



8TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

02 March 2025

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, michaelenzenwammadu@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

Do not judge others.

Nobody wants to be called a hypocrite. One dictionary accurately describes hypocrisy as “gross insincerity”. The word “sincere” originated in workshops of sculptors in ancient Rome. If they wished to advertise that their statue contained no cracks and therefore was not held together with wax, they labelled it “sin cera” the Latin form of “without wax.” A sincere person is one without cracks. However, we all have cracks inside us because we are human. God sees the heart and always will. We may put on a great show of words and actions and hide all our flaws, but they will still be visible to God. However, we always tend to focus on the faults of others, for it takes the focus off us and our need to challenge ourselves to be better. Often, we like to guide and correct people. It gives us a bit of status. We are quick to see the flaws in others, especially of those close to us. Jesus knows that we have flaws and invites us to look at our own faults first, for the Bible reminds us that the just person sins at least seven times a day. By making us aware of our own inadequacies, we are asked to suspend judgement until we have sorted out our own blind spots. If we cannot look at the world and others, and find what is to be praised and blessed, we then need to look into see what is wrong with us and how we may be blind to the goodness of God and the good in others. By this, we are asked to learn how to build up others, rather than tearing them down. To build is difficult, but to tear down is easy.

Fr. Michael

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 02 MARCH 2025 — 09 MARCH 2025

Sat 01	18.30: Brian Hanley - RIP (<i>J Friel</i>)
Sun 02	09.00: Joe Cullinan - RIP (<i>P Grogan</i>), Maureen Beard (RIP) 11.00: Angelica D’Agostino (<i>F D’Agostino</i>) 18.00: Jim & Mary Creighan - RIP (<i>K Fox</i>)
Mon 03	09:30: Michael Connolly - RIP (<i>D Kidd</i>)
Tues 04	09.30: Private Intention (<i>M Sebastian</i>) 19.00: Frances Myers - RIP (<i>OLI Parish</i>) <u>ASH WEDNESDAY</u>
Wed 05	07. 00: Holy Souls <u>OLI SCHOOL JOINING THE 9.30AM MASS</u> 09. 30: Joseph Antonisamy - RIP (<i>M Suresh</i>) 19.00: Carlota Fernandes - RIP (<i>J Fernandes</i>)
Thurs 06	07.00: Denis D’Mello - RIP (<i>FM</i>) 09:30: Jacob Vethanayagam & Mr & Mrs E Maryanaygam - RIP
Fri 07	07.00: Regina Sellammah - RIP 6th ANN (<i>Madonna</i>) 09:30: David Kelly (<i>K Fox</i>)
Sat 08	09:00: Janaki & Jebmalai Muthu - RIP (<i>M Suresh</i>)
Sat 08	18:30: Holy Souls
Sun 09	09.00: WB of Mother & Safe delivery of Baby (<i>B Varghese</i>) 11.00: Barbara Coshan’s Intentions (<i>C Stevens</i>) 18.00: People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially Maureen Beard, Frances Myers, Vincent License, Michael Connolly 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, Frances Cox, George Trutwein, Mary Ryan, Rita Reginald, Sarah Mills, Thomas O’Connor, Ian Beard, Anita Smith, Tony Cook, Kathleen McGuinness, Nan Healy, Samar Staussi, Joan Frost, Colin Stevens, Jimmy Simon, Shirlene A, Hazel D’Aguiar, Allan Cook, Claire Pender, Wendy Cook, Kathleen O’Connell, Tim Ryan, Ralph Smallwood, Elizabeth Jones, Nivetheni Robert, Gerry Hague, Mark Draper, Adam Martin, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Qiaochen Shi, Ida Rebello, Jisha Nelson, Vinitha Sherin, Ravenna Ahmed, Adam Martin, Lionel Holland, Joan Frost, Peter & Phil Tull.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:
MORNING PRAYER (LAUDS):
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
YOUTH MASS:
ST ANTHONY OF PADUA NOVENA:
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA:
OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION:
SYRO-MALABAR VIGIL

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8AM
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9AM
SATURDAY: - 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.00pm
LAST SUNDAY: - 6pm Mass
TUESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
WEDNESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
FIRST SATURDAY - of the month, after morning Mass
FIRST FRIDAY - of the month

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

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:

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule and that your Church may rejoice, untroubled in her devotion. 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

Sirach 27:4-7

When a sieve is shaken, the refuse appears; so a person's filth in his thoughts. The kiln tests the potter's vessels; likewise the test of a person is in his reasoning. The fruit discloses the cultivation of a tree; so the expression of a thought discloses the cultivation of a person's mind. Do not praise a man before you hear him reason, for this is the test of people.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 92(91):2-3. 13-14. 15-16. R cf. 2a

It is good to give thanks to you, O LORD.

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your loving mercy in the morning, and your truth in the watches of the night. **R**

The just one will flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a Lebanon cedar. Planted in the house of the LORD, they will flourish in the courts of our God. **R**

Still bearing fruit when they are old, still full of sap,

still green, to proclaim that the LORD is upright. In him, my rock, there is no wrong. **R**

Second reading

1 Corinthians 15:54-58

Brothers and Sisters: When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' 'O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?'

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Philippians 2:15d, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia. Shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 6:39-45

At that time: Jesus told his disciples a parable: 'Can a blind man lead a blind man? Will they not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher. Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, "Brother, let me take out the speck that is in your eye", when you yourself do not see the log that is in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take out the speck that is in your brother's eye.

'For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.'

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: O God, who provide gifts to be offered to your name and count our oblations as signs of our desire to serve you with devotion, we ask of your mercy that what you grant as the source of merit may also help us to attain merit's reward.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Communion Antiphon **Cf. Ps 12: 6**
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me, sing psalms to the name of the Lord Most High.

Prayer after Communion: Nourished by your saving gifts, we beseech your mercy, Lord, that by this same Sacrament with which you feed us in the present age, you may make us partakers of life eternal.
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR SEASON OF LENT starts with Ash Wednesday on the 5th of March. Mass will be at 7am, 9.30am and 7pm. It's a day of fasting and abstinence.

Stations of the Cross every Friday after 9.30am Mass (*English*) and 5 – 6pm *led by the Syro Malabar Community*) It is a serious part of our Lenten observances.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE WILL BE ON MONDAY - 14th April at 7pm. Confession is every Saturday immediately after the 9.00am Mass and 5.30pm - 6.00pm before the Saturday evening Mass. A regular confession is very necessary for our spiritual growth and helps us deepen our relationship with God and others.

WHAT DOES LENT MEAN TO YOU?

I recently asked some people about what Lent means to them in order to get them thinking of how they intend to pray, fast, abstain and help others during this Lent and every day of their lives. I got very interesting answers which I would love to share. One person shared that though Lenten observances are not Biblical, they are rich with activities that remind us of the absolute need for God. It is therefore a time to refocus our life on God by giving up earthly comforts. However, another person noted that he never gave up things such as chocolate, sweets and meat during Lent because he does not like them and doesn't eat much. However, he fasts from anger, envy, gossip, hurting words and too much pessimism. Lent becomes a time when others are treated with kindness. Another person shared that Lent is a time when the drama of our salvation is re-enacted, thereby bringing afresh to us the total cost of God's love. She remembers the washing of feet and the kissing of the

cross, Lenten events dripping with imagery of God's love. Another remembers eating fish and chips every Friday and the Dad, who loves meat so much, abstaining from it for the 40 days. This becomes an encouragement for young people to learn how to let go of things such as technology and the junk food they love. It shows that we have mastery over material things rather than them having mastery over us. Another remembers Good Friday as the day the biggest number of people return to Church, thereby reminding him Lent as a time to return to God. Lent is the perfect time for us to reflect on our life journeys and follow Jesus. It is also a time for the Church to proclaim the Good News that Jesus saves us. Lent becomes a positive time of transformation rather than just being viewed as a time of suffering. For me, Lent is a special time for spiritual growth, not only a period of sacrifice and abstinence but a time when I get closer to God who loves me most. It is a time that I focus on Him alone. It is also a time that I enjoy Easter eggs, reminding me of the sumptuous feast of heaven. What about you? What does Lent mean to you?
Fr. Michael

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

OUR SICK AND HOUSEBOUND LIST IS BEING UPDATED AND VISITATION TO THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND HAS STARTED, if you know any parishioner that is sick or housebound, please do let the clergy or parish office know so that we can visit them.

"CALLED TO BEAR FRUIT" GROUPS are being formed. You can inform the parish office or parish clergy if you want to form your own group.

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. Thank you.

OBITUARIES

MAUREEN BEARD: Please kindly pray for Maureen Beard who passed peacefully in her sleep on 18th February.

FRANCES MYERS: Sadly passed away on 13th February. Please keep Frances, Dennis her husband & family in your prayers.

VINCENT LICENSE: Please kindly remember in your prayers, Rosemary Maranzano's brother who sadly passed on 18th February. May he rest in peace. Amen.

MICHAEL CONNOLLY: Denise Kidd's father sadly passed away on Sunday 2nd February.

FUNERAL: Monday, 17th March, 12pm at St Joseph's Church, 1 Montem Rd, New Malden, KT3 3QW

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

LENTEN PROJECT 2025 EVENTS

Sponsored Walk – Saturday, 8 March - Up for a challenge? Walk 43 km (27 miles) from Tower Bridge to OLI Church along the scenic Thames route, passing through Battersea, Putney, Richmond, and Kingston. Meet at London Waterloo at 6:30 AM. Expected return: 4 PM to a small reception in the Parish Hall. It's a test of endurance and a fantastic way to support our cause! Interested? Email Elspeth at elspeth.casey@virginmedia.com. Please sponsor us using the **Justgiving** site :www.justgiving.com/page/our-lady-immaculate-church-12

Quiz & Bingo Night – Saturday, 15 March - A night of fun, laughter, and friendly competition! **Parish Hall – Doors open at 7:15 PM, quiz starts promptly at 7:45 PM.** Teams of up to six people, £7 per adult. Book your table by emailing heathermathew@hotmail.com or calling George at 07949 334349 – or just turn up on the night! To make it easier for everyone, you are welcome to bring your own drinks & nibbles.

Tabletop Sale – Saturday, 22 & Sunday, 23 March
Grab a bargain! Held after the 6:30 PM Mass on Saturday and after the 9 AM & 11 AM Masses on Sunday. Browse kitchenware, books, DVDs, plants, toys, and more!

OLI School Fundraising – Thursday, 27 & Friday, 28 March: During the School Year 5 service week, an after-school sale is planned on Thursday, 27 & Friday, 28 March, where you can pick up leftover toys at bargain prices! Helen & Emanuele will also be selling popcorn and gift items. More details to follow!

More Exciting Events – Save the Dates!

- 15th March – Parish Quiz Night
- 22nd/23rd March – Tabletop Sale
- 27th/28th March – School Fundraising Events
- 26th April – South Indian Night
- 10th May – Sri Lankan Night
- 17th May – Jumble Sale
- 7th June – Afro-Caribbean Night
- 19th October – AGM

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £241.20
Non-Gift-aid: £930.81 **Total: £1,172.01**
2nd Colletion: £265.87
TOTAL COLLECTION FOR JANUARY 2025
Cash / cheques – £4,825.87
 1. *Gift-Aided – £1,173.49*
 2. *Non-G/A – £3,652.38*
 B. *Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,410*
 1. *Gift-Aided – £2,205*
 2. *Non-G/A – £205*
 C. *Contactless Machine – £1,227.88*
Total = £8,463.75 (Last month: £8,467.09)

CONFERENCE FOR YOUNG ADULTS – 18-30 AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED ADVOCATES NETWORK

As part of ACN's Jubilee of Hope celebrations, young adults are invited to a free conference on Sat, **22nd March – 9.30am-6pm at St Mary Moorfields. London. EC2M 7LS** The theme Faith, Hope and Charity, will be explored with Bishop Wilfred Anagbe and Father Remigius Ihyula of the Diocese of Makurdi, Nigeria. Bishop Wilfred has said that it is his duty to inspire his people with hope and we must overcome evil with good. The Jubilee is a call for Catholics to be 'tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind'. In honour of Our Lady of Fatima, during the conference we will launch our Five First Saturdays devotion, beginning in April and finishing in August, to coincide with the Jubilee of Youth. Other speakers include Fr Stephen OJpapah (who was captured by Boko Haram), Ribqa Nevash (recipient of the 'Courage to be Christian' award for her outspokenness about violence against Christian women and girls in Pakistan) and Isabel Vaughan-Spruce who was arrested twice by West Midlands Police for silently praying in a censored "buffer zone". Details for booking are on Aid to the Church in Need | Young Adults Network Conference

A priest is walking down the street when a man pushes him into an alleyway and points a gun at him. "Give me all your money or I'll shoot you." The priest opens his jacket to grab his wallet and the man sees his collar. "Oh, I'm sorry Father, I wouldn't have robbed you if I knew you were a priest." The priest then asks, "I'm sorry, I don't have any money, but may I offer you a cigarette?" The man shakes his head and replies, "No, thank you. I gave up cigarettes for Lent."

H	E	A	R	T	P	L	A	I	D
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T	G	R	A	P	E	S	R	R	S
I	E	O	S	R	H	E	B	P	C
R	S	A	O	G	E	A	L	L	I
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DISCIPLE
 TEACHER
 SPLINTER
 PLANK
 HYPOCRITE
 TREE
 GRAPES
 THORNS
 GOODNESS
 BADNESS
 STORE
 HEART

