

MASS TIMES THIS COMING WEEK

4th December –10th December 2023

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 4TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	NELSON DIAS RIP
TUES 5TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	MICHAEL SULLIVAN RIP
WED 6TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	INTS COLLEEN WALLACE ST NICHOLAS
THURS 7TH	8.30AM	9.00AM	INTS FR MARTIN ST AMBROSE
FRI 8TH	9 AM 11 AM	9.30AM	PATRICK O'ROURKE RIP THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SAT 9TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	EDWARD MURCHAN & JOHN DONOGHUE RIP CONFESSIONS AND EXPOSITION AFTER MASS
SUN 10TH	2ND OF ADVENT	6 PM SAT 9.30 AM 11.30AM	NEVILLE LACY IAN FITZGERALD RIP PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

**FOR MORE PARISH INFO OR TO SIGN UP FOR: E ALERTS,
NEWSLETTER BY E MAIL, LIVE STREAMING OF SERVICES ,
VISIT THE PARISH WEBSITE [HTTPS://PARISH.RCDOW.ORG.UK/
EASTCOTE/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/)**

St Thomas More Catholic Church

32 Field End Road, Eastcote, HA5 2QT

PARISH PRIEST: Fr Martin Plunkett

PARISH OFFICE: Mon—Thurs 9.30 to 12 noon **Administrator:** Tessa Maude

Tel. 0208 866 6581 **E mail:** Eastcote@rcdow.org.uk



100 CLUB WINNERS Congratulations to Hilda Minoli, Angela Kulan and Maria Finnerty winners in the November draw.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS IN CHURCH There will be a retiring collection next Sunday 10th December and the following Sunday 17th December for flowers in the church at Christmas.

BANKERS NEEDED Can you spare an hour every 3 weeks? The parish needs some additional people to join the team. Working with one other member, every three weeks you choose a time that suits you both to meet up and bank the counted money. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION If your child is in in Year 9 or above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 22nd June 2024 at 12pm, forms are now available to complete at the back of church to join the programme that starts in the New Year. Please return to the parish office by the **end of January**.

INTERCESSION OF OUR LADY– VIGIL LAMP Envelopes are now available at the back of church for intention requests for the 7 day vigil lamp. The lamp will continue to burn throughout the advent and Christmas season when the crib is displayed in the area.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY The next meeting will be **Sunday 10th December** after the 9.30am Mass in the Library room at 10:45am. All are welcome to come along to see the work they do to help local people in need.

VINNIE PACKS The **SVP** nationally, are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237. Thank you so much for your support.

CHURCHES TOGETHER CAROL SERVICE– The CTE Carol Service will be hosted this year by St Lawrence Church, Bridle Road on **Monday 11th December** starting at 8pm. Refreshments Will be served afterwards.

FOODBANK Thank you for all the contributions. The next collection will be on **Tuesday 12th December**. The foodbank make hampers in time for Christmas. Please see the request list by the collection box in the narthex.

LIFE ASCENDING GROUP—meeting next on **Wednesday 13th December** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

CHRISTMAS CHURCH CLEANING –Extra help would be much appreciated to help prepare the church for Christmas. Just turn up on **Thursday 14th December after 9.30 mass** or **Thursday 21st December at 7pm** or both. For more information contact Pat, details in the volunteer tray in the narthex.

SUNDAY 3rd December 2023 +1st Sunday Advent+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND 2ND/3RD DECEMBER

06:00PM SATURDAY (VIGIL)
INTS SIOBHAN HOGG THANKSGIVING
09:30AM MARGARET RIST RIP
11.30AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH



FOR OUR PRAYERS

SICK PARISHIONERS

Pauline Fitzgerald, Harriet Moxon
and those in our local nursing homes especially
Mary Richards, Kitty Goldie, Dolores Walsh, Sarah
Joyce and Katie Loftus.

FOR OUR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS ESPECIALLY

Peggy McMahon, Norma Kolakowska,
Yvonne Grasso and Hilda Minoli,



FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME

Sheila Carey, James Reilly, James Tobin, Dorothy
Heaney, Josephine Burns, John Smith,
Patrick O' Rourke

We pray for

Amber Grehan who is to be baptised
here this weekend.
We welcome her to the parish.



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY,

burns this coming week
in loving memory of

Ann Murphy and Ann Bevans RIP

Dear Parishioners,

“Stay awake! For you do not know when the time will come!”

This Sunday we begin once again the season of Advent. The word 'advent' comes from *ad-venire*, which means 'to come towards'. This is the time in the Church's year when we acknowledge that God has already come towards us through his Son, Jesus, and that he is coming towards us now and in our future as individuals and as a world. Jesus tells us in this week's Gospel to 'Stay awake!' This a way of saying 'be prepared' for the time of his coming. Jesus came to us once in the flesh long ago, and he will return again in the flesh to judge the living and the dead at the end of time, However, Jesus also never ceases to come to us day and night by the transforming gift of his love and grace; in our prayer, in the Holy Eucharist, through each other and so many ways. Are we attentive to this coming? Do we sometimes miss out on the countless blessings of God's grace that he wants to bestow upon us each day? The world has many distractions. We are easily dazzled by the lure of all its riches, the indulgence of our appetites and the constant noise of countless messages and sources of information. This can make it very difficult to be constantly watchful and alert and to 'stay awake' to the Good News of the Gospel. Though it is necessary to engage with the world around us in some way, we are all called to allow God's love to be the centre of our lives, as the motivation and purpose of all we do. It is to open up the glorious treasures of his love for us that God has sent his Son into our world. This Son, whose name 'Jesus' means 'God saves', gave everything for us from his birth in a manger to his death on a Cross. This was so that we could discover God's love and see that he is always coming towards us. Let us reflect, today, upon how we can become more attentive and awake during this Advent season. Let us seek the ongoing promptings of God and his grace, humbly praying that we can desire to be more and more aware of his love so that it becomes our daily guide and delight in all things.

God bless you, Fr Martin

POSADA -As we enter the season of Advent, we are once again following a Mexican tradition of Posada (travelling nativity) and welcome Mary and Joseph into our homes, moving around the parish. If you would like to take part and host these figures, please sign the list at the back of church and supply your contact details, by filling in the slip inside the envelope for the day you have chosen. (This is not just for young families, it is open to all) You will be given the contact details of the person hosting before you, once the list is complete, so that you can make contact and collect the figures from them. Mary and Joseph will return for the Carol Service next weekend and then go back out to hosting families to return on Christmas Eve.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE AND FAYRE Next SUNDAY 10TH DECEMBER— The Parish Carol service will start at 3pm, followed by refreshments and a mini fayre. Thank you to all those who have already given donations and signed up to help. We still need more, bottles, gifts, filled jam jars, cakes (on the day) and helpers. **Silent Auction items**— We are holding a Silent Auction. Have you any items at home that are unused or have some second hand value that could be donated for the auction? Can you offer a service such as an hours tuition or do you work for a company that can donate an item or voucher? Please bring donations to church or leave with the parish office before next weekend.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION There **will** be mass on Friday this week -8th December at 9.30am.