6th DECEMBER 2020,
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Dear Parishioners

"A voice cries in the wilderness: "Prepare a way for the Lord…""

The word 'Advent; comes from the Latin 'ad-venire' meaning 'coming towards'. In this holy season we remember especially three distinct ways in which God 'comes towards' us. The first is in the feast we are preparing for at Christmas when God came towards us as a defenceless baby in Bethlehem, revealing the innocence of God in Jesus. This revelation renews us in the rediscovery of innocence in our own lives through a desire to be purified by repentance and confession to work on our lives so that they can reflect more and more the image of God in which we were made. The second way God comes towards us is now at every moment of our lives right up until our final breath. We live this with faith and as members of the Body of Christ through the Word of God and the Sacraments of the Church. This is our preparation for the ultimate destination of our earthly pilgrimage at the end of our lives in which we are preparing to meet God and give an account of our lives. Finally God comes towards us in the promise of the Second Coming of his Son at the end of time. This will be the consummation of creation and the moment which gives meaning and a final purpose to our world. In this week's Gospel reading for Sunday St John the Baptist appears as *a voice crying in the wilderness*, exhorting us to *prepare a way for the Lord*, so that God can come towards us and that we can come towards him. We are not alone in this world and John the Baptist promises that we will be baptised with the Holy Spirit to help us. Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will prepare us with the fire of God's love to enter fully into the beautiful mysteries of this holy time and help our world to receive the Saviour with loving expectation and hope.

God bless you,

Fr Martin

Booking Mass: As we welcome Parishioners back to the Church, its recommended to book weekend Masses as there is a limit on capacity that can attend and therefore by booking assists our Stewards in keeping the Church a Covid safe and secure environment for everyone.

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/.

St Thomas More Catholic Church

6TH DECEMBER 2020, +2ND 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
+2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
Confessions available on request after Mass

SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER
06:00PM JAMES (JIMMY) TOBIN RIP A
09:30AM PAT O'BRIEN RIP LD
11:30AM MARIANNA DAWIDZIAK RIP LD

MONDAY 7TH DECEMBER –
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER
09:30AM PATRICK FOGARTY RIP A

TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER
09:30AM INTS OF ANGELA KULAN & FAMILY

WEDNESDAY 9TH DECEMBER
9:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER
9:30AM INTS OF DELIA GREEN

THURSDAY 10TH DECEMBER
10:00-11:00AM ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY 11TH DECEMBER
09:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER
9:30AM BERNADETTE MINOLI RIP A

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER
9:00-11:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR PERSONAL PRAYER
9:30AM INTS OF KEANE DSOUZA
Followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

+3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
SUNDAY 13th DECEMBER
6:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) PATRICK TOBIN RIP LD
09:30AM EDWARD MURCHAN RIP A
11:30AM OLIVER MAGUIRE RIP LD

Order of Mass: Please visit Parish website https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/order-of-mass/

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers:
Pedro Johns, Richard Stoneman, Theresa More, Dudley Plunkett, Paula 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, Joseph O'Shea, Victor Blake, Patrick (Paddy) Tobin, Tom McKearney, Barbara Bailes, Eileen Harrington, Clare Logue, Anne Healy, Patrick Ng, Julie Pattinson, Antonino Spano and Marie Weir.

For those whose Anniversaries occur around this time:
Bernie Minoli, Josephine Burns & John Smith,

CHILDRENS LITURGY
As we journey through Advent, this week we are helped by Ginger Ted and Little Tiger to learn more about this time of preparation.
https://youtu.be/b1eoKCMvAHk

CHURCH CLEANERS APPEAL
When the church re-opens for services, an essential condition is that we must follow Govt. guidance on cleaning. This has become more difficult as time has gone by and existing volunteers have dropped out.
Please consider if you can give one hour on Thursdays at 1pm or every 3rd Thursday at 7pm. The task is not onerous. Social distancing is observed and all protective equipment is provided. If you can help please contact **Pat on 0208 429 3943 or 07540 468 393 e-mail pat.faille@btinternet.com**

SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS: This weekend is the annual collection for Sick and Retired priests in the Diocese of Westminster. Please take a donation envelope as you leave church today. The envelopes feature a QR CODE that you can scan with a phone camera to give online if you prefer. Please continue to pray for all our clergy: active, retired or ill. Thank you.

MISSIO BOXES: The donations from the Missio boxes have now been collected. Thank you for the donations. Please remember to collect your empty Missio box from the table in the Narthex.



At this time of unsettled circumstances Father Martin has agreed that there will be no large floral displays in the church this Christmas. Consequently, we will not be holding the traditional collections for the Christmas flowers this year.

However, we are asking if you would like to make an interest free loan of a red poinsettia for the church to be displayed from the weekend of the **19th/20 December** until the Epiphany. Please consider delivering your plant over that first weekend (above) and retrieve your offering after the **6th January**.

You are invited to place a small card with your poinsettia offering it for your intentions and thereby making it easier to identify when you come to collect.

Please contact Madaline on (020) 8866 7706 or madalineluckhurst@btinternet.com if you have any queries.

This is a new venture for us so please consider giving the scheme your support

Many thanks. Madaline Luckhurst