# 20TH DECEMBER 2020
# +4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

the Pastor's corner

Dear Parishioners

*"Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God…"*

As we celebrate the fourth Sunday of Advent this week we hear the account of the Annunciation to the Blessed Virgin Mary of the birth of Jesus Christ. The Angel Gabriel tells Mary that it will be by the power of the Holy Spirit that she will conceive and bring forth a son who will be holy and will be called the Son of God. Gabriel waits for Mary's response to this message and Mary says "*Let it be done unto me, according to your word*." This most important of passages in the Scriptures teaches us vital and foundational truths about our Christian faith. From these words we learn that God is fulfilling the promise he made to our ancestors, that he will come to our world and to us in a unique and personal way, to help us in our lives. The person of Mary is elevated in importance to be the unique individual chosen to be the Mother of God and therefore deserves our veneration and gratitude. We also learn that God works through his Holy Spirit and when we assent and cooperate with him the fruit is Jesus Christ in our lives. God respects our freedom and waits for our response to him to share with us this most wonderful of gifts. Through Mary, God sends us a Saviour who will offer his life to free us from darkness and sin. In our Catholic tradition we remember that Mary loves and prays for us that we might be helped to know and love her Son, Jesus. In these challenging times we are more aware of our need for divine assistance. Let us pray with Mary and with the whole Church that we will receive Jesus into our lives in a renewed way this Christmas time and that he will help our entire world to know the love and power of God. God bless you,

*Fr Martin*

**Volunteer Welcomers Required**: We are looking for volunteers to welcome Parishioners into the Church at the Christmas masses. It would involve greeting Parishioners and checking the register of their names on entry to the church. If you are willing and able to help, please contact Fr Martin or Liz Duignan, Parish Office eastcote@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 0208 866 6581.

**The St Vincent de Paul Society** have assembled nearly 12,000 packs for the homeless and have distributed them throughout England and Wales. Each Vinnie Pack contains a thermal hat, thermal gloves two pairs of thermal socks, toothpaste, toothbrush, wet wipes, Pavement magazine, pen and information sheet and 5,000 of the packs have a reusable face mask included. The contents of each Vinnie Pack cost around £3.50 and donations to sponsor packs would be most welcome. Donations can be transferred to **SVP Vinnie Packs, a/c 46088237 sort code 60-60-04** or cheques made out to SVP can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** . Any assistance is really appreciated.

# St Thomas More Catholic Church

## 20TH DECEMBER 2020, +4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

***THIS NEWSLETTER IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE: - www.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote***

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




*****100 CLUB MEMBERSHIP*****

Good luck to all our members!!

**MASS INTENTIONS**
**+4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
*Confessions by request any day after mass*

**SUNDAY 20th DECEMBER**
6:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CATENIANS
09:30AM CATHERINE & JAMES TOBIN RIP A
11:30AM SYLVERSTER THARUMALINGAM RIP A

**MONDAY 21st DECEMBER**
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM MASS, JIMMY MCKINNON RIP LD

**TUESDAY 22nd DECEMBER**
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM MASS, MARY TOMLINSON RIP A

**WEDNESDAY 23rd DECEMBER**
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM MASS, INTS OF ANNEGIRT HILL

**CHRISTMAS EVE, THURSDAY 24th DECEMBER**
10:00-11:00AM ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.
06:00PM MASS , CHRISTMAS FLOWER INTS
08:00PM MASS, FOR THE PARISH OF THE PEOPLE
10:00PM MASS, CHRISTMAS FLOWER INTS

**+NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS DAY**
09:30am MASS, INTS OF FR MARTIN PLUNKETT IN THANKSGIVING
11:30AM MASS FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

**ST STEPHENS DAY, SATURDAY 26TH DECEMBER**
09:30-11:30AM CHURCH OPEN
10:00AM MASS HOLY SOULS

*Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*

**+THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**
**SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER**
09:30am INTS OF NORA CAIN
11:30am BETTY & DEREK BENSTED RIP A

**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)*

**Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers:** Pedro Johns, Richard Stoneman, Theresa More, Dudley Plunkett, Paul Wazny, William O'Shea, Sean Moohan, Daisy Cunningham, Bianca Malheiros-Fauz, Kundan Singhoraya, 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.*

**For those who have died recently:** Margaret Newton, Patrick (Paddy) Tobin, Tom McKearney, Joseph O'shea, Victor Blake

**For those whose Anniversaries occur around this time**: Josephine O'Brien, Reginald Keen, Mary Tomlinson, Jenny Skwirzynska and Alfred Cook.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES:** The Parish Mass times are now available on the Parish Website and are available for you to book. We encourage parishioners to book as soon as possible.
Fr Martin has added an extra mass for **Christmas Eve at 8pm**.
Due to the current restrictions we are not able to have a special mass for the children this year. Therefore, the Christmas Eve 6pm Mass will not be the traditional Children's Nativity, all age groups are welcome to this mass.
There will also be no Carol service before any of the Christmas Eve Masses.
Please visit the Parish website **Events** to book Mass or alternatively contact the Parish Office via email Eastcote@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 0208 8666581.
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/events/.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

**Christmas Eve**: Mass 6pm, Christmas Flower Intentions
Mass 8pm For the people of the Parish
Mass 10pm, Christmas Flower intention
**Christmas Day:** 09:30am & 11:30am
**St Stephens Day:** 10:00am

**APOSTLESHIP OF THE SEA :**This weekend we have Sea Sunday and collection for the seafarers . Please take an envelope from the table in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

**CHILDRENS LITURGY, 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

This week we learn more about the Christmas Story. Bertie and Big Ted are very excited to dress up as shepherds and the angel is played by one of their special friends too.

https://youtu.be/EQvUPLzb-no

**FOOD BANK:** All donations to be delivered by **22nd December**.