



17TH SUNDAY YEAR A

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, michaelenzenwamadu@rcaos.org.uk
□ **CURATE:** Fr Bonaventure Ssebyanzi CSSp, bonaventuressebyanzi@rcaos.org.uk □ **SECRETARY:** Mrs Denise Kidd

Our Lady Immaculate RC Church, Tolworth

We are the pearl of God.

This parable reminds us that we are the pearl of God. Our value is immeasurable and incomparable before God. In the Bible, pearl meant more than jewelry, in fact, the Greek translation for pearl in the Bible is “Polytimous”, which means something that is extremely precious and beyond price. However, in this parable, the seeker of this pearl is not us but God. Jesus is the merchant, a man whose entire life revolves around finding things of value and goodness in us. He is a pearl freak and the expert who always find things of great value about our life. To other people, the pearl is nothing but to God, we are everything. Our goodness and value that are not obvious to other people are always noticed by God. Jesus does not just admire the pearl, take a selfie with it and walk away. No! He sacrificed his life in order to have us. This is costly and radical for love. Notice also that Jesus did not begrudgingly surrender but he surrendered with great joy and not out of duty. Joy is an important part of this story. God is not upset about giving up his life for us, rather he is joyful that we are his pearls. Finally, it is important to know why Jesus choose pearl and not diamond or gold. The answer is that the pearl is the only jewel which is the product of living matter and is the response of an oyster to something which causes it injury. A pearl grows out of hurt when a little particle of sand or some other irritating substance gets inside the shell of the oyster. The oyster has no hands with which it can brush the irritant out, no means of defense except to transform that thing that is injuring it. This reminds us that God uses love to transform a sinful world. The pearl is the oyster’s answer to that which wounded it. Remember also that when you are going through hardship, hurt and heartache, that through God’s love, you can turn your injured life into a glowing beautiful pearl. **Fr. Michael**

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS: 25 JULY — 2 AUGUST 2026

- Sat 25** **18.30:** Catherine Yap (wellbeing).
- Sun 26** **09.00:** Mr Valerian Miranda, Samuel Macanda (Bday thanks giving) (Chany)
 11.00: Canon Alan McLean – RIP (*J Lambert*)
 18.00: People of the Parish
- Mon 27** **09.30:** Eilish Johnson – WB (*L Jones*)
- Tues 28** **09.30:** Samuel Baird – WB (*K Goggin*)
 19.00: Gallagher Family - Ints
- Wed 29** **09.30:** Peter O’Sullivan (*J Gara*)
 19.00: Roy & Bindu – T/G for 25th Wedding Anniversary
- Thurs 30** **09.30:** Rosary Anthony – RIP (*L Rosary*)
- Fri 31** **St. Ignatius Loyola**
 09.30: Flanagan Family - Ints
- Sat 01** **St Alphonsus Ligouri.**
 09.00: Alice Smyth - RIP
- Sat 01** **18.30:** Private Intentions - (*K Goggin*)
- Sun 02** **09.00:** Rajani Reginald
 11.00: Dennis Gallagher - RIP
 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, John Keane, Alice Rooney & Susan Rooney.

EUCCHARISTIC EXPOSITION:	MONDAY – FRIDAY: 8AM
MORNING PRAYER (LAUDS):	MONDAY – FRIDAY: 9AM
SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:	SATURDAY: - 9.30-10am & 5.30-6.00pm
ST ANTHONY OF PADUA NOVENA:	TUESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP NOVENA:	WEDNESDAY: - After morning and evening Masses
OUR LADY OF FATIMA DEVOTION:	FIRST SATURDAY - of the month, after morning Mass
SYRO-MALABAR VIGIL	FIRST FRIDAY - of the month
YOUTH MASS	LAST SUNDAY of the month

TODAY'S READINGS

Entrance Antiphon: Cf. Ps 67: 6-7, 36

God is in his holy place, God who unites those who dwell in his house; he himself gives might and strength to his people.

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, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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 Kings 3:5-6a, 7-12

In those days: The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, 'Ask what I shall give you.' And Solomon said, 'O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?' It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, 'Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life, or riches, or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you.'

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Responsorial Psalm; Ps 119(118):57, 72. 76-77. 127-128. 129-130. R97a

O Lord, how I love your law!

You, O Lord, are my portion;

I have promised to obey your words.

The law from your mouth means more to me than large quantities of silver and gold. **R**

Let your merciful love console me by your promise to your servant.
Show me compassion, that I may live,
for your law is my delight. **R**

That is why I love your commands more than finest gold,
why I rule my life by your precepts,
and hate false ways. **R**

Your decrees are wonderful indeed;
therefore my soul obeys them.
The unfolding of your word gives light,
and understanding to the simple. **R**

Second Reading Romans 8:28-30

Brothers and Sisters: We know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Reader: The word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia. I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 13:44-46

At that time: Jesus said to the crowd: 'The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 'Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.'

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**

Bidding Prayers

Priest: Brothers and sisters, trusting in the God who grants wisdom to those who ask, let us bring our prayers before Him with faith and humility.

Reader: For the Church: That, they may be blessed with wisdom and discernment, guiding God's people in truth and love. *Lord, hear us.*

Reader: For the World: That leaders of nations may work to build societies rooted in compassion and fairness. *Lord, hear us.*

Reader: For Those in Need: That those who are burdened by poverty, illness, or loneliness may find comfort, support, and hope through the care of others and the presence of Christ in their lives. *Lord, hear us.*

Reader: We pray for all our dead and those whose anniversary occur at this time. Eternal rest give unto them O Lord and let thy perpetual light shine upon them and may they rest in peace. **Amen**

Reader: We ask our blessed Mother Mary to intercede for us as we pray. Hail Mary....

Reader: In the silence of our heart, we bring our other intentions to our loving God.

Priest: Heavenly Father, you know our needs before we speak them. Grant us the wisdom to seek your Kingdom above all things and hear these prayers we make through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the Offerings : Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon Ps 102: 2

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and never forget all his benefits.

Prayer after Communion: We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling,

may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

NEW AND SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be no 7am Mass on Thursday, 30th of July and Friday, 31st of July. However, there will be adoration at 8am, morning prayer at 9am and Mass at 9.30am. Sorry for the inconvenience.

At the beginning of August, the Church celebrates the Pardon of Assisi, or the Portiuncula indulgence. From noon on 1 August until midnight on 2 August, the faithful may obtain a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions, by making a devout visit to a parish or Franciscan church and reciting the Our Father, the Creed and pray for the Holy Father's intentions.

The second collection next weekend will be for the Parish Development Fund. Thanks for your kindness.

There will be a new monthly second collection to support our young people for the trip to the world youth day in South Korea. Thanks for your support.

Fr. Michael's email address has changed. It is now michaelezenwammadu@rcaos.org.uk instead of michaelezenwammandu@rcaos.org.uk. There is no longer the letter "n" before the letter "d". Sorry for the inconvenience.

Fr. Michael is away from the Parish from the 18th of August to the 1st of September. Please, see him as soon as you can if you have anything to sort out with him within this period.

A big welcome to Fr. David Pemba, who is in our community for a short break. Fr. David is working in Senegal. May God bless him and his mission.

FUNDRAISING FOR DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE. From Bishop Paul. One of the trustees of our Lourdes pilgrimage has been doing a sponsored walk to raise money to help disabled pilgrims to go to Lourdes. He will be in parts of Kent and SE London this week. If you would be willing to contribute, he has a fundraising page at www.justgiving.com/page/calourdes125sw

Sacred Heart Wimbledon Presbytery Cook required: A cook is required from 10:00am to 2:00pm on Mondays and Fridays to provide Lunch for the priests on those days and to prepare Lunch to be reheated on Sundays. The pay is £67 per day. Please contact Thelma in the Parish Office (wimbledon@rcaos.org.uk or 020 8946 0305) if you are interested.

Summertime 2026: 11th August – 14th August: Altar Servers Trip to Westminster Pastoral Centre, £199.

For aged 11-15. We commend this excellent residential trip for altar servers and those who regularly attend mass on the weekend. It is a few days for deepening one's catholic faith, in a great social atmosphere, including football, sports and visit to Thorpe Park. Forms in the RDJ room and in the Narthex

DONATION OF CLEAN EMPTY JAM JARS - in support of an animal charity. Jars may be left at the back of the church or handed in at the Presbytery. Thanks

Are you interested to become a Lay Spiritan Associate? Kindly pick a form at the back of the Church and we will contact you.

INFORMATION & REMINDERS

PARISH LENTEN PROJECT 2026

50km Sponsored Walk | Target Achieved

We are delighted to share that the Tolworth Trekkers appeal has now reached **100% of its fundraising target**, thanks to the extraordinary generosity of parishioners, friends and supporters. The appeal attracted nearly **140 donations**, helping to raise vital funds for this year's charities. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated, shared the appeal and encouraged the walkers along the way.

Rose's Art Raises Over £1,200 A huge congratulations to Rose, whose artwork fundraising initiative has raised an incredible **£1,212.75** for the Lenten Project charities. Rose's creativity, generosity and commitment have been an inspiration to us all. She will formally present her artwork to Fr Michael and Fr Bonaventure at the **9am Mass on Sunday 12 July**. We thank Rose and her family for their outstanding contribution to this year's appeal.

African-Caribbean Night Raises Over £5,400: The African-Caribbean Charity Night was another tremendous success, raising an impressive **£5,415.27** towards this year's Lenten Project charities. Our sincere thanks to everyone who attended, volunteered, donated prizes, purchased food and refreshments, or supported the event in any way.

Special thanks go to the 9am Tea & Coffee Group for their donation, the winners of the **1st and 3rd prize scratch cards**, William and Daksha, who generously donated their winnings back to the appeal, **Alexa and Taylor** for contributing the proceeds from their bracelet sales, and **Greenfield**, who sponsored the entire event.

Stay Connected: You can follow the Parish Lenten Project and other parish activities on Instagram at **@oliparishtolworth**. Throughout the year, we share photographs and videos from our fundraising events, together with updates from the charities we support, helping parishioners see the impact of their generosity and how their donations are making a difference to the lives of others.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

LAST WEEKEND:

Gift-aid: £398.52

Non-Gift-aid: £618.53 **Total:** £1017.05

Weekly Collections

Total Collection For June 2026

Cash / cheques – £5,766.88

1. *Gift-Aided* – £3,815.25

2. *Non-G/A* – £1,951.63

B. *Standing Orders / Bank Transfers* – £4,372.00

1. *Gift-Aided* – £4,167.00

2. *Non-G/A* – £205

C. *Contactless Machine* – £1,242.

Total = £11,380.88 (Last month £12,755.65)

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 **07851 070036**. *Thank you once again**

Prayer for Travelling Friends

Lord, as my friends travel, You know every bend and bump in the road, every sunbeam and cloud in the sky. So please make straight paths for their feet. Grant them safe and successful travel until they reach their destinations. Save them from worry and stress. Make them patient and polite along the way. In a special way, Lord, make this an Emmaus trip, that they may travel in your company and, when they reach their destination, they may know you better than when they began. We ask this through Christ our Lord, amen.

There was a preacher who fell in the ocean and he couldn't swim. When a boat came by, the captain yelled, "Do you need help, sir?" The preacher calmly said "No, God will save me." A little later, another boat came by and a fisherman asked, "Hey, do you need help?" The preacher replied again, "No God will save me." Eventually the preacher drowned & went to heaven. The preacher asked God, "Why didn't you save me?" God replied, "Fool, I sent you two boats!"

S	E	B	I	R	C	S	E	A	N
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TREASURE
MERCHANT
HAUL
ANGELS

FIELD
PEARL
FISHERMEN
FURNACE

HAPPY
DRAGNET
BASKET
SCRIBE

