



## 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - C

31 August 2025

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

E-mail: [tolworth@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:tolworth@rcaos.org.uk) □ [www.olonline.co.uk](http://www.olonline.co.uk) □ **PARISH OFFICE:** Mon-Fri from 10am to 2pm

□ **PARISH PRIEST:** Fr. Michael Ezenwammadu, CSSp, [michaelenzenwammandu@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:michaelenzenwammandu@rcaos.org.uk)

□ **CURATE:** Fr Bonaventure Ssebyanzi CSSp, [bonaventuressebyanzi@rcaos.org.uk](mailto: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

### Solidarity with the Poor

Today's Gospel teaching from the two parables draws our attention to humility and solidarity with the poor and the most abandoned members of our society. On the surface, the parable of a wedding feast (Lk 14:7-11) seems to present table etiquette in choosing seats at a party. However, seen from the eyes of the early church whose assembly was the feast of the Eucharist, we recognize that it is more than table etiquette. The Eucharistic feast transforms all people into brothers and sisters before God. St James wrote about how considerations at assemblies were being done for the rich but none for the poor (James 2:2-4) yet, all of them pray together saying "Our Father". Jesus is calling upon followers to abolish the rich-poor distinction among them. This is because those who exalt themselves will be humbled and those who humble themselves will be exalted (Lk 14:11). The second parable is addressed to Christians concerning the people they invite to the feast of the Lord's supper. Jesus calls for preference to the weak and poor members. Just as we shouldn't invite people with expectations of them inviting us in turn, we ought thus to invite the poor just because they are brethren.

If Jesus is calling Christians to champion solidarity with everyone, how good is the treatment of the poor and people with challenging needs in our church community? The Wednesday Warm-welcome in our parish is an initiative in this respect. Am I in any way involved in that initiative? For instance, by contribution, sharing a moment with the participants, doing the serving and others? How am I assisting the elderly, the blind, visitors, and the deaf during our liturgical celebrations? This is the meaning of the Lukan text, "invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind" (Lk 14:13).

**Fr. Bonaventure**

### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 31 AUGUST 2025 — 07 SEPTEMBER 2025

Sat 30	18.30: Roger & Mareen (10th Wedding ANN)
Sun 31	09.00: Christopher Salandha - RIP ( <i>L Salandha</i> ) 11.00: Sam and Anwulli Ndukwe (10th wedding ANN) 18.00: George Britton - RIP ( <i>FM</i> ).
Mon 01	09.30: Eric & Elizabeth Powell - RIP ( <i>FM</i> ), Private intention ( <i>Rosamma</i> )
Tues 02	09.30: Rajani Reginald 19.00: Anastasia, Cletus, Sabina & Chinedu Ezenwammadu (RIP). <b><u>ST GREGORY THE GREAT, POPE &amp; DR OF THE CHURCH - FEAST</u></b>
Wed 03	09.30: Eric Powell - RIP ( <i>M Powell</i> ) 19.00: J. Fernandes (Thanksgiving).
Thurs 04	07.00: Sick and housebound Parishioners 09.30: Dominic & Marilyn - 15th Wedd Anni
Fri 05	07.00: Holy Souls 09.30: Michael Connolly - RIP ( <i>D Kidd</i> )
Sat 06	09.00: Private Intention
Sat 06	18.30: Regina Sellammah (RIP)
Sun 07	09.00: People of the Parish 11.00: Louis Reeves - RIP ( <i>A Reeves</i> ) 18.00: Florence Elmsie - RIP ( <i>FM</i> )

**REMEMBRANCE:** Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially 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 Rebello, 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

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call to you.

**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:** God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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 3:17-18, 20, 28-29**

My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts. The greater you are, the more you must humble yourself; so you will find favour in the sight of the Lord. For great is the might of the Lord; he is glorified by the humble. The affliction of the proud has no healing, for a plant of wickedness has taken root in him. The mind of the intelligent man will ponder a parable, and an attentive ear is the wise man's desire.

**Reader: The word of the Lord.**

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps 68(67):4-5ac. 6-7b. 10-11. **R** cf. 11b

**In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.**

The upright shall rejoice at the presence of God; they shall exult with glad rejoicing.

O sing to God; make music to his name.

The LORD is his name. **R**

Father of orphans, defender of widows:  
such is God in his holy place.

**Cf. Ps 85: 3, 5**

God gives the desolate a home to dwell in;  
he leads the prisoners forth into prosperity. **R**

You poured down, O God, a generous rain;  
when your heritage languished, you restored it.  
It was there that your flock began to dwell.  
In your goodness, O God, you provided for the poor. **R**

## Second reading

**Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a**

Brothers and Sisters: You have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them.

But you have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant.

**Reader: The word of the Lord.**

**All: Thanks be to God**

## Gospel Acclamation

**Matthew 11:29ab**

**Alleluia, alleluia.** Take my yoke upon you, says the Lord, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart. **Alleluia.**

## Gospel

**Luke 14:1, 7-14**

One Sabbath, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully.

Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honour, saying to them, 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honour, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, "Give your place to this person", and then you, with shame, will take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher." Then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.'

He said also to the man who had invited him, 'When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends, or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbours, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just.'

**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 sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery, it may accomplish in power. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### Communion Antiphon

**Ps 30: 20**

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

### Prayer after Communion

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A big welcome to all our parishioners** returning back from their holiday and we wish you a very inspiring rest of the year.

**We pray for all our children and young people** returning back to school this week. May God bless, guide and protect them.

**Warm welcome group will undergo a restructuring** to become the umbrella for the parish outreach to the community, justice and peace. If you have suggestions of what they can be doing in the future, please, speak to Lance, Helen or any of the Parish clergy.

**There will be no 7am Mass on Friday, 12th of September** because the Clergy are not available in the Parish but there will be adoration, morning prayer and the 9.30am Mass. Thanks for your understanding.

**Helen Emmett is the Parish lead on inter-religious** dialogue and she will be representing the parish in the Church Together. Volunteers interested in inter-

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

**The Parish office reopens on the 5th of September. Parish clergy** will be available for any inquiry and request.

**New extraordinary Eucharistic Minister will be commissioned on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2025** in the Metropolitan Cathedral Church of St George - Southwark. Please, speak to Fr. Michael and fill in the form at the back of the Church if you are among those being prepared.

**The 2025/2026 parish Sacramental programs will start in October**, the Sacramental forms will be available from next week. Please, do share this information with those who may be interested.

**Parish Volunteer team: An electrician is needed for minor electrical works** in the Parish, please do let Fr. Michael know if you have anyone that can help for an affordable payment.

**Lambert Sports Clinic**, after almost three years of self-funding a successful *FREE Senior Exercise class*, now has to implement changes to the way the camp is run. Due to its popularity and the importance of maintaining health and safety for all attendees, sessions will now require pre-booking. More information will be shared at **next week's session**. Please also remember there is an additional free class every Tuesday at 10:10am at Archway Parish Rooms, Cambridge Road Estate, which you are welcome to attend."

## PAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Obituary: John Urquhart**, one of our parishioners recently passed away. He and his wife Aileen were heavily involved in parish life for many years. Aileen is the author of the FHC book "I believe"

**VOLUNTEERS INTERESTED IN THE MINISTRY OF PARISH BE-REAVEMENT LISTENING ARE INVITED TO REGISTER THEIR INTEREST WITH ANY OF THE PARISH CLERGY.**

**New Rota for Readers and Eucharistic Minister** is available in the sacristy and website. Please, check and update.

**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](mailto:tolworthsg1@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



# 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:tolworthgacl@rcaos.org.uk) or call **07851 070036**.

*Thank you once again for your continued support.*

## A Student's Prayer for a New School Year:

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as I begin this new school year. Allow me to experience Your presence in the many blessings You put before me. Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting opportunities that this new school year brings. Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers. Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my studies and courage to accept new opportunities. Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me experience Your presence in my new friends. Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year! Amen

The Geography teacher was lecturing on map reading. After explaining about latitude, longitude degrees and minutes the teacher asked, "Suppose I asked you to meet me for lunch at 23 degrees, 4 minutes north latitude and 45 degrees, 15 minutes east longitude.....?" After a confused silence, a voice volunteered, "I guess you'd be eating alone."

S	Y	M	G	N	I	D	D	E	W
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MEAL  
WEDDING  
HUMBLED  
REPAY

GUESTS  
FRIEND  
LUNCH  
COURTESY

PARABLE  
EXALTS  
RELATIONS  
POOR

