



12 JANUARY 2025

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD- 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 Ezenwammadu, CSSp, michaelezenwammandu@rcaos.org.uk
□ **CURATE:** Fr Bonaventure Ssebyanzi CSSp, bonaventuressebyanzi@rcaos.org.uk □ **SECRETARY:** Mrs Denise Kidd
□ **SCHOOL:** Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School □ **HEADTEACHER:** Mr Ben Martin



Our Lady Immaculate RC Church, Tolworth

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Our Christmas time comes to the end with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord. The following day we go to the Ordinary time. In our catechism classes we were taught how the sacrament of baptism washes away our original sin, makes us children of God and members of the Church. When we analyse these pertaining to Jesus Christ, we wonder why he went to John to be baptised. He was God, and already a son of God. Later, we realise that he was baptised to show solidarity with sinful humanity for their salvation. Thus, Jesus' baptism reminds us of our baptism and encourages us to renew it today.

One preacher was recalling the big celebrations of his Christian faith in an African rural setup which included Easter, Christmas and the day of baptism. He noted that what was most common on each of them was the food of rice. This food can remind us of some of the vital elements of our baptism i.e. rebirth, initiation, consecration and empowerment. Rebirth; in baptism we are born-again to be children of God and consequently we are given a name that identifies us as such. Initiation; ushers us into the community of believers. Consecration; through the anointing of Chrism we are set apart for God and blessed. Empowerment gives us the power of the Holy Spirit to bear witness to Christ (Acts 1:8) and even bring other people into his kingdom (Mt 28:19-20). Let us reflect on whether we still uphold our dignity of being children of God, plus the value of our membership in the community of believers. The empowerment we received demands of us to increase the flock of Christ by bringing more believers through our preaching and a life of witness. This witness also includes showing a concern by reaching out and sharing our blessings with our needy brethren, particularly the elderly, the sick, the displaced, the grieving, and others. As we celebrate Jesus' baptism, let us awaken our baptism and re-ignite it to shine to all humanity so that our Christian life might help people to glorify our heavenly Father (Mt 5:13-16).

Fr Bonaventure

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 12 JANUARY 2025 — 19 JANUARY 2025

(MEMORIALS: 17TH ST ANTONY, ABBOT)

Sat 11	18.30: Paula Sheridan & Family (<i>K Jeetoo</i>)	
Sun 12	09.00: John & Kathleen Doyle (<i>Doyle Hall Family</i>)	11.00: Holy Souls
	18.00: People of the Parish	
Mon 13	09:30: Nick Furlong - RIP, 1st Ann (<i>C Furlong</i>)	<u>OLI SCHOOL WILL BE JOINING THIS MASS</u>
Tues 14	09.30: Janice Ryan - RIP (<i>D Kidd</i>)	19.00: Theresa Mkemudeh - RIP (<i>Udeh Fam</i>)
Wed 15	09.30: Giuletta & Roman Jankowski - RIP	19.00: Colleen Kevin - RIP (<i>A Price</i>)
Thurs 16	07.00: Walter Sice - RIP (<i>FM</i>)	09:30: Brian Tatam - RIP (<i>R Lee</i>)
Fri 17	07.00: Holy Souls	09:30: Imelda Hutchinson (<i>R Lee</i>)
Sat 18	09:00: Holy Souls	
Sat 18	18:30: John Richard Morello - RIP (<i>P Morello</i>)	
Sun 19	09.00: People of the Parish	
	11.00: Alexius Yap - RIP, 11th Ann (<i>C Yap</i>)	18.00: Florence & Ethel Eales - RIP (<i>FM</i>)

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 Janice Ryan 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 Ryan, Lionel Holland, Nan Healy, Allan Cook, Colin Stevens and Joan Frost.

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Mt 3: 16-17

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

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**

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:

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. 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

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.' Go on up to a high mountain, O Sion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, 'Behold your God!' Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 104(103):1b-2. 3-4. 24-25. 27-28. 29-30. **R1**

Bless the LORD, O my soul! My God, how great you are!

O LORD my God, how great you are, clothed in majesty and honour, wrapped in light as with a robe! You stretch out the heavens like a tent. **R**

On the waters you lay the foundation for your dwelling. You make the clouds your chariot; you ride on the wings of the wind. You make the winds your messengers, flame and fire your servants. **R**

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all. The earth is full of your creatures. Vast and wide is the span of the sea, with its creeping things past counting, living things great and small. **R**

All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it, they gather it up; you open wide your hand, they are well filled. **R**

You hide your face, they are dismayed; you take away their breath, they die, returning to the dust from which they came. You send forth your spirit, and they are created, and you renew the face of the earth. **R**
He shall rule from sea to sea, from the River to the bounds of the earth. . **R**

Second reading

Titus 2:11-14; 3:4-7

Beloved: The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness, and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Luke 3:16

Alleluia, alleluia. He who is mightier than I is coming, said John. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 3:15-16, 21-22

At that time: As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, 'I baptise you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire.' Now when all the people were baptised by John the Baptist and when Jesus also had

been baptised and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'

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:

Accept, O Lord, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

Jn 1: 32, 34

Behold the One of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Prayer after Communion

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and in truth. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONDAY, 13TH JUNE, 9.30 MASS - OLI PRIMARY SCHOOL will join us for the Monday morning Mass as the pupils start their new term.

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2025

The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal next week-end.

SPUC exists to radically transform culture, so that abortion is not only abolished, but becomes truly unthinkable. To accomplish this mission, the Society is positioning initiatives in politics, education, legislation,

and culture. Through these efforts we will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life to our society. This year's appeal postcards (available for collection in the Narthex) call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC defend unborn babies and their mothers.

OLI YOUTH MINISTRY: SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY, 4.15

-5.30 PM - As the new year begins, we are excited to invite all young people, Year 7 to the age of 21, to our first Youth Ministry Event of 2025 in the Old Chapel. There will be games, snacks and, possibly some singing as well so that young people can experience their faith in good company.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Our First Holy Communion candidates will be celebrating their First Reconciliation on Saturday, 25th January at 10.30am. May we continue to keep them, their catechists and families in our prayers.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY 2025

A valuable resource for contacts and events in the diocese. Available for purchase at the Repository or from the Parish Office, Mon-Fri 10.00am-2pm for £7.50.

BUILDING A BETTER MARRIAGE

This is a one-day marriage-enrichment course aimed at couples with average-to-good marriages who would like to try and make them better. There is no charge and no group sharing. Couples have the opportunity individually to explore their relationship and levels of communication, which is the key to relationship. These BABM days start at 9.30am and finish by 4.30pm. Dates and venues for 2025 are: March 15, East Sheen; April 12, West Croydon; June 28, Kingston-upon-Thames; and September 13, Amigo Hall, Southwark. More details – T: 07983 524 727 or E:

mflkent@rcaos.org.uk

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES 2025

Dates/venues for the official Southwark diocesan marriage preparation course taking place during 2025 are as follows: February 15, Wallington; April 26, Amigo Hall; June 7, Amigo Hall; July 5, Wallington; October 18, Purley; November 22, online.

The face-to-face courses start at 9am and finish by 5pm. The online course, for which homework is set two weeks before, begins at 9.15am and finishes at lunchtime. The Certificate of Completion issued to each couple at the end of the course is recognised worldwide. There is a charge for participating in the course of £120 per couple. Early booking is advisable. Please contact: Philip & Mary, Marriage & Family Life, South-West Pastoral Coordinators - T: 020 86512477 or E: mflsw@rcaos.org.uk

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

ON BEHALF OF THE PARISH AND HER CLERGY, I WISH EVERYONE A VERY BLESSED AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR. MAY THE NEW YEAR BE KIND TO YOU AND MAY BEAUTIFUL MIRACLES HAPPEN TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

THE CLERGY WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU for your kindness, gifts and prayers in 2024. The generosity of all of you was tremendous. May God bless and reward you all abundantly.

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO ALL THE VOLUNTEERS in the Parish and to all who serve the Church. Donating their time, gifts, talents and prayers. Without you all, we would have struggled this year. May God bless you lavishly.

THANK YOU TO THE DOSA COMPANY IN TOLWORTH High Street that provided refreshments to us for Christmas midnight Mass and the new year. May God bless and favour them profusely.

FR. MICHAEL IS CURRENTLY AWAY FROM THE PARISH until the first week of February for his annual mission leave. Please keep him and his family in your prayers. In his absence, Fr. Bonaventure is responsible for the parish.

WE WELCOME FR. AUSTIN NWSU TO OUR PARISH. Fr Austin is the Provincial Superior of Nigeria South East and he will support Fr. Bonaventure during Fr. Mike's absence. May God bless him and his ministry.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

"More people than ever are being driven to food banks and the sharp increase in people needing help is outstripping food donations."

These are the recent words of the Trussell Trust. Your donations are vital to ensure food banks in our community can continue to help everyone referred to them. Please continue to be generous as possible with your food donations. All non-perishable food items, especially; are welcome. Thank you, as always for your generosity.

A priest is walking through the jungle when he comes upon a hungry lion. Just as the lion goes to attack, the priest crosses himself and says, "Lord God, if you can hear me, please instill the Holy Spirit in this beast's heart." The lion stops in his tracks as a bright light begins to glow around him. He looks to the sky, folds his paws in prayer, and says, "Grace before meals...."

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £258.00

Non-Gift-aid: £871.00

Total: £1,129.86

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR DECEMBER 2024

(EXCLUDING CHRISTMAS OFFERING)

Cash / cheques – £5,428.44

1. Gift-Aided – £1,650.22

2. Non-G/A – £3,778.22

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,704.00

1. Gift-Aided – £2,519.00

2. Non-G/A – £185.00

C. Contactless Machine – £1,341.73

Total = £9,474.17 (Last month: £8,467.09)

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: toworthgac1@rcaos.org.uk or 07851 070036.

OBITUARIES:

JANICE RYAN: Kindly pray for Janice Ryan & family who sadly passed away on Boxing Day. Janice was the wife of Tim and mother to Josh.

Funeral: TBA

E	G	N	I	H	C	A	E	R	P
S	A	N	D	A	L	I	C	E	O
P	A	R	T	S	R	E	T	A	W
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I	O	O	E	V	O	D	E	O	F
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JOHN

STRAP

WATER

DOVE

POWERFUL

SANDAL

SPIRIT

VOICE

KNEEL

BAPTISED

HEAVENS

BELOVED

