SUNDAY 17TH NOVEMBER +33RD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

16TH /17TH NOVEMBER

6.00 PM RICHARD KEATING **RIP**
9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.30AM ISABEL HUSSAIN **(A)RIP**



FOR OUR PRAYERS

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Sheila Keeble, Ida Houlden, 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 :
Teddy Keating, George Forrow.



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burns this coming week
in thanks for the lives of

THOMAS AND EMA FERNANDES
RIP

Everyday remembered by the Cardoso Family

To make a donation to the church, Scan the code and follow instructions. If you are a Tax payer in the UK, please sign up to Gift Aid your donation. We can re claim 25p in every £1

Dear Parishioners,

“ ”

As we approach the end of our liturgical year, this week we hear Jesus prophesying of his return at the end of time. The language is dramatic and ultimate. We are told that: *“... the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.”* This time of tribulation, prior to the return of the Son of Man, refers to a great persecution of the Church and of those with faith. The Catechism tells us: *Before Christ’s second coming the Church must pass through a final trial that will shake the faith of many believers. The persecution that accompanies her pilgrimage on earth will unveil the ‘mystery of iniquity’ in the form of a religious deception offering men an apparent solution to their problems at the price of apostasy from the truth. (#675).* In every age, including our own, Christians are invited to look at the times in which they live in the light of this prophetic vision. We do not know the day or the hour of Christ’s return. However, this is revealed to us by our Lord to prepare us and to help us endure whatever trials we experience while we wait for this time. The words of Jesus instil hope within us, when we endure the suffering caused by evil, because they are signs that *‘he is near, at the gates.’* In other words, the greater the suffering one endures for the faith, the more present God is. God is there, at the gate of our heart, waiting for us to run to him in trust and hope. The foretelling of the glorious return in glory of Jesus and the end of the world and the establishment of his permanent kingdom as heaven and earth are united gives us a reason to hope. However, it is only through the mystery of our Lord’s suffering and surrender on the Cross that this future reality has been opened up for us. If life seems blessed and positive for us at present, we can draw strength from the Cross of Jesus to work to be more selfless and sacrificial so as to be prepared. If life is challenging right now, we can likewise come to the Cross of Jesus to endure our trials with hope and trust, uniting our sufferings to his as a sacrifice of love. Let us reflect, today, upon the prophecy of Jesus that *“They will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory...”* As we do, we can trust that Our Lord wants us to know that any suffering and tribulation we endure, every *“darkening of the sun”,* is an opportunity for us to turn to him in trust. Let us invite God into these experiences and know that they are signs of his closeness to help purify us and prepare us for the glorious day of Christ’s return.

God Bless You. *Fr Martin*

SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS The second collection this weekend will be for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to **72** retired priests, at a cost of **£976,000**. Caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our diocese.

SVP will be meeting this **Sunday 17th November,** after the 9.30 mass at 10.45am in the library.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CARDS –A parish Christmas card is available in packs of 5 cards for £5, with funds raised going towards the new parish mass books that we need to purchase for the revised translation. Please support this initiative and send a unique card to your family and friends, that features Our Lady Queen of Love from the parish shrine this Christmas. **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS ITEMS** are available to buy at the back of church, including advent calendars. Payments can now be made on the contactless machine too by the church front door, under Repository Shop.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING **next Sunday 24th November** -9.30 am mass will be a children’s mass followed by Breakfast Club, with sausage and bacon rolls in the hall. Drop in after mass and enjoy a tasty treat.

Mass Times
18th November-24th November

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 18TH NOV	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	HOLY SOULS DEDICATION OF THE BASILICAS OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES
TUES 19TH NOV	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	DASHANTHA GOONAWARDENA **(A) RIP**
WED 20TH NOV	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	HOLY SOULS
THURS 21ST NOV	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 22ND-NOV	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	MARGARET AND FAMILY **INTS** ST CECILIA
SAT 23RD-NOV	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	JEANNINE CHENAIS **(L/D) RIP** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** ST CLEMENT
SUN 24TH-NOV		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30AM**	LUCY SANTILLAN **(L/D) RIP** HOLY SOULS PEOPLE OF THE PARISH CHRIST THE KING

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

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL This will be voted on by MPs on **29th November**. We know that assisted suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs to vote against the bill. You can contact your MP by visiting www.livesworthliving.org.uk or write to him/her using the cards by the entrance door, Assist us to live. On this topic there will be a panel discussion with experts at the Jesuit Church of the Immaculate Conception at Farm Street on Sunday 24th November. See poster for details, live streaming will also be available. www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION If your child is in in Year 9 or above and would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Saturday 14th June 2025, 12.00 pm** 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 **12th January 2025.**

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION 2025- If your child is in year 3 or above and would like to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion on **Saturday 17th May 2025 at 12pm,** please complete the forms at the back of church to sign up to the programme starting in the New Year, by **3rd December 2024.**

YOUTH MASS Following on from the successful first Youth Mass which took place on 4th November, we are delighted to be able to announce that the next mass is planned for **Sunday 1st December at 6pm.** All young adults are welcome and those from school year 9 and above. Please spread the word and come along.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT OF BECOMING A TEACHER? The Diocese have a new initiative for sponsoring a 3 week internship for undergraduates in a Diocesan School. See poster for more details.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting on **Wednesday 27th November** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years. This involves half an hour of prayer and a discussion around the current material from the Agency for Evangelisation for small groups.

FOODBANK Thank you for all the donations. The next collection date will be **2nd December 2024**.

PARISH CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE– Sunday 15th December **SAVE THE DATE**