

St Thomas More Catholic Church

SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2022, +3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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****100 club membership****

Good luck to all the members!!

MASS INTENTIONS +THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2022

06:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) IAN FITZGERALD RIP A

09:30AM BERNIE MINOLI RIP A

11:30AM INT ERYL D'SOUZA

MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM MARY SULLIVAN RIP LD

08:00PM CHURCHES TOGETHER EASTCOTE CAROL SERVICE

TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT BEATRICE LONG

07:30PM PENITENTIAL SERVICE

WEDNESDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:00AM INT FR MARTIN PLUNKETT & FAMILY.

THURSDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2022

10:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

THE ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022

09:00 CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM SEVERINO CHEMELLO RIP

SATURDAY 17TH DECEMBER 2022

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT LUCY INNES

FOLLOWED BY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & CONFESSIONS

AFTER MASS

+THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2022

06:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) MICHAEL KEATING RIP LD

09:30AM FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11:30AM MARY CULLINANE RIP A

3:00PM CHRISTMAS ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

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:

Loreto Berry, Mary Cullen, Mary Richards, Audrey Farrell, Phyllis O'Brien, James Bradley, Eileen Ferris, Katie Murchan, Paula Wazny, Daisy Cunningham, Bianca Malheiros-Fauz, Kundan Singhoraya and Sarah Dunning; and those in our local nursing homes especially Kitty Goldie, Moira Bennett, Dolores Walsh, Sarah Joyce and Katie Loftus. For our housebound parishioners, especially Peggy McMahon, & Norma Kolakowska. *Please let us know if you wish to add or remove any names on the sick list.*

For those whose Anniversaries occur around this time

James Tobin, Dorothy Heaney, Josephine Burns, John Smith, Patrick O'Rourke, Ian Fitzgerald & Bernie Minoli.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS ADVENT CAROL SERVICE,

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER

3PM SERVICE FOLLOWED BY MULLED WINE & MINCE PIES
AROUND THE FIREPIT ALONG WITH FURTHER CAROLS.

CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER

6PM FAMILY MASS- INT CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
10PM NIGHT MASS- FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

CHRISTMAS DAY

+ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD MASS

10:30AM

INT IN THANKSGIVING FR MARTIN PLUNKETT

ST STEPHENS DAY MASS

09:30AM

INT IN THANKSGIVING FOR ALTAR SERVERS

Advent Penitential Service Tuesday 13th December
7.00pm.



SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER 2022

+ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dear Parishioners

“Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?”

This weekend, as we enter the third week of Advent, we celebrate ‘Gaudete Sunday’. Gaudete, means ‘Rejoice’. And we are invited to experience a foretaste of the wonderful joy that accompanies the revelation to our world of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. In the Gospel reading we hear about John the Baptist sending his own disciples to ask Jesus: ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?’ John probably did this, not because he didn’t know who Jesus truly was, but for the sake of his disciples, so that they would come to follow Jesus once John was captured by Herod. John was trying to point his disciples to Jesus and to encourage them to embrace this new change in their life of faith. Knowing this, Jesus points out to John’s disciples the evidence of his works as the Messiah: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. Who could argue with such miraculous signs from Heaven? What Jesus doesn’t yet say is what else he will have to do as our Saviour. John had previously stated about Jesus: ‘Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world’. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, will lay down his life for his sheep, when he becomes the ‘Lamb of God’ on the Cross. By doing this and then rising from the dead, Jesus has opened the way for us to truly rejoice, in the joy that we are restored as God’s beloved children, both now and in eternity. Like John’s disciples, we often struggle with the challenging aspects of change and adaptation in the circumstances of life. However, the Christian life encourages us to see change as an opportunity to grow in our trust of God and our joy in experiencing his loving help in our lives. Let us reflect today upon the way that we may be struggling with changes in life. Let us ask for the grace to accept the changes God is calling us to embrace, in the belief that they can become a pathway to a life of greater holiness and joy.

God bless you,
Fr Martin

Churches Together in Eastcote will hold the United Carol Service in our church on **Monday 12th December** at **8pm**. You are warmly invited to this special occasion, when we extend a welcome to our fellow Christians from the local community. Please join us for readings, carols and music and for refreshments afterwards. This is always a lovely service and we hope you will want to support it.



Christmas Advent Carol Service

Our parish service will take place on **Sunday 18th December** at **3pm**, followed by mulled wine and mince pies around the firepit as we sing some further carols. Please bring a torch with you and wrap up warm. Children will be given battery candles. It is always a lovely occasion to share together, as we prepare for Christmas.

To help decorate for the occasion, we need some outdoor Christmas lights and some helpers to set up. If you are able to either loan some lights and or help to hang them in the car park area, please let the Parish Office know. We will be setting up from 1.30pm on the day. parish office eastcote@rcdwow.org. or phone 0208 866 6581.

Connex Community Coffee morning Monthly Coffee/Tea Club People ConneX welcomes you back for another at St Thomas More Parish Hall for Refreshments and Activities provided by Community Connex 12:30-13:30 on **Sunday 18th December**. Please do come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat, everyone is welcome after the 11:30am mass.



We will have our usual Children's Mass of Christmas at **6pm** on Christmas Eve. All the children are invited to come and take part by dressing as a **shepherd** or **angel**.

Please come early to this service as the church gets very full! Thank you for your support.

Children's Liturgy Team.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION 3rd WEEKEND OF ADVENT



St Thomas More has a wonderful tradition of beautiful flowers adorning our Altar and around the church for Christmas Services. The flower team are currently planning in preparation of their wonderful creations. The Parish welcome donations towards to the cost and if you would like to contribute there will be an opportunity to donate at the second collection on **Sunday 11th December**. Thank you.

Christmas Evening Song "The Christmas Social Evening on December 3rd was very successful. The concert was well attended and the audience enjoyed joining in with many of the religious and popular Christmas songs. Father Martin sang some beautiful solos. Everyone shared food and the atmosphere was full of joy - a great beginning to the Christmas season. That evening £304 was raised for the Ukraine Appeal." Thank you to everyone for their support

Connex Community presents **Cinderella Christmas Pantomime** on **Wednesday 21st December** in the Parish hall from **09:30am**. Tickets **£5** including a light refreshment. Everyone welcome. Please see poster in the narthex for further information.

We would like to hear from any parishioners that can help with serving tea/coffee before the Pantomime commences from 09:30am. Please contact the Parish office on 0208 866 65 81 or email eastcote@rcdow.org.uk.

St Vincent De Paul Society: The next SVP meeting will take place on **Sunday 11th December 2022**. If you would like to find out more about the work they do please join them after the 9.30am Mass in the Library room, at 10:45am.

The Life Ascending Group meeting next on **Wednesday 14TH December** at **2.30pm** in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years. Please come along on Wednesday.

Church Cleaning Team- Reminder of the next cleaning dates will be **Thursday 15th December at 7pm** and **Thursday 22nd at 09:15am**. Please do check narthex for dates and details of how to join team and sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Hillingdon Food bank: Next Collection **Tuesday 3rd January 2022**. Please see Advent Calendar items required in Narthex.