St Thomas More Catholic Church

SUNDAY 14th MAY 2023, +6th SUNDAY OF EASTER

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!

To Donate to the parish online , please scan the QR CODE.THANK YOU

Good luck to all our members!!

MASS INTENTIONS

+SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 14TH MAY

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

09:30AM IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP

11:30AM FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

MONDAY 15TH MAY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT JOHN GANNON

TUESDAY 16TH MAY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:30AM INT CHRISTINA ETUKA

WEDNESDAY 17TH MAY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

09:00AM RAJAN BASTAN PILLAI RIP LD

7:30PM *(VIGIL MASS THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD)* FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD -THURSDAY 18TH MAY

9:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN

ROSARY & EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

09:30AM INT KATHLEEN NODES

FRIDAY 19TH MAY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN FOR MORNING PRAYER

09:30AM INT ALL PRISONERS

SATURDAY 20TH MAY

09:00-11AM CHURCH OPEN FOR MORNING PRAYER

09:30AM PATRICK NG RIP A

12PM FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE

FOLLOWED BY

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT & CONFESSIONS AFTER MASS

+ 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SUNDAY 21ST MAY

06:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL) IN THANKSGIVING FOR JOHN & LINDA GRIMES

09:30AM FOR PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11:30AM IN THANKSGIVING FOR SAFEGUARDING REPS

Parish Priest: Fr Martin Plunkett

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Parish Administrator *Liz Duignan*

OFFICE OPEN: 09:30AM-2:00PM (Mon-Wed only)

Please remember our sick parishioners in your prayers: Kerri Hepworth, 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 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 Margaret Fry, Luke Kolakowski and Brian Berry.

St Vincent De Paul Society The next SVP meeting will take place on **Sunday 14th May** after 9.30am Mass in the Library room, at 10:45am.

The Life Ascending Group meeting next on **Wednesday 17th May,** 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 18th May at 09:15am and Thursday 25th May at 7pm.** Please do check narthex for dates and details of how to join team, sign up sheet in the Narthex.

Hillingdon Food Bank Thank you for your food donations in April, this equated to 115.6kg of food. This feeds the equivalent of 5 families and 1 couple for 3 days.

Connex Community- Coffee morning on **Wednesday 24th May 2023** in the Parish Hall. A Volunteer cook is required to help with the St Thomas More Parish lunches, held bi monthly on Sundays. Working in a team. Contact jeremy.child@communityconnex.co.uk

the Pastor's corner

SUNDAY 14TH MAY 2023
+6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Dear Parishioners,

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate to be with you always, the Spirit of truth...'

In this Sunday's Gospel we hear Jesus asking us to remain faithful and obedient to his love and to prepare ourselves to welcome the Holy Spirit once more into our lives. Jesus tells us that obedience to him will result in the bestowing of the Holy Spirit upon us. Jesus says that the Holy Spirit will remain "with you, and will be in you." Obedience to God leads to a discovery of the truth, and as Jesus says elsewhere, "... the truth will set you free" (John 8:32). Obedience leads to truth and truth leads to freedom. This is because God has now offered the life of his Son, his body and blood, on the Cross, to purchase our freedom from the lies of evil, sin and death. This means also that now, from the Father and the Son, we can receive the Spirit of truth, freedom and love. Do we want to be free? We cannot not want to be free. We desire freedom, just as we desire happiness. The desire for freedom and happiness is written upon our very nature. However, it is quite possible to become confused about the way we achieve these desires. For many, obedience is not always understood as the pathway to freedom and happiness. However, God is the perfect Father who always knows what is best for us. For that reason, we can trust in his will and we can learn that our deepest desire is for God and his love to be at the centre of our lives. This is the path to truth. This is the path to freedom. This is the path to the happiness we desire. Let us reflect, today, upon the commands of love that Jesus gives us. Do we seek to follow them? Can we say, for example, with our Lord from the Cross, "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do?" Let us pray for the grace to desire the will of God and keep growing towards the fulfilment of our deepest desires in him.

God bless you,

Fr Martin

RCIA – We hope to be running an RCIA course from this September; the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. This is an opportunity to learn about the wonderful truths and tradition of the Catholic Christian Church with the possible view to being baptised or received into the Church at Easter 2024. This is a very good moment to ask a spouse, friend or neighbour if this might be something they would like to explore, without any initial commitment. We would also like to hear from anyone who would like to be part of the team to help facilitate the course in the parish.

Sudan & South Sudan appeal: The people of Sudan and South Sudan live in desperate conditions and rely on SVP England & Wales support to keep many vital projects going through funding for humanitarian and international development. Both countries have been torn apart by a civil war. Thousands of people (mainly women and children) still live in refugee camps in both countries, and they are some of the poorest countries in the world. Health outcomes and literacy rates are amongst the lowest in the world. Nearly 1 in 10 children in South Sudan won't reach their 5th birthday. To support this appeal, there will be a second collection on **13TH/14TH May**. If you would like further information, please see the posters displayed in the Narthex. Thank you for your support.

Finance Committee Are you in a position to support Fr Martin and the Finance Committee? We are currently looking for new and enthusiastic members to join our friendly team. This is a valuable example of collaborative ministry. You do not have to be of a financial background. If you would like to hear more, please contact Karen Berry – Chair of the Finance Committee, or speak with Fr. Martin directly.

First Holy Communion: Please note the First Holy Communion Candidates Masses will take place Saturday 20th May & Saturday 27th May at 12pm.

Eastcote Residents' Association - do come and join us

We warmly invite residents of Eastcote to join us for our forthcoming AGM which will take place on **Tuesday 23rd May 2023** at the St Thomas More Church Hall, Eastcote at 7:30pm.

The AGM will start with a short talk by the Station Commander of the Ruislip Fire Station and we shall also be joined by two of our three ward councillors. The meeting usually lasts for a couple of hours, but people often find themselves chatting for longer.

The Resident's Association is made up of a friendly group of people, committed to serving the local community with their problems and concerns. We also get involved with some fun activities too! If you would like to join us, we have a number of vacancies for people wanting to give back to the local community and make a real impact on the ground. Committee members will be on hand to chat with interested individuals and tell you more about the great work we do on behalf of all our residents.

It goes without saying that tea and biscuits will be provided, in keeping with the informal nature of proceedings, so do come along.

Universe Catholic Weekly We have some exciting news, it's now only 18 Days until the launch of the new print edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly, on Friday 19th May. It will be all that you have come to expect from the UK's leading Catholic publication but now it's not just in a digital format but hard copy too. Hassle free delivery direct to your door. Individual subscription rates available. For further information, please contact Michelle Jones on 07436 617650 or email her email: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk.Thank you once again for all your support.

