



18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

03 August 2025

401-403 Ewell Road, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DG, Tel: 020 8399 9550,

E-mail: tolworth@rcaos.org.uk □ www.olonline.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, bonaventuressebyanzi@rcaos.org.uk □ **SECRETARY:** Mrs Denise Kidd

□ **SCHOOL:** Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School □ **HEADTEACHER:** Mr Ben Martin



Everything is futile except God

Today's first reading comes from *Qoheleth* (Ecclesiastes), written during a time of economic prosperity in Israel. Trade in agricultural products, livestock, gold, pearls, and even slaves, was booming. Yet, amid this wealth, many people grew complacent—so absorbed in their material success, that they turned away from God. The Gospel reading complements this message with the parable of the rich fool. When Jesus uses the word *fool*, He refers to someone who lives without God. We meet a man who works tirelessly and is blessed with an abundant harvest—a gift clearly made possible by God. However, instead of gratitude or generosity, his focus is entirely on himself: “*I, me, my, myself, and mine.*” He plans a future of comfort and ease, forgetting the One who holds the future and even his own soul: “*You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you*” (Luke 12:20).

This message remains strikingly relevant. We live in a generation defined more by individualism than by community, more by consumption than by compassion. The second reading reminds us of our fraternity as creatures made in God's image. We are called to see God in others and to serve Him by serving them. Sadly, greed, envy, hatred, and jealousy continue to block true fraternity and community life.

Can we reclaim the spirit of the early Christian community described in Acts 2:42–47 and 4:32–37—sharing freely, living simply, and worshipping joyfully? There are only a few things truly eternal and worth investing in: God, His Word, and His people. Let us not be blinded by the fleeting riches of this world, but turn instead to what truly matters. As Ecclesiastes reminds us: “*Vanity of vanities, all is vanity*” (Eccl 1:2). Only in God can we find meaning that lasts.

Fr. Bonaventure, CSSp

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 03 AUGUST 2025 — 10 AUGUST 2025

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|----------|---|
| Sat 02 | 18.30: Chris McGuinness (<i>Nancy</i>) |
| Sun 03 | 09.00: Christopher Salandha - RIP (<i>T Rutter</i>), Errol Bismark RIP 11.00: Alexius Yap - RIP (<i>C Yap</i>) 18.00: Pauline Ferrera - RIP (<i>OLI Parish</i>) <u>ST JOHN VIANNEY, PRIEST - MEMORIAL</u> |
| Mon 04 | 09.30: Seamus Conmey - Recovery (<i>S Mills</i>) |
| Tues 05 | 09.30: Private Intention 19.00: Marie Fahy - Recovery <u>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD - FEAST</u> |
| Wed 06 | 09.30: Eileen Gardiner - Recovery (<i>S Mills</i>) 19.00: Allison Davis - Intentions (<i>OLI Parish</i>) |
| Thurs 07 | 07.00: John Walsh RIP (<i>J.Dunseath</i>) 09.30: Joseph Xavier - RIP, 14th Anni (<i>A Xavier</i>) <u>ST DOMINIC, PRIEST - MEMORIAL</u> |
| Fri 08 | 07.00: Holy Souls (<i>J.Dunseath</i>) 09.30: Rama Mayaka - RIP (<i>M Peiris</i>) <u>ST BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS - FEAST</u> |
| Sat 09 | 09.00: Sr Marcela Gallego - RIP (<i>Joanne</i>) |
| Sat 09 | 18.30: Joseph Logue - RIP (<i>Houston Family</i>) |
| Sun 10 | 09.00: Thanksgiving (<i>Rosamma & Simon</i>) 11.00: People of the Parish 18.00: Sarah McGedy - RIP (<i>FM</i>) |

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially and those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially Pauline Ferrera & Errol Bismark. 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, June Munk, Jim Maynard, Liam Cawley,

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

MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8AM
MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9AM
SATURDAY: - 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.00pm
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
LAST SUNDAY of the month

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

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:

Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored. 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

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. Sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 90(89):3-4. 5-6. 12-13. 14. 17. R1

***O Lord, you have been our refuge,
from generation to generation.***

You turn man back to dust,
and say, 'Return, O children of Adam.'
To your eyes a thousand years
are like yesterday, come and gone,
or like a watch in the night. **R**

You sweep them away like a dream,
like grass which is fresh in the morning.
In the morning it sprouts and is fresh;
by evening it withers and fades. **R**

Then teach us to number our days,
that we may gain wisdom of heart.
Turn back, O Lord! How long?
Show pity to your servants. **R**

Ps 69: 2, 6

At dawn, fill us with your merciful love;
we shall exult and rejoice all our days.
Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us;
give success to the work of our hands.
O give success to the work of our hands. **R**

Second reading

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Brothers and Sisters: If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Matthew 5:3

Alleluia, alleluia. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

At that time: Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of one's possessions.' And he told them a parable, saying, 'The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, "What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?"' And he said, "I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' " But God said to him, "Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So is the one who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich towards God.'

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

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray, and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice, make of us an eternal offering to you.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

Wis 16: 20

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Prayer after Communion

Accompany with constant protection, O Lord, those you renew with these heavenly gifts and, in your never-failing care for them, make them worthy of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

to assist with the distribution of the Eucharist during Mass and to the sick and homebound. Individuals interested in this ministry should be practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church, and will need to complete a training program, be DBS checked and be ready to be commissioned. Please, speak to any of the Parish clergy or send an email if you are interested.

THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. PAUL (MSP) will be making their annual mission appeal in our Parish this weekend. Please, let us be generous and support their missionary work. There will be a retiring collection for them in all the masses this weekend.

KIND REQUEST DURING AUGUST

During August, when many parishioners are away and the Parish Office is closed, we kindly ask that enquiries be limited to urgent matters only. This would be a thoughtful gesture and a kindness towards your Parish and Assistant Priests during this quieter time. Thank you very much for your understanding and co-operation.

SAFEGUARDING CHECKS

Many of you will have received or will be receiving emails regarding either DBS checks or Renewals which have to be completed before the end of August. **PLEASE CHECK YOUR SPAM/JUNK** email folders as the emails may be there. Anyone without a current DBS check will not be allowed by the Diocese to continue in any role. Please contact Monica Tett (tolworthsg1@rcaos.org.uk) if you have any queries.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR JAM JAR DONATIONS

Jennifer would like to extend her heartfelt thanks to everyone who has donated clean, empty jam jars for the charity jam-making project. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! She kindly asks that you continue collecting clean jars, as more will be needed. You can drop them off at the back of the church or hand them in at the Presbytery. Thank you once again for your support.

Archdiocesan Day for Catechists

On behalf of the Archbishop, you are invited to attend the annual Diocesan Day for Catechists. This day is for all the catechists of the diocese, including those involved in Liturgy of the Word for Children and the RCIA process. Where: Amigo Hall, St George's Cathedral, Lambeth Road, SE1 6HR When: Saturday 20 September 2025, Start: 10am finishing with Mass at 4pm
<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/day-for-catechists-2025>

PAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN THE MINISTRY OF PARISH BEREAVEMENT LISTENING ARE INVITED TO REGISTER THEIR INTEREST WITH ANY OF THE PARISH CLERGY.

There will be a training in Aylesford priory on September 27, from 9am to 5pm. This training will help provide the skills to those who wish to reach out to others: practice in listening skills, rules for running a group for the bereaved or reaching out to the individual and an explanation of the stages of grief that they may encounter. The trained volunteer will be expected to help us develop our Parish bereavement support group.

VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE THAT CAN ATTEND ECUMENICAL AND INTER-RELIGIOUS DIALOGUE

meetings are needed. They will be expected to form the parish team on inter-religious and ecumenical dialogue. Speak to any of the clergy if you are interested

PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE FOR SUMMER and have only an emergency service for the whole month of August until 8th September.

MASS INTENTIONS & OFFERINGS ENVELOPES are available at the back of the Church. You can also request a Mass intention by email or telephone. If you wish to make a Mass offering online, please use the following parish account details: Account Name: RCAS Our Lady Immaculate Church, Account Number: 06467032, Sort Code: 60-21-05 Thank you for your generosity and support.

JOURNEY MERCY TO ALL OUR PARISHIONERS who are travelling for their Summer Holiday, may God bless and protect you. May all those who are staying in our beautiful Tolworth and its environs also have a peaceful and restful holiday.

WALK THE AUGUSTINE CAMINO FOR MARY'S MEALS

Monday 1st September – Sunday 8th September 2025
Join us for the whole pilgrimage or walk with us for a day. During this Jubilee Year we would be delighted if you joined us as Pilgrims of Hope on some or all of the Augustine Camino, starting at Rochester Cathedral, finishing at the Shrine of St Augustine in Ramsgate. The pilgrimage will take us to four of the designated Jubilee churches and shrines in Southwark Archdiocese: *The Friars, Aylesford, St Jude's Shrine, Faversham, St Thomas of Canterbury, Canterbury & St Augustine's Shrine, Ramsgate*
To book your place on the pilgrimage, or to ask any questions about it, please contact Roy Peachey, the Mary's Meals Supporter Engagement Officer for Kent, Surrey, Sussex and South London, on roy.peachey@marysmeals.org.uk or 07593 447297.

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

The CCRS is a knowledge-based, internationally recognised qualification that provides participants with an understanding of the teachings of the Catholic faith. It enhances the understanding that education within the Church is a life-long process which leads to greater intimacy with Jesus Christ. This course presents the basic foundational teachings of the Catholic Church in a manner that is captivating, inspiring, and applicable. The CCRS is designed and intended to support the Archbishop's vision of missionary parishes and schools by cultivating an evangelistic spirit. Participants will be equipped to make an informed and practical contributions to their chosen field of ministry within the Church. Please visit aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs for further information.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

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A LIFECHANGING OPPORTUNITY! DO YOU DESIRE TO KNOW JESUS MORE INTIMATELY? The Archbishop's Certificate (ArchCert) is a two-year online course for all in Southwark and beyond who wish to understand their faith in a more profound way and be able to share it with both confidence and joy. The course will commence on 18 October 2025 and the cost will be £400 per year. The full cost of the course, payable over 2 years is £800. In addition, registration must be completed in advance and there is a non-refundable registration fee of £50. Further details can be found here: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £385.50 Non-Gift-aid: £615.46
Total: £1,000.96

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR JUNE 2025

A. Cash / cheques – £5,543.24
1. Gift-Aided – £1,779.71
2. Non-G/A – £3,763.53
B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,689.00
1. Gift-Aided – £2,499.00
2. Non-G/A – £190.00
C. Contactless Machine – £639.00
Total = £8,871.24 (Last month: £8,286.58)

Thank you for supporting your Parish.

Cheques: Please make 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: Gift Aid: If you are a Gift Aid donor, please include your **Gift Aid number** in your online payment reference. If you are not registered for Gift Aid, kindly use "NGA" in the reference. **Need Help?** Contact **Lance Louis** at tolworthgacl@rcaos.org.uk or call **07851 070036**.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

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.

Important Notice:

Please **do not donate fresh or perishable food items**.

We deliver to the food bank **once a month**, and unfortunately, by the time fresh food arrives, it has often spoiled & must be discarded. Let's work together to make every donation count!

OBITUARIES

PAULINE FERRERA: Please kindly pray for Pauline Ferrera who passed away at Surbitonian Gardens Care Home on 14th July. Kindly keep Pauline's family and friends in your prayers. Thank you

ERROL BISMARCK: We are saddened to share that Errol Bismark, the father of our Treasurer, Allison Davis, passed away on 29th July in Zimbabwe. Please keep Jeanette, Allison, William, and the whole family in your prayers during this difficult time. Thank you.

A solicitor meets with the family of a recently deceased multi millionaire for the reading of the will. "To my loving wife, Rose, who always stood by me, I leave the house and £2 million," the solicitor reads. "To my darling daughter, Jessica, who looked after me in sickness and kept the business going, I leave the yacht, the business and £1 million." "And finally," the solicitor concludes, "to my cousin Dan, who hated me, argued with me and thought I would never mention him in my will. Well, you were wrong. Hi Dan!"

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CROWD
SHARE
ARBITRATOR
RICH

MASTER
FRIEND
AVARICE
HARVEST

BROTHER
JUDGE
PARABLE
TREASURE

