

MASS TIMES THIS COMING WEEK

29th January—4th February 2024

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 29TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	INTS MOIRA O ROURKE
TUES 30TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	VAL MILLBANK RIP
WED 31ST	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	ADI BLASS RIP
THURS 1ST	8.30AM	9.00AM	DENIS QUIGLEY RIP ST JOHN BOSCO
FRI 2ND	9 TO 11 AM	9.30AM	INTS FR MARTIN & FAMILY PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD
SAT 3RD	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	HELEN DOOLEY RIP SS. LAURENCE, DUNSTAN & THEODORE CONFESSIONS AND EXPOSITION AFTER MASS
SUN 4TH	5TH SUN- DAY ORD. TIME	6 PM SAT EVENING 9.30AM 11.30AM	INTS LUCKHURST FAMILY INTS GLORIA LEWIS & FAMILY 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/eastcote/)

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



CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EASTCOTE LENT GROUPS. As every year, CTE are arranging Lent groups to bring together people from our different churches to learn, discuss and share together. This year's groups will be following "Life Source" by Robert Warren and Kate Bruce, which focuses on prayer. The aim of the course is to encourage us to discover a new-found joy and delight in prayer, using different approaches drawn from our rich Christian heritage and a range of activities and Bible sources. The cost of the booklet is £7.50 and everyone attending a group will need to have a copy. There are two options: Tuesdays 2-3.30pm at Pinner Methodist Church or Tuesdays 8-9.30pm at St Thomas More. You can sign up either via the online link <https://forms.gle/F3u3upwHDPZE98> or by signing a paper form at the back of church. Please sign up by **4th February** so that we can contact you advance of the first session, which will be on **Tuesday 20th February**.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL The Parish Pastoral Council met last week with Fr Martin. We welcomed our new secretary, Patricia Barron. We heard from Earlroy Edwards about what he has been learning from Sacred Heart, Ruislip, about ways of involving young people more in the life of the parish. We agreed on a social event of a fundraising nature for the parish, on Sunday 23rd June the feast of St Thomas More, **SAVE THE DATE**. We are looking at ways to raise money for the Music fund to replace the church hymn books. We always welcome help with our social events. If you would like to be a part of the team, contact Tessa Maude, a PPC member and parish administrator. Anthony Inglese, PPC Chair

ST SWITHUN WELLS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL in South Ruislip have a school based Nursery, offering full time places with the eligible 30 free hours and additional paid hours. Nursery tours / applications available in February, please see website for details <https://www.st-swithunwells.hillingdon.sch.uk/admissions/>

DATES FOR THE DIARY



ST VINCENT DE PAUL-will meet in the Library after the 9.30 am Mass **Sunday 4th February**. All are welcome to come along and see what they do, to help those in need of support locally.

LIFE ASCENDING GROUP—meeting next on **Wednesday 7th February** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

FOODBANK— Thank you for your contributions. The next collection will be **Tuesday 13th February 2024**.

AN EVENING OF IRISH SONG—led by the folk group **Saturday 16th March**. More information to follow. **SAVE THE DATE**

ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY - This will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on **Saturday 25th May** at 2.30pm for couples in the Diocese celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend this Mass at the Cathedral and participate in this ceremony to celebrate a wedding anniversary.

SUNDAY 28TH JANUARY 2024 + 4TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

27TH/28TH JANUARY

06:00PM INTS MICALLEF FAMILY

9.30AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11.30AM GRAZIELLA OLIVERO RIP



FOR OUR PRAYERS

SICK PARISHIONERS

Gloria Lewis, Betty O'Neill, Pauline Fitzgerald, Audrey Farrell 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, and Hilda Minoli.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME

Anne Cox, Ann Boone,

Dear Parishioners,

"What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him."

In this Sunday's Gospel we hear about Jesus going into the synagogue and impressing the people in the way he is able to teach and to liberate a man from an evil spirit. They say to each other: 'What is this? A new teaching with authority. He commands even the unclean spirits and they obey him'. Just as the colour black is most clearly seen when it is placed in front of something white or a loud noise is most jarring when someone is sitting in silence; so it is with Jesus and evil. Jesus, the Holy One of God, is most clearly seen when he comes in contact with an evil spirit. In our own journey toward holiness, a profound conversion experience can often come after a life of living in sin. Or when we experience deep wounds or suffering from tragedies or other events, we reach out more sincerely to discover the saving love of God. However, God also works gradually and gently over the course of our lives if we let him. If we are striving to obtain true holiness of life, and we are already living the many virtues to which we are called, the next step closer to God might not be nearly as noticeable. Instead, growth in perfection for one who is already striving for perfection will be very subtle. In this case we are invited to continually seek the more gradual changes that take us from a life of holiness to one of even greater holiness. Whether in the more dramatic cases or the daily living of our faith, it is the person of Jesus who is the way, the truth and the life for us. Through Jesus we discover the power of the defeat of evil, sin and death, that he has won for us and the beautiful truth of his message of God's kingdom of love that he teaches; these are the means by which we become true children of God. Let us reflect, today, upon our own spiritual journey. If we do see serious sins in our life, God wants to profoundly free us and draw us to him through a major conversion. If we do not see serious sin in our life and we already strive daily to become holy, then we can rejoice in the more subtle consolations from God which he sends.

God Bless you, Fr Martin

SPUC WHITE FLOWER APPEAL– There will be a second collection, after all the masses this weekend **27th and 28th January** for the annual appeal for SPUC.

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 shortly. Please return to the parish office by the **end of January**.

PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD There will be a week day mass on Friday 2nd Feb at 9.30 AM to celebrate Candlemas.

CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD – St Matthew's Parish in Northwood is running a 6 week course for adults wishing to offer the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) method of religious formation to children 3-6 years of age. Led by CGS trainers in the parish hall, the course will run on 6 Saturdays 9am - 5pm from 16 March to 7 Sept costing £225. Our parish would be willing to sponsor any parishioners who are interested. For further information, please email Melinda at: cgsnorthwood@gmail.com or to learn more about the CGS and training as a catechist in this method visit: www.cgsuk.org or www.cgsusa.org To register, please go to: <https://forms.gle/akiYWocAaMFwWWfd6> Deadline for registration: **9 February 2024**

We pray for the repose of the soul of



Yvonne Grasso
recently departed.



THE VIGIL LAMP
AT OUR LADY AND THE CRIB
burns for the intentions of

THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH