



5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER- A

3rd May, 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, michaelenzenwammadu@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

Diversity in the Community of Believers

The first chapters of the Acts of the Apostles give us an image of a beautiful community that always prayed together, celebrated the Eucharist together, and even owned goods in common (Acts 4:32-35). However, today's first reading helps us to know their limitations in that communal life. The community was made up of Hebrews and Hellenists. The differences in background, communication, numbers, fame and others led the community into some social conflicts. For instance, the Hellenists complained at how their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. As the situation was becoming scandalous, the apostles requested the people to choose seven helpers to handle the distribution of goods to those in need. This was to help the apostles to concentrate more on the work of the gospel (Acts 6:1-7). The issues of complaints, envy, jealousy, misunderstandings, competition and others have always been part of the church which is made up of human beings. They remind us of our inclination to sin and a daily need for conversion. Then, the apostles' delegation of some work to Stephen and his companions teaches us to trust other people and not keep all responsibility to ourselves. We also note that they involved the community members in choosing the seven helpers. In the church, we have various groups or movements through which we practically live our faith particularly through the different roles and responsibilities of service. What is your experience of leadership in these different church groups? For the times I have served as a leader, how have I involved others and how have I handled issues of peoples' dissatisfaction of my service delivery? To ensure continuity of his ministry, Jesus chose and groomed the twelve apostles. The apostles also started with these seven helpers to train more leaders for the continuity of their ministry. What plan have I for the future of my work and life in the church? **Fr. Bonaventure, CSSp.**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 25TH APRIL - 3RD MAY 2026

Sat 02	18.30: Jovita Daroy – Thanksgiving & Wellbeing.
Sun 03	09.00: Delwyn Noronha – 14th Birthday ANN 11.00: Pauline Woods - RIP, Ron Malone (Peace and wellbeing). 18.00: People of the Parish
Mon 04	09.30: Henry D’Cruz - RIP
Tues 05	09.30: Peggy Radford – RIP (<i>W Teece</i>), Ifeanyi Idey (50th Birthday) 19.00: Blessing on all Bishops & Priests (<i>Mary & Ronika family</i>)
Wed 06	09.30: Marku D’Cruz – RIP & Patrick Mooney – RIP (<i>A Mcdonnell</i>) 19.00: Blessings on Fr. Tony (<i>Lucy</i>).
Thurs 07	07.00: Severine Rodrigues – RIP, 5 th ANN 09:30: Nicholas Reginald – RIP (<i>M Sebastianl</i>)
Fri 08	07.00: Dr. Kopec - Ints 09:30: Holy Souls (<i>Jovita</i>)
Sat 09	09:00: Xavier Rodrigues
Sat 09	18.00: Nathan Louis – RIP (<i>Louis Family</i>)
Sun 10	09.00: James O’Brien – RIP (<i>P Buchanan</i>) 11.00: Lourdes De Souza – RIP (<i>C Stevens</i>) 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, George Trutwein, Rita Reginald, Ian Beard, Tony Cook, Kathleen McGuinness, Nan Healy, Samar Staussi, Joan Frost, Hazel D’Aguiar, Allan Cook, Wendy Cook, Kathleen O’Connell, Ralph Smallwood, Elizabeth Jones, Nivetheni Robert, Gerry Hague, Mark Draper, Tim Ryan, Maureen Stephens, Maureen Sellwood, Mavis Fisher, Lionel Holland, Peter & Phil Tull, Julie Briandt, Sue Jones, John Brennan, Martin Guy, Ron Malone, Alice Rooney & Susan Rooney.

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 97: 1-2

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

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: Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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

Acts 6:1-7

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm: Responsorial Psalm

Ps 33(32):1-2. 4-5. 18-19. **R22**

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting from the upright. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

The word of the Lord is upright, and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth. **R**

Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their soul from death, to keep them alive in famine. **R**

Second Reading

1 Peter 2:4-9

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone', and 'A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:6

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, and the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me. Alleluia.

Gospel

John 14:1-12

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.' Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Fa-

ther. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. 'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'

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 : O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon Cf. Jn 15: 1, 5

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion: Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

NEW AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulation to Rev. Fr. Tony Simon Kocherry from Tolworth, a member of St John Vianney Syro-Malabar Parish in Cheam, who was raised to the sacred priesthood this weekend. May God bless him and his ministry. He will later celebrate Holy Mass with our Parish during the summer.

Please, we need donations of food, drink, money and services for the Pentecost. Please, talk to Fr. Michael if you will like to support.

Pentecost Fundraising letter: To support our Pentecost and Parish day celebration, we are sending fundraising letters to local businesses in Tolworth, please see Fr. Michael and take a letter, if you know of any local business that can support our Pentecost and Parish day celebration.

Pentecost 2026: Fr Michael & Fr Bonaventure warmly invite you to a special Pentecost Mass and parish day, 11am on Sunday 24th May 2026. The Mass will be celebrated in different languages to represent our diverse Parish community. The Church will be decorated with flags and parishioners are asked to bring their own flags to the event. In addition, parishioners, including the Priests, are invited to dress in their cultural attire. Led by the scouts, the children will process into Church at the beginning of Mass, carrying flags. Following on from the Mass, there will be a Parish Day. All parishioners, family & friends are invited. There will be a range of food and drink, balloons and, of course, a celebration cake. There will also be games for the children including a bouncy cart and an ice cream kiosk!

Pentecost Mass rehearsal for all those leading in the reading, singing and procession will be on Saturday, 16th of May, 7.30pm, immediately after the Saturday evening Mass.

Pentecost Novena 2026: The traditional Novena to the Holy Spirit typically begins on the Friday after Ascension Thursday and lasts for nine days until the Vigil of Pentecost, which is the Saturday before Pentecost Sunday. In 2026, this would mean the novena would start on May 15th and end on 27th of May. It is oldest novena of the Catholic Church, copies of the Novena will be available for collection in the Narthex.

The Month of May is a month dedicated to our Blessed Mother Mary. Remember to say your Rosary.

Rosary For Life. Archbishop John Wilson is calling on all of us to join him in praying the Rosary for Life this May (Month of Mary). Together, we will pray through the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries, each one offered for the most vulnerable facing growing threats to life: unborn children at risk of abortion, victims of war and persecution, people with disabilities, and the elderly and vulnerable. For video, audio and written versions of the Rosary for Life, visit rcaos.org.uk/rosaryforlife.

There will be a Rosary Procession with the Statue of Our Blessed Mother Mary after the 11am Mass, on Sunday, 10th of May.

Copies of the Archbishop letter on safeguarding is at the Narthex. Please, do pick a copy.

This Sunday is Safeguarding Sunday. In line with today's Gospel, we are called to protect, called to care, called to act. Safeguarding is not the work of a few; it is a shared responsibility. You can find out more about Safeguarding Sunday at rcaos.org.uk/safeguardingsunday

2 more volunteers needed to complete the Rota for church cleaning. You and a friend need to be prepared to work together to clean the church. This work should take no more than 2 hours of your time in a week, approximately 7 times in a year. Please consider seriously if you might perform this task for the parish. Just put your name and contact details in an envelope and post through the Presbytery door.

Our Lady of the Rosary, Blackfen, Deanery of Bexley, are organising a National Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Evangelisation to be held on Saturday 6th June, 9:30am – 4pm. This conference aims to provide a broad and accessible understanding of AI. Its benefits, its challenges, and its growing role in daily life.

Obituary: We announce the passing of our faithful parishioner, Lourdes DeSouza. Her Funeral will be on Thursday, 14th of May at 12 noon. May her souls rest in peace. Please pray for her family.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT 2026

Filipino Charity Night – 9 May

Our next cultural event is the **Filipino Charity Night**. Join us for another evening of great food, entertainment and community. Tickets are on sale after Mass or via QR code



Jumble Sale – 16 May

Now is the perfect time for a spring clean! Please set aside good-quality items for donation and drop-off them at the Presbytery over the next week to support our upcoming Jumble Sale.

Lenten Project Boxes – Collection This Weekend

Lenten Project boxes will be collected this weekend and next. Please remember to bring your box and hand it to the stewards at the beginning or end of Mass.

Maundy Thursday Collection – Thank You

Thank you for your generosity at the Maundy Thursday collection.

The total amount is being confirmed, but we greatly appreciate the strong support from across the parish.

South Indian Cultural Night – A Great Success

An incredible £2,500 raised (final figure tbc) from a vibrant and well-attended evening. Thank you to everyone who came along, and to the Syro Malabar Community for delivering such a memorable event.

50km Sponsored Walk – Final Push

We are now within reach of our target. Thank you for the fantastic support so far. Please help us get to 100% via the QR code.



Rose's Artwork – Still Going Strong

Rose (Year 5) continues to raise funds through her artwork. Watch her story and support via QR code



At a dinner party, the speaker who was the guest of honour, was about to deliver his speech when his wife sitting at the other end of the table, sent him a piece of paper with the word "KISS" scribbled on it. A guest seated next to the speaker said, "Your wife has sent you a KISS before you begin your speech. She must love you very much." Speaker replied, "You don't know my wife. The letters stand for "Keep It Short, Stupid."

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND: TO BE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.

Gift-aid:

Non-Gift-aid:

Total:

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.

A Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday: Loving Father God, we come to you in the knowledge that you hold all your children in unconditional love. We lift to you those who are vulnerable and in need of protection. Give them your peace, comfort and safety we pray. We cry to you for those who are hurting and whose trust has been broken. Give them your healing, restoration and justice we pray. We bring to you those who seek to forgive others who have hurt them. Give them your strength, courage and hope we pray. For those who have caused your children harm, lead them to seek your forgiveness and to enter into true repentance. Thank you for all who give their time, knowledge, and skills to make our communities safe and secure. Give them your wisdom and guidance we pray. For ourselves, we ask you to give us your heart for the vulnerable, the oppressed, the disadvantaged and the forgotten. Help us to see them as you see them; to value them as you value them; and to nurture and protect them as they deserve. Help each one of us play our part in creating safer places for all your people. In your name we pray, Amen.

T	H	F	E	C	A	L	P	E	R
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HEARTS
TROUBLED
TRUST
ROOMS
HOUSE
TRUTH
BELIEVE
FATHER
LIVING
EVIDENCE
REASON
PERFORM