



4TH SUNDAY IN LENT - A (LAETARE SUNDAY)

15 March 2026

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



Our Lady Immaculate RC Church, Tolworth

Our sufferings are never in vain!

The story of the "man born blind" proclaims that God gives meaning to human suffering. Human suffering can feel meaningless. We can feel crushed and abandoned in our suffering and this may lead us to ask, why would God, who is all loving, powerful and all knowing, allow human suffering? It may be difficult to find an answer to this. However, Jesus teaches us that every suffering leads to God's glory when we unite our suffering with him. Our sufferings are no longer in vain because they unite us to God. There are really two miracles in this story. The first miracle is the blind man receiving his sight. The second one is the blind man seeing Jesus. This second miracle is the greatest of all miracles. Our ability to see God in everything, good and bad. God stands with us in everything that we go through. When we cry, God cries with us, and when we celebrate, he celebrates with us. Hence, in God's Kingdom there is no such thing as "useless suffering." Suffering has meaning and purpose if you offer it to God, for love allows nothing of us to be wasted. Every trial, breakthrough and lesson, through God, work out for our good. They also reveal God's glory. Every challenge through grace, brings out the best and beautiful in us. Even when we fail, God redeems our mistakes and uses them to teach dependence on Him, rather than on material being. When we understand that nothing is in vain under God's love, we can face anything with confidence. We know that whatever comes our way, God will use it for our good. On a scrap of paper beside a dead child at the Ravensbruck concentration camp, where 92,000 women and children were killed, this extraordinary prayer of trust and love was found: *O Lord, remember not only the men and women of goodwill but also those of evil will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted upon us; remember the fruits we have borne thanks to this suffering – our comradeship, our loyalty, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart which has grown out of all this; and when they come to the judgement, let all the fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness. Amen.*

Fr. Michael

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 15 - 22 MARCH 2026

- Sat 14** 18.30: Mary Langton & Mary Campbell - RIP (*M Campbell*)
- Sun 15** 09.00: Thanksgiving (*P Fazal*).
11.00: Mary Brickwood - RIP (*K Jankowski*)
18.00: Peggy Radford - RIP (*W Teece*)
- Mon 16** 09.30: Augustine - 21st Birthday - Thanksgiving (*Mary & Suresh*)
ST PATRICK, BISHOP, MISSIONARY - FEAST
- Tues 17** 09.30: Dan & Rosa McGowan (*M Powell*)
19.00: Ann Bastiamillai - RIP
- Wed 18** 09.30: Winnie Harvey - RIP (*G Harvey*)
19.00: Maureen Stephens (*M Tett*)
ST JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY - SOLEMNITY
- Thurs 19** 07.00: Paul Teece RIP, 7th Ann
09.30: Jude Shylendra Benedict - RIP (*B & L Louis*)
- Fri 20** 07.00: Antony & Patricia Moore - RIP (*FM*)
09.30: People of the parish.
- Sat 21** 09.00: Ratneraya Selveraja - WB & Recovery (*B & L Louis*)
- Sat 21** 18.30: Gladys Millard - RIP (*S. Howe*)
- Sun 22** 09.00: Margaret Grogan - RIP (*P Grogan*)
11.00: Flordeliza Subade RIP (*Jo*)
18.00: People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE: Please remember in your prayers all who have recently died especially 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, Jisha Nelson, Vinitha Sherin, Lionel Holland, Peter & Phil Tull, Julie Brian & 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:

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

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 through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. 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

1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a

In those days: The LORD said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the LORD's anointed is before him.' But the LORD said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The LORD has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. **R**

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. **R**

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **R**

Second reading

Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Refrain (Sung) Praise to you, O Christ our Saviour, Word of the Father, calling us to life; Son of God who leads us to freedom: glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. John 8:12

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

Gospel

John 9:1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. He spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him.

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 We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion: O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

LENT 2026

Stations of the Cross: Fridays through Lent after 9.30am Mass (*English*) 6pm (*Syro Malabar Community*)

EASTER 2026

- 1. PALM SUNDAY (29th MARCH)**
6.30pm Sat & 6pm Sun Blessings of Palms.
Procession to the Church from the Hall at 9am and 11am Masses
- 2. MONDAY (30TH MARCH)**
7pm – Penitential Service with Individual Confessions
- 3. MAUNDY THURSDAY (2nd 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 (3rd 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 (4th April)**
8.00pm Easter Vigil in the Holy Night & Sacraments of Initiation
- 6. EASTER SUNDAY (5th April)**
Masses at 9am; 11am; and 6pm

NEW AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY MOTHERING SUNDAY! We pray for mothers and those that play the role of a mother in people's lives. They hold a special place in all our hearts and we are grateful for all their sacrifices for their children and for others. May God bless you all.

MORNING MASS ON 1ST APRIL will be at 9am followed by Morning Prayer (Lauds).

SERVICE LEAFLETS FOR HOLY WEEK ARE AT THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. Please take some leaflets and invite your neighbours to our Easter celebration.

THANKS SO MUCH TO THE EVANGELISATION TEAM: For explaining **THE GLORIA** to us. **The Opening Prayer is next week**

THE PARISH HAS ESTABLISHED THE SOCIAL MEDIA COMMISSION. They will be our lead in developing the benefits of the social media for evangelisation. Social media is not just a tool, but a

new culture and space where people live, work, and seek meaning, thereby requiring a proactive missionary presence from us. Please if you will like to belong to this commission, speak to Joe Kibrango or Fr. Michael.

Fr. Michael & Fr. Bonaventure have done the sponsored walk. Please they need you to sponsor them for the Lenten project.

SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEK for Flowers for Easter.

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE: will be on Monday, 30th March at 7pm. Confession is every Saturday immediately after the 9.00am Mass and 5.30-6.00pm before the Saturday evening Mass. A regular confession is very important for our spiritual growth and helps us deepen our relationship with God and others. know so that we can visit them.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S RENEWAL RETREAT - Saturday, 21st of March at 11.45am - 12.45pm, 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.

DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK 12TH-19TH MARCH Dementia Prayer Week invites us to pause, pray, and stand in solidarity with those living with dementia, their families, and all who care for them. It highlights the dignity of every person, reminding us that each life remains precious and loved by God, even when memory fades.

EASYFUNDRAISING: Did you know that all your online shopping can raise free donations for Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Church, Tolworth? Sign up to #easyfundraising and weekly food shops, family days out, general online shopping, and more will turn into much-needed donations and support for our cause. Over 8,000 big retailers are ready to donate for free. Please sign up today: <https://join.easyfundraising.org.uk/our-lady-immaculate-catholic-church/cqk3u5/c2s/iM39pGPv/CE956/facebook/>

PAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIBLE STUDY GROUP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Young People between 13 and 18 are invited to discover more about the Bible. Sessions will be **by Zoom** every other Friday at 6pm. You can put your name down on the form at the back of the church or send an email: tolworthple@rcaos.org.uk

HOLY WEEK - SERVERS NEEDED Servers are needed for all our Holy Week Services i.e. Maundy Thursday 2 April @ both 5.00 and 8.00 pm, Good Friday 3 April @ 3.00 pm and Holy Saturday 4 April @ 8.00pm. If you can help at any of these Masses, please add your name to the appropriate sign-up sheet in the RDJ Room. We need a lot of people to ensure these Masses are successful, so please help if you can. Jobs will be allocated in advance but you will need to arrive early for each of these services. Thank you in advance for your assistance. Jacques Lambert, Parish Master of Ceremonies.

CHURCH CLEANING VOLUNTEERS Here is an opportunity to volunteer to help keep the church beautiful and clean! Please post an envelope with your name and contact numbers through the presbytery letterbox and you will be contacted. While the aim is to make Sunday special for everyone, there are many different tasks that need attention. Thank you.

EASTER RAFFLE TICKETS NOW ON SALE please collect a book of raffle tickets from the narthex. Payment and ticket stubs may be posted through the presbytery door. Prizes include £100, bottle of Champagne and beautiful Easter Egg hampers. The draw will take place on Easter Sunday and all proceeds will go to the Parish Development Fund. Donations of prizes to be included in the raffle will be gratefully accepted. Thanks so much to Wendy in the Parish office who donated many of the prizes. Thank you.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT 2026

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

Table-Top Sale

Saturday 21 March – after the 6:30pm Mass
Sunday 22 March – after the 9am and 11am Masses
 Our next Lenten Project event is the Table-Top Sale. Come along and pick up some bargains while supporting the project. Expected items include kitchenware, toys, plants, bric-a-brac and homemade blackberry jam. All welcome!

Sponsored Walk - Please donate

Our JustGiving page remains open, and we are now just over 50% of our fundraising target. Thank you to everyone who has already supported the walk. Use the QR code below to donate:



50.22 **10:02:42**
Distance (km) Duration

March Dates for Your Diary:

- **Fri 20 Mar** – Toy Donations from OLI Families
- **Fri 20 Mar** – Noah's Ark Pre-School LP Fundraising
- **Sat 21 & Sun 22 Mar** – Table-Top Sale
- **Wed 25 – Thurs 26 Mar** – OLI School LP Events



NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

If you have household DIY jobs, **John** would be happy to help
 Call **07561 493810** to discuss your needs.
 All proceeds go towards the Parish Lenten Project.

Prayer for peace in the Middle East: God of peace, bearer of hope, we seek your help for the peoples of the Middle East. Quiet the clamour of war and guide us towards peace. Where there is hatred and division sow seeds of peace. Where there is destruction help us to rebuild. Where children are crying bring an end to tears. Shelter your peoples and protect them. Guide them and keep them from harm. Show us how to break down the barriers of history and fear. Amen.

Prayer for Those with Dementia: Pour your grace, O loving God, upon all suffering with dementia. It is frustrating not to find a word; it is fearful to lose one's memories. Bless them with patience, a loving and supporting family, and days of hope and accomplishment. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

A politician visited a remote rural village and asked the inhabitants what the government could do for them. "We have two big needs," said the village headman. "First, we have a hospital but no doctor." The politician whipped out his cellphone, spoke for a while, and then said, "I have it sorted out. A doctor will arrive here tomorrow. What is your other need?" "We have no cellphone reception at all in our village."

LAST WEEKEND

Gift-aid: £300.27
Non-Gift-aid: £843.12 **Total:** £1,143.39
2nd Collection: CAFOD £325.34

TOTAL COLLECTION FOR FEBRUARY 2026

Cash / cheques – £4,532.71
 1. Gift-Aided – £1,922.96
 2. Non-G/A – £2,609.75
 B. Standing Orders / Bank Transfers – £4,006.50
 1. Gift-Aided – £3,054.00
 2. Non-G/A – £952.50
 C. Contactless Machine – £1,014.00
Total = £9553.21 (Last month: £9848.21)

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 tolworthgae1@rcaos.org.uk or call **07851 070036**.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Prayers for motherhood: Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of motherhood and all those who nurture life in our community. We thank you for the gift of life. Lord God, we present all before You. Give them grace and favour as they help raise new life and nurture others. Give them wisdom, knowledge and understanding. Lead them by your Holy Spirit and fill them with love. Amen.

S	R	E	N	N	I	S	L	E	T
S	E	D	E	V	O	U	T	H	S
P	E	I	R	T	R	O	H	R	T
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T	A	S	P	I	A	A	S	T	R
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E	V	E	I	L	E	B	I	E	S
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BLIND	SPAT	PASTE
SPITTLE	SIGHT	RESTORED
PROPHET	PARENTS	DISCIPLES
SINNERS	DEVOUT	BELIEVE

