Mass Times
2nd September– 8th September

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 2ND SEP	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	JIM WALSH **INTS**
TUES 3RD	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	STEPHEN & PAULINE HAWES **INTS–** WEDDING ANNIVERSARY ST GREGORY THE GREAT
WED 4TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	MARIA HILL **IN THANKSGIVING** ST CUTHBERT
THURS 5TH SEP	10 AM 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 6TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	DAVID FREEAR (**A) RIP**
SAT 7TH	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SUN 8TH SEP		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	JOHN DONNELLY (**A) RIP** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH ANN COYNE **(A) RIP**

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/

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– The August draw took place last weekend and the winning numbers were: Cheryl Cardoso No. 59, Margaret Daltrey, No. 8 and Hilda Minoli No. 54. Please collect your envelopes from the sacristy.

PLEASE SEE BELOW AREAS WHERE THE CHURCH NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ AT ONE OF THE WEEKEND MASSES? -The new rota for readers will be coming out soon. Readers on the rota have as their main role: reading the first reading, the responsorial psalm, the second reading and the bidding prayers. Anybody who has been confirmed is eligible to read. You just have to be loud enough and comprehensible enough. Email Anthony Inglese anthony.inglese@btinternet.com or speak to him by 5 September if:

(a) you would like to join the rota and read regularly at one of the weekend Masses; or

(b) you would like to try doing some or all of the readings at one of the weekend Masses as a one-off to help you decide whether you would like to join the full rota as a regular reader.

SOCIAL EVENTS IN THE PARISH—If you enjoy socialising with other parishioners and would like to see more events run at church, maybe this is the time to join together with other like minded people to help plan the parish social calendar and organise events. Please see Fr Martin or message the parish office for more details.

CHURCH CLEANING 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!*

DATES FOR THE DIARY



THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting next on **Wednesday 4th September** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

FOODBANK The next collection is Tuesday **10th September.** Thank you for your generosity and contributions. We have been asked to remind people that the foodbank are unable to take any fresh produce or any medications, which includes vitamins.

CONNEX SUNDAY LUNCH 1-4pm Sunday **15th September–** at St Thomas More. See poster for details to book.

EXPLORING ICONS AND ICONOGRAPHY– Talk and Workshop given by Sr Esther of Turvey Abbey **Saturday 21st September** — pm in St Matthews Church Hall , Northwood. To book a place please e mail northwood@rcdow.org.uk. See poster at the back of church for more details.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER—Embrace your life together in love -both videos and courses provided by Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Next course **21-22nd September** Burnt Oak. All enquiries to wwme.org.uk

SUNDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER +22ND SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND
31ST/1ST SEPTEMBER

6.00 PM TOM GROARKE **RIP**

9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

1 1.30 AM DYLAN BUCKLEY **(A) RIP**



FOR OUR PRAYERS

SICK PARISHIONERS
Izabel Malheiros, Stella Murray, Andrew Hencel, Teresa Collins, Audrey Farrell and those in our local nursing homes especially Mary Richards, Dolores Walsh, Sarah Joyce and Katie Loftus.

FOR OUR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS ESPECIALLY
Peggy McMahon, Norma Kolakowska, Marie Hardy , Hilda Minoli.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME Dylan Buckley, Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O Connor, Charles Aggett, George Barnes, Joan Laurence-Smyth, Ema Fernandes

THE CANDLE IN THE SANCTUARY LAMP
has been donated this week
for the intentions of
THE DOKE AND BENSTED FAMILIES





THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY
burns this coming week
for the intentions of
MARGARET BOONE

Dear Parishioners,

'This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.'

This Sunday s Gospel recounts the criticism aimed at Jesus and his disciples for *eating with unclean hands*
The teachers of Israel had devised a large body of detailed, unwritten, human laws that they treated with the same binding force as the Law of Moses which they received from God. Whenever someone failed to follow the traditions the Pharisees and scribes taught as binding, they took it personally and reacted with judgment. Allowing ourselves to become personally offended often touches on our pride. We do need to have sorrow for the sin we see, but that is different than allowing ourselves to become personally offended. Even if we were to try and show and teach someone what we believe is right and just and they reject that teaching, our response can be sorrow for them and need not be condemnation and judgment. Jesus responds to the Pharisees with a quotation from the Prophet Isaiah: *This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts* Jesus didn t react in an offended and personal way, defending himself or his disciples, but shows the Pharisees how their criticism is false, superficial and misguided. Their worship of God is mean and exacting and blinds them to the wonderful truth in front of them, that God is present in their midst in his divine Son, Jesus Christ. However, this of theirs blindness simply continues and is responsible for eventually sending Jesus to his sacrificial death on the Cross. Even then Jesus does not defend himself, because he is determined to offer the supreme witness of love.
By doing so he wins our salvation, and the salvation of all who will accept him in love. Let us reflect, today, upon any ways that we have taken offense at others, with anger, becoming defensive or argumentative. The guide for each of us is the peace and joy that comes from the Holy Spirit. Even the greatest martyrs remained at peace and felt joy in the midst of their persecution. Let us reflect upon any ways that we have allowed events to upset us and wound our pride. Let us instead, hold on to the truth and remain at peace and united to Jesus, and that will be all the defence we need to make.

God Bless You, *Fr Martin*

BLESSING OF OUR PARISH SHRINE – All parishioners, family and friends are invited to attend the blessing of our new parish shrine next Sunday 8th September at around 12.30pm following the 11.30am Mass which will be celebrated by Bishop Jim Curry. We will be gathering together behind the church as Bishop Jim blesses the shrine and prays for all those who have helped to build it with their donations and prayers and praying also for all past, present and future parishioners and priests of our parish of St Thomas More. Please do come along and participate in this historic moment in the parish. There will be light refreshments available afterwards as well as memorial prayer cards to mark the event.

SVP MEETING will be meeting this **Sunday 1st September** at 10.45am in the Library. All welcome to come along and learn about the work the SVP do in the local community.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE CARE OF CREATION, 1 September 2024 Hope and Act with Creation is the theme this year, drawn from Saint Paul s Letter to the Romans (8: 19-25)and what it means for us to live according to the Spirit, with the hope of salvation born of faith, namely, newness of life in Christ. This starts the Season of Creation that runs to 4th October, the Feast of St Francis of Assisi. We are co-creatures and part of all that God has made. Our well-being is interwoven with the well-being of the Earth. We rejoice in this opportunity to safeguard our common home and all beings who share it. https://www.cbcew.org.uk/popes-message-for-world-day-of-prayer-for-the-care-of-creation-2023/