

St Thomas More Catholic Church

15th MAY 2022, +5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

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

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****100 CLUB DRAW **** Winners will be announced this weekend by Fr Martin!

MASS INTENTIONS +FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2022

06:00PM SATURDAY(VIGIL) CLARA & JOHN JEFFRIES RIP A
09:30AM IRENE KEANE RIP LD
11:30AM FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MONDAY 16TH MAY 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM INT CLIVE THOMAS & CATHERINE TAYLOR. LINA THOMAS RIP A

TUESDAY 17TH MAY 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM INT JUDY DOKE

WEDNESDAY 18TH MAY 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM INT ALDA LESLIE

THURSDAY 19TH MAY 2022

10:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN
THE ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY 20TH MAY 2022

09:00 CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM INT HILDA MINOLI

SATURDAY 21ST MAY 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN
09:30AM BRIAN BERRY RIP A
12:00PM FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

*FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT &
CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS*

+SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 22ND MAY 2022

06:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) PATRICK O'ROURKE RIP & IAN FITZGERALD RIP
09:30AM IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11:30AM FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

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: 9:30am-1:00pm (Mon- Thurs Only)

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers:

Clive Thomas, Phyllis O'Brien, Madeleine Horsburgh, Fr Duncan Adamson, James Bradley, Eileen Ferris, Katie Murchan, Pedro Johns, Paula Wazny, Daisy Cunningham, Bianca Malheiros-Fauz, Kundan Singhoraya, Sarah Dunning, Peggy McMahon and Dolores Walsh; for Kitty Goldie and those in our local nursing homes especially Sarah Joyce. 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: Ed Gorman and Robert Hipwell.

For those whose Anniversaries occur around this time: Margaret Fry and Luke Kolakowski.

Children's Liturgy: Please note the Children's liturgy will be sent via email this week. Thank you for your patience.

The **LIFE ASCENDING** group meet on **Wednesday 18th May 2022** at 2.30pm in the Library. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years. Please do come along.

St Vincent De Paul Society- Please join them after the 9.30am Mass in the Anglim room this **Sunday 22nd May 2022.**

Hillingdon Food Bank: Next collection **Tuesday 24th May 2022.**

Volunteers required Sunday Coffee Morning: If you would like to help with serving tea/coffee after 09:30am Mass on Sunday mornings on a rota basis, please contact Anna Ellul on 07715 202289 or email annaellul@live.co.uk.

Jumble sale after 09:30am mass **Sunday 22nd May** in the Parish Hall. We do not require any items this is simply a clearance exercise. Donations for items sold welcome.



Sunday 15th May 2022
+ 5th Sunday of Easter

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel reading records some the last words of Jesus to his disciples before his crucifixion. Jesus spoke these words to his disciples at the Last Supper, after Judas had departed. All the words of Jesus are important but we can allow these words to have a special emphasis because they act as a last will and testament given by Jesus to his Church. The message is simple: "love one another, as I have loved you." Living out that message is the challenge. Love is at the heart of the Christian message because 'God is love' (1 John 4:8). So what is love? To love, according to St. Thomas Aquinas, means to will the good of another. In other words, love is selfless. It involves actively seeking the best for another person without seeking anything in return. This is what Jesus is calling us to when he says, "love one another." We are to take care of one another's needs, pray for one another, and seek the best for one another, which ultimately is found in faith in God. However, it is also by loving others that we discover our true selves and our purpose and mission in life and so by giving ourselves away we paradoxically also find ourselves. Jesus tells us to love one another as he has loved us. Jesus loves us most fully from the Cross where he gives everything for his Father and for us. If we can be open to loving like this then we are beginning to discover the meaning of life and the true path to happiness, in this world and in the next. It is by our love for one another that others will know that we are Jesus' disciples. Thus, our radical, selfless love for one another is the best way to witness the love of God to the world.

God bless you,
Fr Martin

CHURCHES TOGETHER EASTCOTE will be holding a service **Pause for Hope**, Sunday 12th June for all whose lives that have been affected by cancer. Please see poster within this newsletter.

First Holy Communion: Please note the First Holy Communion Candidates Masses will take place **Saturday 14th May at 12pm & Saturday 21st May at 12pm.**

100 club Membership/renewal. The 100 club is open to Parishioners and Friends of St Thomas More Church. If you would like to renew your 100 Club Draw Membership or become a new member, please pick up a New Membership form or renewal envelope which are available in the narthex. The cost to join is £60 for the year. There are currently three prizes per month to be won £100, £50 & £25. The first Draw of the new year will take place at the end of July.

Memorial Book: The Memorial Book will be sent away soon for its annual updating. If you have a close family member or friend whose name you would like to be included in the Book, please take a form from the Porch table. Return completed form with a £30 cheque or cash to the Parish Office. Thank you.

The paradox of abundance: Over 800 million people go hungry each day. Yet the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone. From all this food produced, a third is wasted. St John Paul II called this 'the paradox of abundance.' Clearly the currently global food system is not working. But as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See www.cafod.org.uk/food for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey resource.



Returning to Mass at Pentecost An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity - "The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist." It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as "the Sunday Obligation."

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. "Virtual viewing" of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord's Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person. As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops' Conference Friday 6th May 2022



Churches Together In Eastcote

are holding a Pause for Hope service
for those whose lives have been
affected by cancer

Pause for
Hope

Where: Eastcote Methodist Church, Pamela Gardens HA5 2QU

When: Sunday 12th June at 4.00 pm

Also accessible on **Zoom**

Meeting ID: **91554606170**

Passcode: **123**

Members of all religious
denominations and faiths are
welcome as well as those with little or
no religious faith