

St Thomas More Catholic Church

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2023, +PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

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

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****100 club membership****

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

MASS INTENTIONS

+PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

SUNDAY 2ND APRIL

06:00PM (SATURDAY VIGIL) IN THANKSGIVING MADALINE & BERNARD LUCKHURST

09:30AM IN THANKSGIVING SANDY BYRNE

11:30AM FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MONDAY 3RD APRIL

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM LYNN BAINES RIP

TUESDAY 4TH APRIL

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM ELIZABETH THARUMALINGAM RIP A

WEDNESDAY 5TH APRIL

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:00AM INT EDMUND MONTEIRO

MAUNDY THURSDAY 6TH APRIL

10:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

8:00PM THE LORDS LAST SUPPER

GOOD FRIDAY 7TH APRIL

09:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR MORNING PRAYER

10:00AM CHILDRENS STATIONS OF THE CROSS

3:00PM THE PASSION OF THE LORD

HOLY SATURDAY 8TH APRIL

09:00AM CHURCH OPEN FOR MORNING PRAYER

11:00AM BLESSING OF THE EASTER BASKETS

Please note there will be no Morning Mass or Confessions.

+EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

EASTER SUNDAY 9TH APRIL

08:30PM SATURDAY (EASTER VIGIL) ANTHONY RYAN RIP A

10:30AM IN THANKSGIVING FR MARTIN PLUNKETT

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: Yvonne Grasso, Hilda Minoli, 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 McMahan, & 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 Stephen Wilby.

St Vincent De Paul Society The next SVP meeting will take place on **Sunday 16th April** after 9.30am Mass in the Library room, at 10:45am.

The Life Ascending Group meeting next on **Wednesday 19th April**, 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 6th April at 09:30am** and **Thursday 13th April at 7:00pm** Please do check narthex for dates and details of how to join team, sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Hillingdon Food Bank Next Collection Tuesday 4th April.

Ukraine appeal- Thank you to everyone who attended and supported the St Patricks Evening of Irish Song. The parish raised £412.60 for the Ukraine appeal!! Thank you for your generosity.



SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2023
+PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Dear Parishioners,

‘Hosanna to the Son of David; blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; hosanna in the highest.’

We celebrate Palm Sunday this weekend as Holy Week begins. We commemorate the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem for the fulfilment of the Passover. We will also hear, this Sunday, one of the versions of the Passion of Jesus; covering his betrayal, arrest and death on the Cross. Though these events all happened 2,000 years ago, they are made present to us at this time in a unique and real way. By participating in the proclamation of these Gospel accounts at Mass, we are mystically united to this saving action of our Lord. As we begin this Holy Week, we can walk through it with Jesus every step of the way. As we go about our days this week, fulfilling our normal duties in life, we can be reminded that the passion and death of Jesus are present to us in a mysterious way. On Holy Thursday, we will ponder the gift of the Holy Eucharist, where Jesus becomes the new Passover Lamb whose blood is shed for us all and whose flesh we now consume. On Good Friday, we will hear again of the passion and death of Jesus from the Gospel of John. At the heart of the story of the Passion of Jesus is the manifestation of a love like no other. The love that we witness is one in which God permits himself to enter the deepest humiliation ever seen. God does this so that he can meet us in our lowliness, sin, and fallenness, and raise us up to the highest heights imaginable. This love is so unprecedented and powerful that it breaks through even death itself and now draws us into eternal life. As we enter this Holy Week we begin a time of participation in the mystery of God’s pure and perfect love for us. As we reflect upon this love, let us allow God to speak to each of us individually. Let us allow that love, offered 2,000 years ago, to become truly present to us so that we will be more present to our Lord and his love for us in our lives.

God bless you
Fr Martin

Lenten Penance Service- There will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession in the parish on **31st March at 7pm** here in the church. There will be three priests available to hear confessions and an opportunity to reflect together on God's divine mercy and the gift of new life through repentance and forgiveness. This will be a very fitting way to prepare for the great feast of Easter by following the teaching of the Church that we should confess our sins to a priest at least once each year. There will also be a Deanery Penance Service at **Sacred Heart, Ruislip on Monday 3rd April at 07:30pm**.

Eucharistic Ministers- There will be a sign- up sheet in the Narthex for the Eucharistic Ministers to volunteer over the Easter Period. Please put your name, contact details and time of mass you can attend from Maundy Thursday through to Easter Sunday. Thank you.

Good Friday 7th April 2023 There will be a **Stations of the Cross Service for children at 10am**. This will involve the children as much as possible and will make the way of the Cross understandable to them. We invite families to “adopt” a Station. If you do this, your children will be enabled to take an active part in the service with your support. Please sign the paper form in the porch by 2nd April (Palm Sunday) and I will contact you during Holy week to give you more details. If you have any questions please email jinglese@btinternet.com. Thank you, Jane Inglese.

Easter Flower Donations: Your help in the purchase of flowers to make our sanctuary look even more beautiful as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, is greatly appreciated. Donations can be put in an envelope and marking it for “Easter Flowers” and placed in the collection basket. Alternatively, you can donate through the Dona Contactless Device in the entrance of the Church. Please select ‘Easter Flowers Offering’ on the device when making your donation. Thank you.

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

Holy Places collection 7th April 2023: During Good Friday services, the Church across the world takes up a collection for the care of the “Holy Places”, namely the sites in the Holy Land where Our Lord lived, died and rose again. The collection also supports the presence of the Christian communities of the Holy Land. Thank you for your support.

Blessing of Easter Baskets will take place at 11am on **Holy Saturday 8th April**. Fr Martin will be giving the Polish blessing for the baskets prepared for Easter Sunday. All are welcome.

Save the Date- The Local Catenian Association will be running a charity family quiz and supper on the evening of **Saturday 22nd April** in the parish hall with all proceeds going towards the parish. More information to follow soon.

World Youth Day-This is the last chance to join Westminster Youth Ministry for two weeks in Porto, Fatima and Lisbon from 25 July to 9 August 2023 to celebrate World Youth Day with Pope Francis and 2 million other young people. Thanks to the support of the Cardinal's Appeal, the reduced cost for the pilgrimage is £1,500 inclusive of transport, accommodation, WYD Pass, insurance and some meals. There are last few places remaining at this price and applications will close on 14 April 2023. For more information and booking forms email Phoebe Prendergast at phoebeprendergast@rcdow.org.uk or Holly Cook at hollycook@rcdow.org.uk or call us on 020 3757 2516

Vocations Evening -On **Wednesday 17th May**, there will be an open evening at St James, Spanish Place, for any men interested in learning about or discerning a vocation to priesthood. The regular evening Mass will be at 6.00pm, followed by a gathering downstairs in the Social Centre for a short presentation and informal conversations and refreshments. Do come and join us if you can. The nearest tube stations are Bond Street and Baker Street.

May Procession The annual May Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place at the diocesan Shrine of **Our Lady of Willesden** at 3pm on **Sunday 14th May**. The preacher will be Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament. Please see poster in Narthex.

Parish Office Opening times: Please note there will be a change in the opening time of the Parish office after Easter. The new times will be 09:30am-2pm (Monday- Wednesday only).

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: 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+. As usual couples are asked to register their wish to attend with the parish by **Saturday, 1st April 2023**. Please email eastcote@rcdow.org.uk or Tel 0208 866 6581.

Lost Property- A reminder to please check the lost property box when leaving mass this weekend. Any items remaining will be disposed of before Easter. Thank you.