



FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT - C

30 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, 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



The Parable of the Prodigal Father.

I prefer to call today's Gospel reading the parable of "The Prodigal Father." The word "prodigal" refers to extravagant or lavish. The centerpiece of Jesus' parable is the extravagant and lavish grace given by a father to his wayward son. The parable shows the lavish prodigality of God's grace. Jesus shows the father, a noble rich man running like a fool to welcome a son that has squandered his inheritance. He hugs and kisses him before he could even recite his repentance speech. Nothing! not even demanding simple contrition from him. He gives him the best clothes, calls a big party, kills the special fatted calf and instead of being ashamed of his son, rather, he calls people to celebrate his stupid son. There is so much to take in from this story and it reminded me of my parents ,especially my Mum, as we celebrated Mother's Day. They demonstrated to us how much we were loved as children and that no matter what we do, there is always love waiting for us at home. They ensured that we knew that we were loved unconditionally at home. The son returned because he knew the prodigal love of his father. Hence, when our world is a mess and we cannot find our way, or when we suffer for our selfishness, we must turn back and return to God. His love for us will never waver. Whether we have left home for 5 minutes or 50 years, God's love is constantly waiting for us. God's love sees beyond our past, sins, guilt and shame. When God looks at us, He sees only his beautiful child. Dear God, as we reflect on what this father did with his younger son, we are once again astounded. The lavishness, prodigality, unwavering and unexpectedness of God's grace is overwhelming. Help us to enjoy your lavish grace and use it to transform our lives. Amen.

Fr. Michael

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 30 MARCH 2025 — 6 APRIL 2025

- Sat 29 18.30: Michele De Cristofaro - RIP, 13th Ann (*A De Cristofaro*)
- Sun 30 09.00: People of the Parish
11.00: For Favours Received from Jesus & Mary (*E D'Souza*)
18.00: Catherine Fenner, Patricia Derbyshire & Shirley Wardell
- Mon 31 09:30: John Philip Louis (*Maranzano*)
- Tues 01 09.30: Michael Connolly –RIP (*D Kidd*)
19.00: Holy Souls
- Wed 02 07. 00: Anastasia, Cletus, Sabina, Chinedu Ezenwammadu (RIP)
09. 30: Rajani Reginald
19.00: Clair Harvey (RIP) (*OLI Parish*).
- Thurs 03 07.00: Catherine Yap (*OLI Parish*)
09:30: Michael Connolly –RIP (*Maranzano*)
- Fri 04 07.00: Sick and Housebound parishioners
09:30: Anton Sebastian –RIP (*M Sebastian*)
- Sat 05 09:00: Mamad Amanpour - RIP (*F Amanpour*)
- Sat 05 18:30: Hannah Mulcahy –RIP, 54th Ann (*B Mulcahy*)
- Sun 06 09.00: John Philip Louis –RIP (*K M Ho*)
11.00: Favour Granted by St Jude (*K J*)
18.00: People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially Maureen Beard 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, 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, Lionel Holland, Peter & Phil Tull & Julie Bria

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

Our Lady Immaculate RC Church, Tolworth

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

Cf. Is 66: 10-11

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

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: O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

In those days: The LORD said to Joshua, 'Today I have rolled away the reproach of Egypt from you.' While the people of Israel were encamped at Gilgal, they kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month in the evening on the plains of Jericho. And the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate of the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. And the manna ceased the day after they ate of the produce of the land. And there was no longer manna for the people of Israel, but they ate of the fruit of the land of Canaan that year. **Reader: The word of the Lord.**

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 34(33):2-3. 4-5. 6-7. R cf. 18b

Taste and see that the LORD is good.

I will bless the LORD at all times, praise of him is always in my mouth. In the LORD my soul shall make its boast; the humble shall hear and be glad. **R**

Glorify the LORD with me; together let us praise his name. I sought the LORD, and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. **R**

Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed. This lowly one called; the LORD heard, and rescued him from all his distress. **R**

Second reading

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Brothers and Sisters: If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ; God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ: be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Luke 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you'. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

At that time: The tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, 'This man receives sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, "Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me." And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. 'But when he came to himself, he said, "How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, "Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound." But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, "Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!" And he said to him, "Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found."

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel SCRUTINIES John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the

mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him.

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: We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Communion Antiphon: You must rejoice, my son, for your brother was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found.

Prayer after Communion: O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that

we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY MOTHERING SUNDAY!

We pray for mothers and those that play the role of a mother in people's lives. They hold a special place in all our hearts and we are grateful for all their sacrifices for their children and for others.

INTERNET PROBLEMS - Unfortunately, due to internet problems the parish office has no phone connection or email. Hopefully the issue will be resolved next week.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT 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 maintenance and development of the parish is costing a lot of money and we are struggling financially to keep up. Thank you, as always, for your generosity.

ATTENTION - A GIFT AID APPEAL TO ENCOURAGE US TO GIFT AID OUR DONATIONS WILL BE MADE THIS WEEK.

We the 25% tax back of every donation you make when it is gift aided, enabling your donation to go further with no extra cost to you. Please join the parish Gift Aid scheme if you pay tax in the UK. You can join the Gift Aid scheme after each Mass this weekend. Please go to the RDJ room where someone will be able to assist you.

ATTENTION: ALL GIFT AID MEMBERS: Gift Aid envelopes for the coming tax year will be available for collection in the RDJ Room after each Mass this weekend. Gift Aid donors who give by standing order or online should also come to collect their special packs of envelopes for Easter, Christmas and other special collections.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RCIA ELECT The second scrutiny will take place this Sunday, 30th March at the 9am Mass and the third scrutiny will take place on Sunday, 6th April at the 11am Mass. The Scrutinies are God's way of taking a close and loving look at the Elect. God scrutinises them not to find what is wrong with them but to celebrate all that is beautiful, good, and true in them.

PLANNED GIVING DRIVE—NEXT WEEKEND: Alongside volunteering, our Parish relies on offertory collections to maintain and grow our mission. We do not receive funding from the government, the Vatican or Diocese. As Stewards of OLI Parish, we are each responsible for the upkeep of our Parish, with a duty to pass it on to future generations in even better condition than when we received it. What you decide to give is personal to you. Traditionally, communities of the faithful tithed, giving 10% of their income. Some like to break this down into '5 and 5': 5 hours of service to Parish ministry (sharing your time and talent) 5% of their income. Whatever you decide, the amount should suit your circumstances and be meaningful to you.

HOLY THURSDAY – WASHING OF FEET VOLUNTEERS: Kindly volunteer for washing of feet for the 5pm Mass. Please submit your details to the parish office. Thanks.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURES FOR EASTER - The Parish Office will be closed for Easter holiday from Tuesday, 22nd April and will reopen on Monday 28th April at 10.00am.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

HOLY WEEK PROGRAMME 2025

1. PALM SUNDAY (13th April)

Saturday (12/04), 6.30pm; 9am, 11am
6pm Blessings of Palms and procession to the Church from the Hall at 9am and 11am Masses

2. MONDAY (14 April)

7PM – Penitential Service with Individual Confessions

3. MAUNDY THURSDAY (17th April)

9.00AM: Office of Readings & Lauds

4.00PM: Sacrament of Reconciliation

5.00PM: Mass of the Last Supper

8.00PM: Mass of the Last Supper followed by watching at the Chapel of Repose, closing with Night Prayer before Midnight.

4. GOOD FRIDAY (18th April)

9.00AM: Office of Readings & Lauds

9.30-10.30am: Sacrament of Reconciliation

11.00AM: Service of the Passion with Children

3.00PM: Commemoration of the Passion & Adoration of the Cross

7.00PM Way of the Cross

5. HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL (19th April)

9.00AM: Office of Readings & Lauds

8.00PM Easter Vigil in the Holy Night & Sacraments of Initiation

6. EASTER SUNDAY (20th April)

Masses at 9AM; 11AM; and 6PM

2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEK: POOR PARISHES 29/30

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: will be on Monday - 14th April at 7pm. Confession is every Saturday immediately after the 9.00am Mass and 5.30pm -

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £300.27

Non-Gift-aid: £843.12

Total: £1,143.39

2nd Colletion: £325.34

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.***

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S RENEWAL RETREAT - SATURDAY, 5TH OF APRIL AT 11AM - 12.30PM, in the Church. This is mandatory for every Eucharistic minister to enable them to do their annual renewal of commitment on Maundy Thursday. Without such renewal, one may not be able to continue as a Eucharistic minister.

OBITUARIES MAUREEN BEARD: Please kindly pray for Maureen Beard who passed peacefully in her sleep on 25th February. **FUNERAL:** Monday, 7th April, 11am at OLI

VOLUNTEERS ARE AT THE CENTRE OF OUR PARISH LIFE and our response to God's call. Please think what you can do for God in the Parish through volunteering. The parish volunteer management team invites everyone to think of how they can serve God in our parish. Please, contact Mary Suresh at mary.antonisamy@yahoo.com if you are interested

Mothers have taught us with faithful words of instruction: **To Value A Job Well Done:** "If you're going to kill each other, do it outside. I just finished cleaning." **Time Travel:** "If you don't straighten up, I'm going to knock you into the middle of next week!" **Logic:** "Because I said so, that's why." **Foresight:** "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident." **Irony:** "Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about." **Osmosis:** "Shut your mouth and eat your supper." **Stamina:** "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone." **Weather:** "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it." **Hypocrisy:** "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!" **Behaviour Modification:** "Stop acting like your father!" **Envy:** "There are millions of less fortunate children in this world who don't have wonderful parents like you do." **Anticipation:** "Just wait until we get home." **Receiving:** "You are going to get it when you get home!" **Medical Science:** "If you don't stop rolling your eyes, they are going to freeze that way." **How to become an adult:** "If you don't eat your vegetables, you'll never grow up." **Genetics:** "You're just like your father." **Wisdom:** "When you get to be my age, you'll understand." **Justice:** "One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you

N	A	C	E	T	D	E	V	A	S
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NICODEMUS	SERPENT	DESERT
LIFE	CONDEMN	SAVED
REFUSES	SENTENCE	LIGHT
DARKNESS	EVIL	TRUTH

