

**Mass Times
29th April —5th May 2024**

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 29TH APRIL	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	MARIETTA ATIENZA RIP ST CATHERINE OF SIENA
TUES 30TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	INTS CHRISTINA ETUKA ST PIUS V—POPE
WED 1ST MAY	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	INTS FR MARTIN ST JOSEPH THE WORKER
THURS 2ND MAY	8.30 AM	9.00 AM	HENRY FAULKNER RIP L/D ST ATHANASIUS
FRIDAY 3RD	10 TO 11 AM	NO MASS	ROSARY AND EXPOSITION
SAT 4TH	9 TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	MICHAEL MALONEY RIP THE ENGLISH MARTYRS EXPOSITION AND
SUNDAY 5TH 6TH OF EASTER		6.00 PM (SAT) 9.30 AM 11.30 AM	INTS ELIZABETH KING EDWARD GORMAN 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/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



FEAST OF ST THOMAS MORE SUNDAY 23RD JUNE How do we celebrate this year as a parish?

We are planning an event from 1.30—4.30pm, suitable for all ages, to involve food, games and activities.

Are you an ideas person? Can you help to organise this or get involved in the planning?

Our last big celebration was a hog roast in 2019 before lockdown. Can we top that?

Please sign up at the back of church to join the organisers and help make this a true parish celebration.

SAVE THE DATE

CAN YOU VOLUNTEER 1 HOUR EVERY 3 WEEKS TO HELP WITH CLEANING THE CHURCH?

There are 3 teams who take it in turns clean every Thursday. A morning option at 9:30am (after Mass) or two evenings at 7pm. All equipment is provided. If you can join us, please complete a form on the table in the narthex with your details or come along to the next session. See the noticeboard poster for details. *Many hands make light work!*



100 CLUB -The April draw takes place this weekend.

WALSINGHAM TRIP The Hillingdon district **SVP** are planning a trip to Walsingham on 7th July. The estimated cost is £20, but will depend on numbers. If you are interested, please sign the list at the back of church.

PARISH HISTORY BOOK -The income from the sale of the St Thomas More Parish History Book has now covered the printing costs, so any further sales will be profit for the parish. The remaining copies will be held in stock and will be available for purchase from the Parish Office. Thank you for your support in this venture and we hope that you have enjoyed the publication and learned something about our parish that you didn't already know.

LIGHTING A CANDLE —.There are some cards for sale at the back of church that say "I lit a candle for you" which can be given to people to let them know they are in your prayers. There are also a few other new items available to purchase, please have a browse.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



SVP—MEETING The next meeting will be today **Sunday 5th May** at 10.45am in the Library.

FOODBANK Thank you for all the donations. The next collection will be **Tuesday 14th May**, The food bank have requested the following items which they are in particular need of: Pasta sauces, Jams/Spreads , Tinned fruit, Rice, Tinned/Mashed Potatoes, UHT milk, Tea/Coffee, Long life juice.

LIFE ASCENDING GROUP—meeting next on **Wednesday 15th May** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

SUNDAY 28TH APRIL +5TH SUNDAY EASTER +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

27TH/28TH APRIL

6.00 PM FRANCIS POWER RIP

9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11.30 AM MADELINE WIDERBERG— THANKSGIVING



FOR OUR PRAYERS

SICK PARISHIONERS

Giovanna Blasetti, Teresa Collins, Betty O'Neill, 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 McMahan, Norma Kolakowska, and Hilda Minoli.



FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :

Kitty Tobin, Paul Gough, Jo Barton, Charles Cizek, Francis Burns, Martin Baxter

Dear Parishioners,

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.'

In this 5th Sunday of Eastertide we hear Jesus tell us that he is the 'true vine'. Jesus is the only source of the nourishment we need for the new life of grace that we have received through his death and Resurrection and our baptism. Jesus is the only way to Heaven and salvation. We are encouraged to know and love Jesus and be attached to him always by practising our faith. To apply these teachings to our own life, we can begin by looking at our faith as if it were a branch firmly attached to a vine. Do we believe all that God has spoken through his Word? Since faith is the first step in the spiritual life, it must remain firmly grounded in the truth God has revealed. This means seeing the truth in the Word of God revealed in the Scriptures and the teachings of the Church and believing and following those teachings. Next, after affirming our faith in all that God has revealed, do we see concrete acts of love in our life that result from our faith? Do we seek to love God and to love our neighbour as our self? Charity is the fruit of faith. What acts of charity for others can we point to in our life? What have we sensed God calling us to do in a selfless and sacrificial way? Jesus tells us that God has to also prune the vine in our lives so that it remains healthy. Jesus died on the Cross so that we could live a new life beyond evil, sin and death. This invites us to humbly surrender our hearts to God, acknowledging our need of his merciful love and grace. Pruning can be painful and requires sacrifice, patience in the face of trial, overcoming selfishness and doing things we don't always feel like doing. Let us reflect upon this image of the vine that Jesus uses today. It's a lesson from nature for us that reveals the supernatural life of grace at work. Let us not be deterred by any pruning God wants to do. Let us respond with love, forgiveness and mercy and seek to serve others selflessly. Let us pray that God will be able to build up his Kingdom in glorious ways through each one of us.

God bless you, *Fr Martin*

THE RECENTLY DEPARTED



Patricia Proctor, Fr John Warnaby

REST IN PEACE



CAFOD'S SUDAN APPEAL Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers. You can also text Text **CAFODSUDAN** to **70450** to donate £10.

A YEAR OF ENCOUNTER With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. *A Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see cafod.org.uk/encounter for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.

GROTTO UPDATE We are delighted to announce that works will start, week commencing the 19th May 2024. There may be some disruption to use of parts of the car park. Please watch this space for updates.

THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burns this coming week
for the intentions of

CHANDRASENA FAMILY

In thanksgiving

