is not the surnames that we share that make the family powerful but that despite many existing choices, we keep choosing each other. Please, never let go of any family member, when you cannot reach them physically and emotionally, hold onto them with your prayers, forgiveness and love. Finally, and most important, remember, yes, family can be challenging but we cannot do without it. Family is where we were first loved and also taught to love. And when you doubt the power of the family, just remember that "an ounce of mother and father is worth a pound of clergy." Also recall the Indian proverb: "One guru is worth ten paid teachers. One parent is worth a hundred gurus. Never underestimate the value of your family. **Fr. Michael.**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 29 DECEMBER 2024 — 05 DECEMBER 2025

(FEASTS: 01 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD)

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*)
Mon 30 09.30: Geraldine Owens & Family - Ints
Tues 31 09.30: Anne Martin - WB & Will - RIP

New Years Eve: 22.00: Eucharistic Exposition with Benediction
23.15: Holy Mass to welcome the New Year

New Years Day:

Wed 01 09.30: Maureen Garrett & Diony Wilson RIP (*T Rutter*)
Thurs 02 07.00: Holy Souls **09.30:** Rajani Reginald
Fri 03 07.00: Maureen Jackson (WB). (*J. Dunseath*). **09.30:** Holy Souls
Sat 04 09.00: Lucrecia Pena Fernandez, Geovanis Gongora Popo, Virginia Angela Pupo Pena,
 Alan Seymour Sharp & Delia Ruanes
Sat 04 18.30: Mary & P Hosey - Ints
Sun 05 09.00: Monica & Fergus - Ints
11.00: People of the Parish **18.00:** John Tumilty - RIP (*FM*)

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

Lk 2: 16

The shepherds went in haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the Infant lying in a manger.

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**

The Gloria: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer:

O God, who were pleased to give us the shining example of the Holy Family, graciously grant that we may imitate them in practising the virtues of family life and in the bonds of charity, and so, in the joy of your house, delight one day in eternal rewards.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First reading 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son, and she called his name Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked for him from the LORD.' The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and dwell there for ever.'

And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.' And he worshipped the LORD there.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R1a
Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.

Blessed are all who fear the LORD,
and walk in his ways!
By the labour of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper. **R**

Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
your children like shoots of the olive
around your table. . **R**

Indeed thus shall be blessed
the husband who fears the LORD.
May the LORD bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper
all the days of your life! . **R**

Second reading

Colossians 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Acts 16:14b

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open our hearts, O Lord,

that we may pay attention to the words of your Son.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 2:41-52

The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintanc-

es, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the Temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, 'Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.' And he said to them, 'Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and man.

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 incar-

nate 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:

We offer you, Lord, the sacrifice of conciliation, humbly asking that, through the intercession of the Virgin Mother of God and Saint Joseph, you may establish our families firmly in your grace and your peace. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

Bar 3: 38

Our God has appeared on the earth, and lived among us.

Prayer after Communion

Bring those you refresh with this heavenly Sacrament, most merciful Father, to imitate constantly the example of the Holy Family, so that, after the trials of this world, we may share their company for ever. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A prayer for my Family (Please, light a candle after Mass and say this prayer for your family)

Father Almighty, Thank you for families all around the world. Thank you for the examples of family relationships that we read in the Bible, and for the model you offer for right relationship, with the Holy Family. Help us learn to love each other with grace and patience. **Amen.**

Dear Lord, please bless my family. Help us stick together, during good times and bad. Help us to see the tapestry you are weaving in our daily lives – in the ordinary and mundane and in the precious and unforgettable. Help us grow in practicing unconditional love, forgiveness and patience towards each other. **Amen.**

Dear God, when I feel frustrated with my family – misunderstood, rejected, or angry – please be present. When things feel messy and chaotic, bring your peace. When we are short-tempered or self-absorbed, remind us of your perfect love. I bring to you the challenging parts of family life. Where there are conflicts or difficulties, I ask that you bring healing peace. Keep us on the right path and hold our family close. When we are dealing with past hurts and troubles, help us to forgive as you do. When we are grappling with future uncertainties, be with us Lord God, by your Holy Spirit. When we face challenges, and when our circumstances threaten to divide us, be the bridge that connects us. **Amen**

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

FR. MICHAEL WILL BE AWAY THROUGH OUT THE MONTH OF JANUARY FOR HIS MISSION LEAVE

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS - From Friday 20th December until Monday 6th January 2025.

FR. MICHAEL WOULD 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.

Teacher: "Answer this math problem: if your father earns \$500 a week and gives half to your mother. What will he have?" Student: "A heart attack."

A mom texts, "Hi! Son, what does IDK, LY, & TTYL mean?" He texts back, "I Don't Know, Love You, & Talk To You Later." The mom texts him, "It's ok, don't worry about it. I'll ask your sister, love you too."

Little Johnny's new baby brother is screaming up a storm. He asks his mom, "Where'd we get him?" His mother replies, "He came from Heaven, Johnny." Johnny says, "Wow! I can see why they threw him out!"

"Teacher: "If you had one dollar and you asked your father for another, how many dollars would you have?" Vincent: "One dollar." Teacher: "You don't know your Mathematics." Vincent: "You don't know my father."

A man called his child's doctor, "Hello! My son just snatched my pen when I was writing and swallowed it. What should I do?" The doctor replied, "Until I can come over, write with another pen."

J	M	S	N	O	E	G	I	P	E
E	E	C	I	F	I	R	C	A	S
O	A	R	P	U	W	N	O	R	E
M	S	T	U	Y	R	A	E	E	R
D	U	A	R	S	R	N	L	N	V
S	R	N	I	I	A	A	P	T	A
I	E	N	F	M	E	L	M	S	N
W	J	A	I	L	P	M	E	T	T
O	N	O	E	M	I	S	T	M	S
E	M	O	D	S	I	W	R	A	E

PURIFIED	PARENTS	JERUSALEM
LAW	SCARIFICE	PIGEONS
SIMEON	TEMPLE	SERVANT
MARY	ANNA	WISDOM

