



20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

17 August 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 Ezenwamadu, CSSp, michael.ezenwamadu@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

The Cost of Discipleship.

In 587BC Jerusalem was besieged by the Babylonians. The people were dying of hunger but the army were resisting. Considering the suffering and death of people, the prophet Jeremiah saw that the solution was to surrender. Due to this differing view, Jeremiah was charged with treason and condemned to be thrown into a cistern (muddy well like a septic tank) to die from there. The prophet seems defeated and abandoned by all. Surprisingly a courageous man Ebed-Melech stood up and challenged King Zedekiah who ordered that the prophet be pulled out of the well. Thus, Jeremiah was saved. In the gospel, Jesus uses fire to refer to such challenging situations.

Though fire in the scriptures is a sign of the presence and action of God (e.g Gen 15:7, Ex 3:2, Ex 40:38, Act 2:3), however, in today's gospel, fire is a cross which Jesus desires and his disciples need to accept (Lk 9:18-27). Jesus is known as a messenger of peace but today he speaks of bringing divisions. His peace is geared towards the establishment of justice, truth, promotion of human rights and respect for life. This peace, built on justice, leads to resistance, suffering, rejection and sacrifice. Thus, the image of perseverance and a Cross presented by the second reading. Finally, a family gets divided when some members accept Jesus while others reject him and his gospel. Today's society still has 'Jeremiahs' who are condemned because of standing for truth and justice. Whenever some religious leaders and some authentic civil leaders remind us of being JUST in our service delivery, we condemn them as enemies of our country. Many 'prophets' have suffered because of advocating for Human Rights, fighting corruption, tribalism and others. All Christians share in Christ's prophetic ministry with its challenges! Should we then keep quiet? This suffering is the cost of discipleship but the eternal reward is greater. **Fr. Bonaventure CSSp.**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 17 AUGUST 2025 — 24 AUGUST 2025

Sat 16	18.30: Patrick Friel - Healing & Wellbeing (<i>J Friel</i>)
Sun 17	09.00: Patrick Grogan - RIP (<i>P Grogan</i>) 11.00: Renee Barry - RIP. 2nd Anni (<i>C Stevens</i>) 18.00: James Thomas Mills - RIP (<i>S Mills</i>)
Mon 18	09.30: Private Intention
Tues 19	09.30: Thomas & Margaret Kane - RIP (<i>K Jankowski</i>) 13.00: <u>Funeral - Pauline Ferrera</u> 19.00: Wellbeing of Chinedu Ezepue and family (<i>Fr. Michael</i>). <u>ST BERNARD, ABBOT & DR OF THE CHURCH - MEMORIAL</u>
Wed 20	09.30: Chris & Eileen Furlong (Wedding ANN) (<i>Szymanski family</i>) 19.00: Wellbeing of Vivian Iweka & family (<i>Fr. Michael</i>). <u>ST PIUS X, POPE - MEMORIAL</u>
Thurs 21	07.00: Anastasia & Cletus Ezenwamadu (RIP). 09.30: Chandra Fernando (RIP) (<i>Mary Corsin</i>) <u>THE QUEENSHIP OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - MEMORAL</u>
Fri 22	07.00: Sabina & Chinedu Ezenwamadu (RIP). 09.30: Vincent Ramanayake - RIP (<i>M Peiros</i>)
Sat 23	09.00: John Bredl - RIP (<i>T Bredl</i>)
Sat 23	18.30: Kathleen, Lisa, Bridget & Families - Ints (<i>L-M Kidd</i>)
Sun 24	09.00: John & Margaret Mitchell - RIP (<i>P Mitchell</i>) 11.00: People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially Pauline Ferrera. & Errol Bismark. and those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially May their souls rest in peace. Amen

THE SICK: Vanessa Andrew, Martin Dray, 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 Rebelo, Jisha Nelson, Vinitha Sherin, Ravenna Ahmed, Lionel Holland, Peter & Phil Tull, Julie Bria, June Munk, Jim Maynard, Liam Cawley, Deacon Al Callan & Sue Jones

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

Ps 83: 10-11

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

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:

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promises, which surpass every human desire. 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

Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10

In those days: The officials said to the king, 'Let this man, Jeremiah, be put to death, for he is weakening the hands of the soldiers who are left in this city, and the hands of all the people, by speaking such words to them. For this man is not seeking the welfare of this people, but their harm.' King Zedekiah said, 'Behold, he is in your hands, for the king can do nothing against you.' So they took Jeremiah and cast him into the cistern of Malchiah, the king's son, which was in the court of the guard, letting Jeremiah down by ropes. And there was no water in the cistern, but only mud, and Jeremiah sank in the mud. Ebed-melech went from the king's house and said to the king, 'My lord the king, these men have done

evil in all that they did to Jeremiah the prophet by casting him into the cistern, and he will die there of hunger, for there is no bread left in the city.' Then the king commanded Ebed-melech the Ethiopian, 'Take thirty men with you from here, and lift Jeremiah the prophet out of the cistern before he dies.'

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 40(39):2. 3. 4. 18. R14b
Lord, make haste to help me!

I waited, I waited for the Lord,
and he stooped down to me.
He heard my cry. **R**

He drew me from the deadly pit,
from the miry clay.
He set my feet upon a rock,
made my footsteps firm. **R**

He put a new song into my mouth,
praise of our God.
Many shall see and fear
and shall trust in the Lord. **R**

Wretched and poor though I am,
the Lord is mindful of me.
You are my rescuer, my help;
O my God, do not delay. **R**

Second reading

Hebrews 12:1-4

Brothers and Sisters: Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or faint-hearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

John 10:27

Alleluia, alleluia. My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord, and I know them, and they follow me.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 12:49-53

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! I have a baptism to be baptised with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on in one house there will be five divided: three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father; mother against daughter and daughter against mother; mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law, and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

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

Receive our oblation, O Lord, by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that, by offering what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Communion Antiphon

Ps 129: 7

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

Prayer after Communion

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Parish wishes journey mercies to all those travelling during this holiday season and a restful holiday to everyone.

The Parish office is closed for the whole of August, but in the case of any urgent need or emergency, please speak directly to any of the clergy or contact Fr. Michael through the parish phone number.

New Rota for Readers and Eucharistic Minister is available in the sacristy. Please, check and be updated.

PAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

SAFEGUARDING; This is a reminder for all those in the parish who require a DBS certificate. Please check the date on your current certificate. If it was issued more than three years ago, you **must** arrange a DBS renewal before the end of this month. The Diocese will **not permit you** to continue in your current role if your DBS is out of date. Thank you. For any queries or assistance, please contact: Monica Tett – tolworthsg1@rcaos.org.uk

INTRODUCING A NEW KINGSTON DEANERY YOUNG ADULT GROUP Starting in September for adults aged 18-35. Further details to follow. For any queries please contact Lena-Marie Kidd newmaldencatechist3@rcaos.org.uk

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>

VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN THE MINISTRY OF PARISH BEREAVEMENT LISTENING ARE INVITED TO REGISTER THEIR INTEREST WITH ANY OF THE PARISH CLERGY. **Date:** Saturday 27 September, **Time:** 9:00am – 5:00pm. There will be a training day at Aylesford Priory for those who would like to develop the skills needed to support others in times of loss. The training will cover: Practice in listening skills, Guidance on running a group for the bereaved or supporting individuals and explain the stages of grief you may encounter. Following the training, volunteers will be invited to help us develop our own Parish Bereavement Support

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.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

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>

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.

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!

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR JULY 2025

A. Cash / cheques – £3,988.44

1. Gift-Aided – £1,600.13

2. Non-G/A – £2,388.31

B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £2,668

1. Gift-Aided – £2,458

2. Non-G/A – £210

C. Contactless Machine – £1,340

Total = £7,996.44 (Last month: £8,871.24)

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.

Prayer to Guardian Angels: My holy angel guardian, ask the Lord to bless the journey which I undertake, that it may profit the health of my soul and body; that I may reach its end; and that, returning safe and sound, I may find all at home in good health. Do thou guard, guide, and preserve us. Amen

OBITUARIES

PAULINE FERRERA: Please kindly pray for Pauline Ferrera who passed away at Surbitonian Gardens Care Home on 14th July. Her funeral will be on Tuesday, 19th of August. Kindly keep Pauline's family and friends in your prayers. Thank you

A man was driving home late one afternoon, and he was driving above the speed limit. He notices a police car with its red lights on in his rear view mirror. He thinks "I can outrun this guy," so he floors it and the race is on. The cars are racing down the highway -- 60, 70, 80, 90 miles an hour. Finally, as his speedometer passes 100, the guy figures "what the heck," and gives up. He pulls over to the curb. The police officer gets out of his cruiser and approaches the car. He leans down and says "Listen mister, I've had a really lousy day, and I just want to go home. Give me a good excuse and I'll let you go." The man thought for a moment and said... "Three weeks ago, my wife ran off with a police officer. When I saw your cruiser in my rear view mirror, I thought that you were the officer and that you were trying to give her back!"

A	G	E	C	A	E	P	M	A	N
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FIRE
EARTH
BLAZING
BAPTISM
DISTRESS
PEACE
DIVISION
HOUSEHOLD
FIVE
FATHER
SON
DAUGHTER

