



THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - A

30 November 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, michaelenzenwammandu@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

What is advent, and what should we look out for?

We are now in the season of advent. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming." In the 6th century, Christians had tied Advent to the coming of Christ, but the "coming" they had in mind was not Christ's first coming in the manger in Bethlehem, but his second coming in the clouds as the judge of the world. It was not until the Middle Ages that the Advent season was explicitly linked to Christ's first coming at Christmas.

As you look around the church, and take part in the Church's liturgies, you will have noticed some changes. We have an **advent wreath**. Also known as the Advent Crown, it symbolises the 4 weeks of advent. It is circular, representing God's infinite love, and decorated with evergreen leaves which represent the hope of eternal life. Sundays 1, 2 and 4 have violet coloured candles, rose for the third Sunday, and white for Christmas Day representing the joy of Christ's birth, and of course white also being a festive liturgical colour. The vestments the priest wears are **violet or purple**, representing sorrow and penitence, and the patience we must have during this season of preparation for the birth of Our Lord. There should be no **flowers** within the sanctuary as we have embarked on a solemn season of preparation for Christmas, and for similar reasons, there should be no additional incidental **organ music**: like the sanctuary decorations, it is stripped back to that which is needed to accompany the singing. People will ask, "why are we not singing **Christmas Carols**?" "They are playing them on the radio!" Christ's birth in the liturgy is celebrated on 25th December (24th for vigil Masses) so it would not make any sense whatsoever to be preparing for his coming on the one hand, and celebrating his arrival (early) on the other hand! Finally, you will see another change on the third Sunday as the colour purple gives way to rose and we celebrate **Gaudete Sunday** (we also have the rose coloured candle on the wreath). The word comes from the entrance antiphon for this Mass, which is 'Rejoice!' This Sunday gives us a little bit of a break about midway through the season which is otherwise of a penitential character, and signifies the nearness of the Lord's coming (a limited number of flowers are permitted to be used, and the music will also reflect this effective "light relief" half way through our Advent preparations).

Andrew Richardson

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 30 NOVEMBER - 07 DECEMBER 2025

Sat 29	18.30: Tom McGuinness - 33rd Ann, Chris McGuinness - RIP & Dec'd Mems of McGuinness Family
Sun 30	09.00: Errol Bismark - RIP & The healing & WB of Jeanette Bismark (<i>W & A Davis</i>) 11.00: Kathleen Joyce - RIP (<i>M-J Gray</i>) & Philippa Buffrey - WB 18.00: People of the Parish
Mon 01	09.30: Michael Connolly - RIP (<i>D Kidd</i>)
Tues 02	09.30: Rajani Reginald 19.00: Thanksgiving (<i>Suresh</i>) <u>St Francis Xavier, Priest - MEMORIAL</u>
Wed 03	09.30: Edward Howe - RIP (<i>S Howe</i>) 19.00: Florande Stroud & Dec'd Family (<i>FM</i>)
Thurs 04	07.00: Priscilla Somcio Subade - RIP & WB of Subade & Somcio Families 09.30: Private Intention (<i>M Sebastian</i>)
Fri 05	07.00: John & Margaret Gowers - RIP (<i>FM</i>) 09.30: Linford Fuller - RIP (<i>L Lewis</i>)
Sat 06	09.00: Alan Wright - RIP
Sat 06	18.30: Marie Fahy - BD & WB
Sun 07	09.00: Adrian Noronha - 20th Birthday 11.00: Mary Joyce (<i>M - J Gray</i>) 18.00: People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially Keith Merrington & Ravenna Ahmed, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. May their souls rest in peace. Amen

THE SICK: Vanessa Andrew
Deacon Al Callan, Martin Dray, Thomas Haley, Frances Cox, George Trutwein, 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, Ralph Smallwood, Elizabeth Jones, Nivetheni Robert, Gerry Hague, Mark Draper, Tim Ryan, Adam Martin, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Mavis Fisher, Andy Moolman, Qiaochen Shi, Ida Rebello, Jisha Nelson, Vinitha Sherin, Lionel Holland, Peter & Phil Tull, Julie Brian, June Munk, Liam Cawley & 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:

Cf. Ps 24: 1-3

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

Advent Prayer (Together let us Say)

Dear Jesus, you are the hope in our messy world. This Advent, help us slow down, listen to your voice, and focus on what's really important. We place our hope in you as we prepare our hearts to celebrate your birth on Christmas. Amen."

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: Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, and many peoples shall come, and say: 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Sion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 122(121):1-2. 3-4a. 8-9. R cf. 1

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the LORD.

I rejoiced when they said to me,
'Let us go to the house of the LORD.'
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R**

Jerusalem is built as a city
bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD. **R**

For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, 'Peace upon you.'
For the sake of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will seek good things for you. **R**

Second reading

Romans 13:11-14a

Brothers and sisters: You know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than

when we first believed. The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armour of light. Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarrelling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Psalm 85(84):8

Alleluia, alleluia. Show us, O LORD, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 24:37-44

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

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

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Communion Antiphon

Ps 84: 13

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Prayer after Communion: May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated profit us, we pray, for even now, as we

walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

NEW AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE NINE DAYS NOVENA TO THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION started on Friday, 28th of November. The Novena will give you the opportunity to ask for our Mother's intercession.

MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS WILL BE ON THE 14TH OF DECEMBER AT THE 11AM MASS. This is to thank all our volunteers for the wonderful work they do for us. There will be a small celebration after the Mass in the hall.

MASS FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK WILL BE ON THE 21ST OF DECEMBER AT THE 11AM MASS. Please bring your elderly and sick parishioners to receive anointing. Anyone also who wishes can receive anointing.

2ND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND: For the PDF

2ND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND: For Christmas Flowers

THE PARISH FEAST DAY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY will be celebrated on **Sunday, 7th of December** at the 11am Mass and with a get together in the hall after the Mass. **Everyone is invited to bring food and drinks** to be shared in gratitude to the favours of our Blessed Mother Mary. Please also wear white or blue clothes for the Mass. Share these details with friends and families and invite them to come.

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE 9AM TEA AND COFFEE GROUP for donating £210 to the Parish Development fund. May God bless them abundantly.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO WARM WELCOME GROUP: who have donated half of the total cost of the hot water urn for the Old Chapel
THANK YOU TO ALLISON DAVIS: for the donation of a laptop to the volunteers of the Finance Team.

THE PARISH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS WITH EXPERIENCES IN FUNDRAISING AND INSURANCE. Please, speak to any of the parish clergy or send an email to the parish office.

COLLECTION OF PHOTOS AND ORDERS OF SERVICE: Please kindly collect the photos, orders of service, and other items of your departed loved ones that were placed on the November Memorial Altar. These can be collected from the RDJ Room from Monday 1st December except if you want us to keep it for next year. Thank you.

EVERGREEN FOLIAGE FOR CHRISTMAS - If you have evergreen shrubs or bushes in your garden and can spare a few branches? Please bring to the Church, RDJ room on **(20th & 21st December)**. Our lovely flower arrangers are collecting green foliage for the Christmas displays. Thank you.

FR JOSEPH EDEM - INDUCTION: You are warmly invited to Fr Joseph's Induction on **Friday, 5th December at 7:00pm**. He has recently become the Parish Priest of **St Anthony of Padua, 2 Gennoa Road, London SE20 8ES**. Fr Joseph would greatly appreciate the presence of his friends from Our Lady Immaculate at this special occasion.

4TH TOLWORTH (OUR LADY'S OWN) AIR SCOUT GROUP: The Parish scout group are saying farewell to Mrs Pat Askey our Group Scout Leader (GSL). Pat has led the group for many years and has been instrumental in making it the large and thriving organisation it is today. Currently, there are around 70 young people in Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. So, it is goodbye and a huge thank you to Pat and it is hello to our new Lead Volunteer - Aiden Neligan

DONATIONS OF CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AND TREES are needed, please. If you have any Christmas trees or decorations that you can spare, we would be very grateful to receive them. Your donations will help us to decorate the Narthex, Old Chapel, RDG room for altar servers and the Presbytery. Thank you for your generosity.

OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS TREE DONATIONS: We are collecting donations towards the outdoor Christmas tree this year. If you would like to contribute, please take an envelope and place it either in the weekly collection or through the Presbytery letterbox. Thank you for your generosity.

CHRISTMAS PRISONERS' GIFT BAGS - We are still collecting gifts for the parish gift bags, which will once again be distributed on Christmas Eve to the prisoners in Wandsworth Prison. This is one of the ways we hope to share the love of Christmas with those in need and to support Fr Michael's ministry in the prison. Thank you for your generosity.

NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT: THE SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS ON SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER.

NO FLOWERS IN ADVENT: The season of Advent begins on Sunday, 30th November. We kindly ask that **no** flowers be brought to the Lady Chapel or placed anywhere in the church during this time, in keeping with the somber and quasi-penitential character of Advent and to allow for the preparation of the Crib. Thank you for your understanding.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE: Are invited to discover or re-discover the Bible as the Word of God and our history as Christians. Meetings can be by Zoom or in person. Once details of applicants are known, we hope to be able to form appropriate age groups. Please fill in the form at the back of the church or email: helen.music17@gmail.com

FR. MICHAEL WILL BE AWAY THROUGH OUT THE MONTH OF JANUARY FOR HIS ANNUAL LEAVE - if you have anything that you will like to discuss with him, please, do it as soon as possible in the month of December.

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS - From Friday 19th December until Monday 5th January 2026.

OBITUARIES

KEITH MERRINGTON Kindly pray for Keith Merrington & family. Keith sadly passed away on Tuesday, 4th November. **Funeral:** At OLI on Tuesday, 2nd December at 12pm

Advent Activities

1. Morning Prayer of the Church: 9am, Monday-Friday. Please join us to pray the psalms & intercessions daily.

2. OLI Christingle Service: Wednesday, 17th December at 5pm in the Church. This Service is a special Church Service that is held for children during Advent and celebrates Christ, who is the Light of the World. Children (and adults) are invited to bring a Christingle to the Service. Instructions on how to make a Christingle can be found on the Parish website <http://www.olionline.co.uk>. A candle will be provided when you arrive at the Service

3. Reconciliation Service: Thursday, 18th December at 7pm. The celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of the important spiritual preparations that we can and should make during Advent. Visiting priests will be available to minister the Sacrament of Reconciliation

4. MASS FOR THE SICK & ELDERLY: We warmly invite all our sick and elderly parishioners to a special Mass on **Sunday 21st December at 11am**. The Anointing of the Sick will be offered during the celebration.

5. Parish Service of Lessons & Carols: The parish service of Lessons and Carols is on Sunday, **21st December at 3.30pm**. Please do come along to this. We have put together a special enlarged choir for this traditional service, which consists of readings from Sacred Scripture and lots of traditional Christmas music. It will be a very good event to celebrate the arrival of Christmas. There will be mince pie and mulled wine in the hall after the carol service

6. Reconciliation During All Masses: Sunday, 21st December

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

CHRISTMAS CARDS & REPOSITORY NEWS: The repository is open every Sunday after the 9am Mass to sell Christmas cards, Mass cards and other gift items. Please consider supporting your parish by stocking from the repository.

RED MISSIO BOXES: Please bring the contents of your Red *Missio* Boxes to the church during the month of November, so that the money can be counted and sent to *Missio*, where it is very much needed. Any queries, please contact Mary C Taylor Tel: 07985 659266 Many thanks for your continuing generosity.

SITUATION VACANT - PARISH CARETAKER: A full time Parish Caretaker is required for Sacred Heart Parish, Wimbledon from 1st January 2026, to manage the extensive site which includes the Church, halls, and Presbytery. Salary £29,427.00 for a 35 hour week. For a Job Description, Person Specification, and Application Form please contact Thelma D'Costa at wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk. Closing date: 10th December 2025.

NOVENA PRAYER FOR

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY

O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, did prepare a worthy dwelling place for Your Son, we beseech You that, as by the foreseen death of this, Your Son, You did preserve her from all stain, so too You would permit us, purified through her intercession, to come unto You. O Immaculate Virgin, Mother of God, from the sublime heights of your dignity, turn your merciful eyes upon me while I, full of confidence in your bounty and keeping in mind your Immaculate Conception and fully conscious of your power, beg for your intercession to your Divine Son to grant the favours I earnestly seek in this novena (*State your personal intention here.*)

O Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Mother of Christ, you had influence with your Divine Son while upon this earth; you have the same influence now in Heaven. Intercede for us to your Son for the granting of our petitions. *Amen. Hail Mary...*

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £408.50	Non-Gift-aid: £805.15
Total: £1, 213.65	
2nd Collection: £786.59	

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 tolworthgac1@rcaos.org.uk or call

OLI PARISH COMMUNITY SPACE NOW LIVE

Want to connect with any parish group?

Our new *OLI Parish Community* on WhatsApp is now live. Speak to your group admin if you'd like to join.

What is it? A simple umbrella space that brings parish WhatsApp groups together. Each group stays independent with its own admins and settings.

What's the purpose? Helping people find and connect to parish groups more easily.

Already connected: Bible Study, Youth Mass, 9am Tea & Coffee, Warm Welcome, Sing to the Elderly, YD Planning Team.

Groups that can join next: Catechists, Readers, Choir, Stewards, Bereavement, Finance, Cleaning, Lenten Project groups (African-Caribbean, South Indian, Sri Lankan, Filipino), Extraordinary Ministry, and other parish ministries.

Will it create more chat? No. Parishioners only receive messages from the groups they choose to join. No one is added automatically. Group admins who wish to include their group can contact the parish office for the link.



OLI Parish Tolworth
Community
Community · 7 groups

The smartest advice on raising children is to enjoy them while they are still on your side. **The best way** to keep kids at home is to give them a loving atmosphere -- and hide the keys to the car! **The joy of motherhood** is what a mother experiences when all the children are finally in bed. **Any child** will tell you that the sole purpose of a middle name is so they can tell when they are really in trouble. **There are three ways to get something done:** Do it yourself, hire someone to do it, or forbid your children to do it. **Adolescence is the age when** children try to bring up their parents and stop asking questions because they know all the answers. **Cleaning your house while** your kids are at home is like trying to shovel the driveway during a snowstorm.

Send Fr. Michael an email if you think any of these is true.

S	A	T	R	U	B	U	G	R	L
D	H	D	I	L	U	R	N	M	A
L	D	U	O	N	R	S	I	E	R
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I	I	N	T	B	L	E	A	A	T
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FLOOD
WIVES
FIELDS
AWAKE

EATING
HUSBANDS
WOMEN
BURGLAR

DRINKING
ARK
MILLSTONE
READY

