

# St Thomas More Catholic Church

SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 2023, +1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

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**\*\*100 club membership\*\***

Good Luck to all the members!! Winners to be announced this weekend.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### + 1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

#### SUNDAY 26TH FEBRUARY

06:00PM (SATURDAY VIGIL) PATRICK O'ROURKE RIP

09:30AM FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11:30AM IN THANKSGIVING THE MAUDE FAMILY

#### MONDAY 27TH FEBRUARY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT DUDLEY & FRANCINE PLUNKETT

#### TUESDAY 28TH FEBRUARY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT KATHLEEN BROTHY

#### WEDNESDAY 1ST MARCH

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:00AM INT EILEEN BAKER

#### THURSDAY 2ND MARCH

10:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

#### FRIDAY 3RD MARCH

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT MARY RICHARDS

FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS

#### SATURDAY 4TH MARCH

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT HILDA MINOLI

FOLLOWED BY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & CONFESSIONS

AFTER MASS

### + 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

#### SUNDAY 5TH MARCH

06:00PM (SATURDAY VIGIL) INT MADALINE & BERNARD

LUCKHURST

09:30AM INT HANNAH PRUNTY & SEAN PRUNTY RIP LD

11:30AM FOR 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](mailto: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:** 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 who have recently died** Geraldine Wallace

**For those whose Anniversaries occur around this time**

John Hinde, Matthew Rammelt, Sheila Ann Fitzgerald, Kathleen Dunleavy and Renita Adams

**St Vincent De Paul Society** The next SVP meeting will take place on **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March**, after 9.30am Mass in the Library room, at 10:45am. Westminster Diocese Festival. **Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March ,10am-2pm at St Aloysius RC Church Euston.** A chance to celebrate Mass, meet on another in person, find out more about what we are doing and what we could do in the future. SVP members and non-members welcome. Please see the poster on church notice board. Light refreshments provided.

**The Life Ascending Group** meeting next on **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March**, at **2.30pm** in the Library and will 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 2nd March at 7pm and Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30am.** 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 **7<sup>th</sup> March.**



SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2023  
+1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

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Dear Parishioners,

‘At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.’

This weekend brings us to the first Sunday of Lent when we hear about Jesus going into the desert for 40 days. This time marks the start of our Lenten preparation for the great feast of Easter. For Jesus this was a time of testing, preparation and trial. For us, the Lenten season can also be seen as a symbol of our entire life here on earth. As we begin our Lenten journey we can apply the lessons of Jesus’ time in the desert to our entire lives. We see that Jesus was ‘led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.’ This teaches us that Jesus not only endured temptation, he confronted it. Jesus did this throughout his mission right up to the encounter with evil, sin and death on the Cross. This is where he faced these adversaries, armed with the almighty and infinite love of God, and became victorious over them for ever. All through this saving mission it was the presence and guidance of God’s Holy Spirit that accompanied and helped Jesus to continue. We also hear that Jesus voluntarily fasted during his time in the desert. From this example we can understand that temperance must always be part of our lives so that we do not allow the passing things of this world to become the primary satisfaction we seek. This is also relevant to the sufferings and crosses that we encounter in life: we can also practice a certain self-denial, and not allow the difficulties we endure to discourage us or to distract us from seeking out and fulfilling the will of God. For the Christian, picking up our crosses means realising that Jesus has already picked them up for us and is always willing to help us to persevere with him. Let us reflect today upon the importance of trusting in God’s love throughout our life. In all our ups and downs, joys and sorrows, blessings and crosses, let us allow ourselves to be led by God’s Holy Spirit, confronting every circumstance with faith, hope and love. Let us embrace the invitation this Lent to faithfully follow our loving Lord in all ways to arrive at the great feast of Easter with joyful and purified hearts.

God bless you

*Fr Martin*

**Planned Giving Drive & Stewardship 2023**- will commence on the first weekend of Lent 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023 and will run for the next three weekends. Over the coming weeks we ask all parishioners to prayerfully reflect on their commitment to our parish. As a parish and as individuals, we have been blessed with many, varied gifts. Biblical Stewardship calls us to share our gifts of time, talent and financial blessings with our parish community and our world. Finance committee members will be available after mass with further information.

**First Holy Communion Clothes/Outfits** will be available to the First Holy Communion children after mass on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> February**. Parents/Guardians do please pop along to the Anglim room to view.

**Confirmation 2023** A reminder to parents/guardians and candidates that the Confirmation programme will begin on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February** in the Anglim Room at 8pm.

**St Thomas More Toddler’s Group** – If there are any parents or caregivers with babies or toddlers that would be interested in starting a group that meets regularly here in the parish, please pass on your interest to the parish office. If there is sufficient backing for this idea then a new group can be formed. Please speak to Fr Martin for further details.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023** Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis, are still making daily life harder for all. Price rises last year meant many families faced an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? And this crisis is far from over. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. And for those who can't give financially, your time is a priceless commodity – please see the posters on how you can volunteer in the diocese and help those in need. Please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

**CAFOD Family Fast Day – Lent Appeal 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023**

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Give today using the envelope or at [cafod.org.uk/give](https://cafod.org.uk/give) and please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world.

**"An evening of Irish song -Saturday March 18th** in the Parish hall, an evening of song to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Led by St Thomas More Folk Group. Free entry. Donations to the Ukraine appeal welcome. Doors open at 7pm and singing commences at 7:30pm. Please sign your name and number of guests on the sheet in the Narthex so we know how many tables and chairs to set up. Bring your own picnic for the interval."

**SAVE THE DATE- Connex Community** will be holding a St Patricks Day lunch on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> March**, more information to follow next week.

**Hillingdon Deanery Lenten Retreat** Led by Sr Gemma Simmonds CJ on **Saturday 18th March 2023**, 9am – 3.30pm. A Day with Talks, Mass, Adoration and Confession at Pield Heath House School, Pield Heath Road, UB8 3NW (parking available). Cost: Donation (to cover costs). Please bring a packed lunch. Tea & coffee provided. To book your place, please email [uxbridge@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:uxbridge@rcdow.org.uk) or call Angela: 01895 233193

**PILGRIMAGE TO ROME AND ASSISI** Led by Fr Tom Montgomery **Monday 6th - Monday 13th November 2023**. For further information and a booking form please contact: Fr Tom Montgomery: [northwood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:northwood@rcdow.org.uk) - Tel no: 01923 840736. Please see Tangey tours poster for further information on the Church notice board.

**Annual Mass for Matrimony**

The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on **Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm** for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Places can be booked through the parish office.

**SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA -LADIES FASHION SHOW & POP UP SHOP-** Come along to support the PTA and shop your favourite high streets brands at 50% off or more on **Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**, doors open 6:30pm, show starts 7pm, tickets £6 or 3 for £15. For tickets please contact Alison 07967 708 450 or Angela 077899907702. Poster available in the Narthex for more information.

# *Lenten Repairs: A Day With St. Francis*

*Led by  
Fr Maximilian Martin OFM (Conv)  
(Provincial Custos  
of Great Britain & Ireland)*

*Saturday 4th March*

*St Matthew's Northwood*



## **Timetable:**

- 9.45: Morning Prayer and Rosary
- 10.30: Mass (Homily as first address)
- 11.00: Exposition and Confessions
- 12.00: Lunch in hall  
*(please bring own lunch, hot drinks will be available)*
- 13.00: Second address followed by Exposition
- 14.30: Final Word
- 14.45: Benediction  
*Coffee and Farewells.*