Mass Times
23rd September– 29th September

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 23RD SEPT	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	CORA AND TARA **INTS** ST PIUS OF PIETRELCINA (PADRE PIO)
TUES 24TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	RICHARD KEATING **RIP** OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM
WED 25TH SEPT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CURTIS FAMILY
THURS 26TH	10 AM 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 27TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	SVP MEMBERS **INTS** ST VINCENT DE PAUL
SAT 28TH	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	JUDY DOKE **INTS** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
SUN 29TH SEPT		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	KITTY POWER **RIP** BILL & WYN MAXTED **(A) RIP** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH 26TH SUNDAY ORDINARY

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



CLEANER REQUIRED– PAID POST- 3 hours a fortnight for the parish offices and presbytery. Please contact the parish office by **25th September,** if you are interested or to find out more.

SCHOOL APPLICATION APPOINTMENTS- Secondary or Primary —Fr Martin will be meeting with the families of regularly practising parishioners, who require forms signed, in 15 minute slots on **Tuesday 24th September** and **Tuesday 1st October** between 4—6 pm. If this applies to you and your child for school places in September 2025, please contact the parish office to make an appointment.

MESSAGE FROM MARIAN MELHUISH, CHAIR OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE Thank you for all your offerings and contributions to St Thomas More Church which enables the parish to keep running for all of us. Many thanks to those who reviewed their offerings during Lent and were able to give more. If every family could increase their contribution by £1 per week it would bring in over £5,000 in a year which would help defray the significant extra costs, such as heating and maintenance charges, that we have all been facing recently. Also, if you pay tax on your income in the UK, as a charity the church can claim the tax back on your donations– 25p for every £1 you donate. Speak to one of the stewards at the Sunday Masses or contact the Parish office for details– you sign a form and we do the rest. It will cost you nothing, as long as you pay more tax in a year than you donate. If you make your contribution via the plate, it would be a great help if you were able to convert cash offerings to online BACS payments, Contactless at the back of church or Standing Orders. Thank you.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER & FASTING FOR LIFE Saturday 28th September 2024. See poster in the narthex.

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting next on **Wednesday 2nd October** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

CAFOD– HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY—4TH OCTOBER. Envelopes are at the back of church.

FOODBANK Thank you for all the donations. The next collection will be on **Tuesday 8th October.** Food parcels include: tinned potatoes, beans, fruits, spaghetti, meat , vegetables, puddings plus noodles, cereal, sugar, jam, condiments, toiletries tea/coffee, long life milk and juice. If you can supply any of these it will help people the local foodbank to continue to supply those in need. In the first six months of 2024, from January to June Hillingdon Foodbank supported more than **9842** people.

BEREAVEMENT CARE CONFERENCE Wednesday **30th October**, Emmanuel Church Northwood 10—3.30pm. A conference for bereavement visitors, counsellors, clergy, family support workers, healthcare professionals, community leaders, teachers and learning support assistants Cost £80. Certificate of Attendance, for CPD purposes. More details: admin@bereavementcareandsupport.uk or see poster in the narthex.

SUNDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER +25TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND
21ST/22ND SEPTEMBER



6.00 PM ANNE & LES WRIGHT **(A) RIP**
9.30 AM EARLROY EDWARDS **INTS**
11.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

FOR OUR PRAYERS

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / NEED PRAYERS
Caroline Roache**,** Kathy Fade, Judy Doke, Peter Sharples, Stella Murray, Andrew Hencel**,** Teresa Collins, Audrey Farrell and those in our local nursing homes especially Mary Richards, Dolores Walsh, Sarah Joyce, Katie Loftus and Christina Enright.

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

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :

Eamon Nolan, Arthur Sudbury, MGR Peter Anglim, Bill Maxted, Les Wright, Merle & Alec Roke, Bernard Meleady

THE CANDLE IN THE SANCTUARY LAMP



has been donated this week
in celebration for the birthdays of

DAN, ALY AND ELOISE RADLETT



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burns this coming week
in remembrance of

GEORGE QUIGLEY

husband to Gillian,
much missed by the Quigley Family

Dear Parishioners,

"Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me."

This Sunday's Gospel asks us to consider the aspect of 'greatness' in our Christian lives. One of the desires that we can have in our lives is for greatness. This is manifested in competitiveness in sports and becomes a driving force in business and politics. It drives us to do better in life, such as in school, artistic endeavours, and hobbies, working hard to perfect various skills and talents so as to excel. The problem is that every good and natural desire we have can be disordered because of temptation and sin. The desire we have for greatness can become an obsession, a cause of discouragement when we fail, a source of jealousy when others appear to do better, and can lead us to pursue empty and superficial goals in life. As they walked along the road with Jesus, the Disciples were arguing among themselves about who was the greatest. Was this was the result of a holy and purified intention or for a desire for greatness that became distorted and turned into unholy competition. The Disciples' concerns are in sharp contrast with the 'greatness' that Jesus offers when he tells them for the second time, that he would have to suffer and die. The greatness of God is in his love for us and how Jesus has expressed that love definitively through his sacrifice on the Cross. Now, to be great, the Christian is asked to make this way of love the centre of their life. To illustrate this Jesus takes a child and says that to learn to show love to a child, and to those who are weakest, is the definition of greatness, because it draws us into the mystery of Christ's presence within each one of us. In heaven, we will all be in awe of those holy souls who are filled with the greatest depths of glory forever. Most likely, they will be widely unknown on earth, but loved and admired in heaven for their greatness in following the commandments of love that Jesus left us. Let us reflect, today, upon the desire for greatness within our own soul. Let us pray that this desire will not fall into selfishness or lead us to see others as competitors. Instead, let us pray that our desire for greatness will lead us to holiness and love so that we will be able to store up for ourselves the most abundant treasures in heaven and radiate that glory forever"

God Bless you, *Fr Martin*

MASS COUNT The annual mass count will take place at all masses this weekend and over the next three weekends.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY -will be meeting this Sunday, 22nd September at 10.45am in the Library. All welcome to come along and learn about the work the SVP do in the local community. **ON FRIDAY, 27TH SEPTEMBER** the **SVP** warmly invite you to attend the 9.30 am mass, on the feast day of St Vincent De Paul, followed by a social gathering with refreshments in the parish Anglim Room.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS – We are hoping to run another RCIA this year to help potential new Catholics learn about the tradition and teaching of the Catholic Christian Church. This is an ideal opportunity to ask friends, spouses, relatives, neighbours or colleagues if this might be a moment for them to find out more about the Church. Please consider who God might be calling to participate in this process and if we may be able to help them with an encouraging invitation. The evening sessions will begin in early October. Please provide the parish office with the names and contact details of those wishing to attend.

BLESSING OF OUR PARISH SHRINE- BISHOP JIM CURRY 8TH SEPTEMBER. Special thanks to all those who helped on the day, to those who helped to fund the project and make it possible, for those who designed and built the shrine, for the planting and maintenance and to Fr Martin for having this vision for St Thomas More. Some photographs from the occasion can be found on the website: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/our-lady-queen-of-love-parish-shrine/