



SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT- C

16 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, michaeezenwammandu@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

Without the Resurrection, the Cross is Meaningless.

In today's Gospel, Jesus wants the event of the Transfiguration to be guarded as a secret. He warns not only with words but goes to a great extent to conceal the event. He takes only three of the Apostles, and the mountain is not even named. By this, he aims to prevent a narrow comprehension that may focus on only his death, or only his resurrection, without understanding everything as a continuum with God always being in control, for nobody can achieve the feat of the Transfiguration except God. However, the three disciples struggled with linking Christ's resurrection to his suffering and death. Too quickly, Peter wanted three shelters that dwell on the resurrection while forgetting the cross. However, such a permanent shelter on only glory cannot withstand the scandal of the cross. This is because to follow Jesus is to follow the way of the cross. However, the way of the cross does not end on Good Friday or on Golgotha, but on Easter Sunday morning when the light of the resurrection shines on us. Jesus insists that this is a continuum and that God is always there in all our challenges. In the Cross, God was there as He was also there in the resurrection. There is light at the end of the tunnel but also light in every dark point of the tunnel. We are often attracted to the wonder-working Jesus while we ignore his call to carry the cross. Also, we may have the incomprehension that comes from despair when we see only our suffering and struggles without seeing the glory and hope prepared for us. The word "to keep secret" in Greek can also be translated as "to guard," or "to hold onto something." This means we must keep safe and hold onto the message that the way of the cross does not end on Good Friday but on the bright glory of Easter morning. Without the Cross, there is no resurrection, and without the resurrection, the cross is meaningless.

Fr. Michael

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 16 MARCH 2025 — 23 MARCH 2025

Sat 15	18.30: John Philip Louis - RIP (<i>D Kidd</i>)
Sun 16	09.00: Francis, Magdalena & Michael D'Souza - RIP (<i>P Fazal</i>)
	11.00: Paul Neeson - RIP, 1st Ann (<i>C Stevens</i>)
	18.00: Mary Campbell & Mary Langton - RIP (<i>M Campbell</i>)
Mon 17	09:30: Michael Connolly - RIP (<i>S Tremenheere</i>)
Tues 18	09.30: Winnie Harvey - RIP, 15th Ann
	19.00: Tim Ryan - Ints (<i>M Tett</i>)
Wed 19	09. 30: John & Margaret Burns (<i>K Fox</i>)
	19.00: Frances Myers - RIP (<i>M Tett</i>)
Thurs 20	07.00: Anthony & Patricia Moore - RIP (<i>FM</i>)
	09:30: Michael Connolly - RIP (<i>K Fox</i>)
Fri 21	07.00: Denise Kidd & Family - WB
	09:30: Anne Dray's 91st Birthday - TG
Sat 22	09:00: Mary Burrows - RIP, 2nd Ann (<i>A Dray</i>)
Sat 22	18:30: Gladys Millard - RIP (<i>S Howe</i>)
Sun 23	09.00: Margaret Grogan - RIP (<i>P Grogan</i>)
	11.00: Brian Gilmartin - RIP (<i>P Mitchell</i>)
	18.00: Augustine - Thanksgiving, 20th Birthday (<i>M Suresh</i>)

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, 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 Briandt.

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

Of you my heart has spoken, Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

Cf. Ps 26: 8-9

I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness in the land of the living. Wait for the LORD; be strong; be stout-hearted, and wait for the LORD! **R**

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 have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your glory. 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

Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

In those days: God brought Abram outside and said, 'Look towards heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your offspring be.' And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

And he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.'

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 27(26):1. 7-8b. 8c-9c. 13-14. R1a

The LORD is my light and my salvation.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; whom should I dread? **R**

O LORD, hear my voice when I call; have mercy and answer me. Of you my heart has spoken, 'Seek his face.' **R**

It is your face, O LORD, that I seek; hide not your face from me. Dismiss not your servant in anger; you have been my help. **R**

Second reading

Philippians 3:20-4:1

Brothers and Sisters: Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father. From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'. Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.

Gospel

Luke 9:28b-36

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up on the mountain to pray. And as he was praying, the appearance of his face was altered, and his clothing became dazzling white. And behold, two men were talking with him, Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of his departure, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. Now Peter and those who were with him were heavy with sleep, but when they became fully awake they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. And as the men were parting from him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Master, it is good that we are here. Let us make three tents, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah' — not knowing what he said. As he was saying these things, a cloud came and overshadowed them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. And a voice came out of the cloud, saying, 'This is my Son, my Chosen One; listen to him!' And when the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and told no one in those days anything of what they had seen.

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:

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray, cleanse us of our faults and sanctify your faithful in body and mind for the celebration of the paschal festivities. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Communion Antiphon Mt 17: 5

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.

Prayer after Communion:

As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK: CAFOD FAMILY FAST

DAY: This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day appeal will help hardworking people and families like Lokho's who has recently been donated a shade net, sturdy enough to shield his delicate plants from the blistering sun while allowing every precious drop of rain to reach the soil. This innovative "anti-greenhouse net" became their safety net, helping their community thrive.

THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED FROM 17TH - 22ND MARCH - Denise will be on bereavement leave until 24th March at 10am.

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 in volunteering.

TEA AND COFFEE WILL NOW BE AVAILABLE AFTER THE 11AM MASS. We are all encouraged to come in and interact with others after the 11am Mass. We need volunteers who can help serve others. Please speak to any of the clergy or Mary Suresh at mary.antonisamy@yahoo.com. We also need donations of tea, coffee and biscuits. Thank you so much to Tessa for organising this.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S RENEWAL RETREAT - SATURDAY, 5TH OF APRIL AT 11AM - 12.30PM, 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.

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)**
8.00PM Easter Vigil in the Holy Night & Sacraments of Initiation
- 6. EASTER SUNDAY (20th April)**
Masses at 9AM; 11AM; and 6PM

FOOD BANK DONATIONS. More people than ever are using foodbanks and it is a call from God for us to donate as much food as possible. If you know of anyone that would need food from the foodbank, please, do let the Parish office know. Remember the words of Jesus Christ to us during this Lent; "I was hungry and you gave me food to eat."

PAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR SEASON OF LENT: continues with the Stations of the Cross every Friday after 9.30am Mass (*English*) and 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.

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.

OBITUARIES MAUREEN BEARD: Please kindly pray for Maureen Beard who passed peacefully in her sleep on 25th February. **FUNERAL:** Mon, 7th April, 11am at OLI **MICHAEL CONNOLLY:** Denise Kidd's father sadly passed away on Sunday 2nd February. **FUNERAL:** Mon, 17th March, 12pm at St Joseph's Church, New Malden

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

LENTEN PROJECT 2025 EVENTS

Join the Fun & Support a Great Cause!

🦋 Sponsored Walk Success – Thank You, OLI!

Last Saturday, a group of dedicated trekkers set off from London at 6:30AM, embarking on an incredible 30-mile journey along the Thames. After 9 hours of walking, battling fatigue but lifted by great company and glorious weather, they reached Tolworth just after 4PM—a truly remarkable achievement! A huge congratulations to all our walkers for their endurance and determination! And a heartfelt thank you to the entire OLI community for your prayers, encouragement, and generous donations. We're thrilled to share that we've already raised over 60% of our target—but we're not there yet! Let's keep the momentum going! If you haven't had a chance to donate yet, there's still time to support this worthy cause.



Quiz & Bingo Night – Saturday, 15 March

A night of fun, laughter, and friendly competition! Parish Hall – Doors open at 7:15 PM, quiz starts 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 and 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 22 & Friday, 23 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

Young Larry popped into the corner shop and read the following list to the attendant: "10lbs sugar at £1.25 per 1lb, 4lbs coffee at £1.50 per 1lb pound, 2lbs butter at £1.10 per 1lb 2 bars soap at 83p each. How much does that come to?" asked Larry. "£22.36" replied the attendant. "If I gave you three ten pound notes, how much change would I get?" said the boy. "£7.64," stated the attendant who appeared to be getting irritated by all the questions. As Larry disappeared through the door, he said "I don't want to buy any of the items - that's my maths homework, and I needed some help with it."

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £310.00

Non-Gift-aid: £1,004.99

Total: £1,314.99

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Cash / cheques – £4,824.23

1. Gift-Aided – £1,248.20

2. Non-G/A – £3,576.03

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,310.00

1. Gift-Aided – £1,822.00

2. Non-G/A – £488.00

C. Contactless Machine – £791.32

Total = £7,925.55 (Last month: £8,463.75)

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.**

🦋 17th May – Jumble Sale

🦋 7th June – African-Caribbean Night

🦋 19th October – AGM

Stay tuned for more details in the Parish Newsletter and on the Parish website. Let's come together, have fun, and make a difference!

PRAYERS FOR POPE FRANCIS - As His Holiness Pope Francis continues to fight for life, we pray for the courage and fortitude he needs to get through this very difficult time for him and those helping him. Visit the Vatican site and the Westminster Cathedral site via the Links below, for a daily Rosary prayed for his Intentions: <https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html> or westminstercathedral.org.uk/prayers-for-pope-francis/ *Almighty and Eternal God, you are the everlasting health of those who believe in you. Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy, through Christ our Lord. Amen Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.*

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PETER PRAY
MOSES SLEEP
JOHN ASPECT
ELIJAH TENTS
JAMES FACE
GLORY VOICE
MOUNTAIN BRILLIANT
LIGHTNING LISTEN

