St Thomas More Catholic Church

SUNDAY 12th JULY, 15TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

www.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote

PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY TO RECEIVE YOUR ELECTRONIC COPY OF THE **NEWSLETTER DIRECT INTO YOUR INBOX!**

** 100 club Membership 2020/2021**

If you would like to re-new your membership for the 100 club or interested in becoming a member, please pick up an envelope from the narthex and return to

MASS TIMES

Open for individual private prayer 10am-12pm with Daily Mass at 10:30am (Monday -Saturday)

Please note in the interim, following changes to the weekend Masses from Saturday 11th July 2020, Saturday Vigil: Mass to commence at an earlier time of 6pm. Sunday 10:00am & 12:00pm **Mass Intentions**

Sunday 12th July 2020 6:oopm (Saturday Vigil) Gerry Boyle RIP A 10am Ted Rist RIP A 12pm Sandra Padambo RIP A

Monday 13th March 2020

10:30am Freya Edwards RIP A

Friday 17th July 2020

10:30am INTS of Judy & Eric Doke

Saturday 18th 2020

10:30am Bertie Duggan RIP L/D

16th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sunday 19th July 2020

6:00pm (Saturday Vigil) Kathy O'Brien, Ted & Phyllis McGoldrick RIP A 10am INTS of Latina Coehlo 12pm Elizabeth Tharumalingan RIP A

*Please note the Church will be closed from Tuesday 14th-16th July 2020 as Fr Martin will be on annual leave.

Parish Priest: Fr Martin Plunkett

32 Field End Road.

Eastcote, Pinner, HA5 2QT

Tel: 020 8866 6581 Fax: 020 8429 2346 E-mail: eastcote@rcdow.org.uk, Parish Administrator: Liz Duignan

OFFICE OPEN: 9:30-1PM (MON-THURS ONLY)

Liz is currently working remotely from home.

Parish Sick List: Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: Paula Wazny, William O'Shea, Sean Moohan, Daisy Cunningham, Bianca Malheiros-Fauz, Kundan Singhoraya, Eileen Harrington, Sarah Dunning, Eamonn Kearney, Ruby Bastiampillai, Peggy McMahon and Delores Walsh: for Deborah Brophy, Kitty Goldie, Kathleen Dunleavy, Phyllis O'Brien, and those in our local nursing homes; and for our housebound parishioners, especially Katie Loftus. Please let us know if you wish to add or remove any names on the sick list.

Booking Mass on Events Ticketing system:

We have delayed our opening for weekend masses to commence this weekend. We have been working on a plan in order to be able to welcome parishioners back to Church in a safe and secure way. A ticketing system is now available for Parishioners to book weekend Masses only. The ticket system is located on the Parish website

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/on Events page. If you are unable to access the internet or you know of anyone that may not have access please call the Parish Office 0208 8666581 or email eastcote@rcdow.org.uk. Please see instructions on Page 3 of this newsletter on how to reserve a place online.

Volunteer Church Stewards

In order to maintain a safe and secure Covid 19 free environment in the Church, we need to ensure we have adequate steward volunteers to support the process. We require Stewarding to welcome Parishioners on entry, exit and whilst in the church. If you are healthy, well and interested in helping please contact Parish Office for further information . Email:eastcote@rcdow.org.uk or speak with Fr Martin.

Children's Liturgy-15th Sunday in Ordinary time: 51 Although the church is now open for Mass, the Children's Liturgy will continue to be on line for the time being due to restrictions that remain in place. Please follow the link below.

https://youtu.be/1_f45yHNS8s

Reader's Corner

If you have a favourite bible reading, don't forget to send an email to the Parish Office eastcote@rcdow.org.uk, with a sentence as to why you like the reading. We can share this with the parish via a video, to help keep us united at this time.



Sunday 12th July 2020, 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Dear Parishioners,

This will be the first Sunday when there will be public mass offered in our parish for four months. The Sunday obligation to attend Holy Mass has still not returned of course so there is no necessity in that regard to come. It is also a tense time as we really don't know the long term affects as a society of what we are going through. So people will be very justified in not yet seeking to return to the public practice of their faith. As a parish and a Diocese we are trying to be as vigilant as possible to ensure that we can ensure the safety of all those who come. These are unique times we are living through and we are only finding out as we go along what the implications are, week by week. So far it seems response for the Sunday masses has been quite modest so there does not appear to be a need for anyone to stay away from Sunday mass if they would like to come - there are still spaces available. If numbers remain modest we may suspend the booking system, or we may reduce the number of masses on Sunday. Of course if there are changes at the wider level in society and some kind of restrictions appear necessary again the Church will respond to these. Please follow the newsletter for updates.

What is important, whether we are practicing our faith publicly or not at this stage, is that we are still practicing it. In this week's Gospel Jesus tells the parable of the Sower going out to sow. We are given the image from nature of the need for fruitful ground needed for the abundant crop to grow. The ground that God looks for is in our heart and our receptive willingness to open up to the mysteries of our faith. God has a plan for each of our lives which is unique. No one else can do what we can do in this world. This means that God puts it into our own hands to be open to the beautiful plan he has for our lives, to discover how to fulfillingly use the gifts we have been given and to benefit the rest of humanity in our lives. Each of us has a 'personal vocation' which it should be an adventure to discover and which gives us pleasure and delight, while also helping others around us. This is the vision of Christianity. This is what Jesus came to make available again to us because it is the damaging effects of sin and evil which seek to destroy our lives in this way so that rather than living the 'Sacred Story' of our lives we end up living an 'anti-story'. This would mean living a life which isn't really our own. The gift of the life of Jesus on the Cross for us which defeats sin and evil and the gift of the Holy Spirit who brings us into a new life is what helps us to rediscover that 'Sacred Story'.

The Christian faith has always admonished believers to 'be in the world, but not of the world'. As Christians we have a duty and responsibility to contribute to the welfare of the world but at the same time to discern where the influence of the world and the messages it promotes may not be helping us. To do this we are helped greatly by cultivating our relationship with God and doing all we can to grow closer to him. The main way this has always been practised is through our personal prayer. It becomes quite important for us in this time when our contact with the parish family is reduced that we feel encouraged to spend time with God in our personal lives and become aware of his presence. Each of us is given the gift of the Holy Spirit in our Baptism and since then we can really say that the Holy Spirit lives within us, in our souls. We can therefore spend time becoming aware of the presence of God's Holy Spirit inside of us and ask for the grace to be like the 'good soil' in the parable of Jesus, so that the seed of God's love will grow ever stronger in our lives. We can also pray for our world at this time and intercede for all our brothers and sisters, especially those who most need God's help and those who are unaware of his existence.

Let us continue in faith and trust placing everything in the hands of our loving Creator.

God bless you, Fr Martin

How to book Mass

Visit our Parish Website https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/

and select

EVENTS

the on the left hand side of webpage.

Next select

Book a place

Please ensure you select 'book a place' located under the specific mass/date which you would like to attend.

Next select : Please reserve place(s), use the arrow to select the amount of places.

(Please note **select 1 place** if your are an individual/couple or **select 2** if your are a family).

Maximum 2 places per booking allowed.

Enter your name and contact details (email. Mobile/home number)

Please tick box to confirm you are free from Covid 19 related symptoms.

Finally select

BOOK PLACE

to secure booking.

Remember if you are unable to use the website to book or require help or alternatively would like to book through Parish office please do not hesitate to contact us, please email: eastcote@rcdow.org.uk or phone 0208 866 6581.
Thank You.

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS – SUNDAY MEDITATIONS

12/07 15th OT-A Matt 13:1-23

Meditate

The sower goes out to his work and does not spare the seed. He does not discriminate against the types of soil which will not produce the desired crop. The fields have been prepared by someone else. What soil are we? Has the preparation happened? Pray

God and Master of the harvest, you see my heart and consider the times at which my life is not ready to receive you. Soften the hardness of my heart; take away the stones and the thorns so that I may be the good soil where Jesus may grow.

19/07 16th OT-A Matt 13:24-43

Meditate

In all these agricultural parables the farmer appears as the main character. He has confidence that the fruit will come. We are called to learn patience from the farmer, who waits for the produce to come up. Our task is to sow the seed. God will give it growth in due season. Act

Darnel produces a fruit which can be poisonous. Take a moment to see what are the actions you are doing and words you are using and if the time has come try to stop those which are not healthy

26/07 17th OT-A Matt 13:44-52

Meditate

We spend our whole life looking for happiness. Many people spend also their resources. Jesus, who is the Kingdom of God made man, is close at hand. Once we have met him, the reaction is give up everything for Him in the knowledge that: "to give all the goods of one's house for this love would be to despise it"

Act

God calls us to put our whole trust in him. This includes with our money and possessions. This is the time in which you might risk and give up some of these for him so that we may experience his reward