SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY +PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

1ST/2ND FEBRUARY

6.00 PM MOIRA O ROURKE **INTS**
9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.30 AM CATHY FADE **RIP**
6.00 PM YOUTH MASS



FOR OUR PRAYERS

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Tracey Ashby, 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

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

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :
Ann Boone, Manuel Castelino, Bridget Goodwin, Freddie Mascarenhas, Michael McMahon



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY
burn this coming week

for the intentions of

CHARLOTTE JONES AND BABY TOBY

Dear Parishioners,

"Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, just as you promised,

for my eyes have seen the salvation which you prepared for all the nations to see…"

This Sunday we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple, 40 days after his birth and our celebration of Christmas. We hear about Simeon who had spent his whole life preparing for this moment. Simeon was waiting for the coming Messiah. The Holy Spirit had revealed to him that he would see the Him before his death, and this finally happened when Mary and Joseph brought Jesus into the Temple to offer Him to the Lord as an infant. Simeon had lived a holy and devout life and deep within his heart he knew he would be privileged to see the Saviour of the world. At the physical and material level of the world we gain knowledge through our five senses: we see, hear, taste, smell, or feel something, and as a result come to know it to be true. Physical knowledge is very reliable and is the normal way we come to know things. However, the gift of knowledge Simeon had was deeper and was more spiritual in nature. The different types of knowledge bring a different response from us: the spiritual knowledge that is given by the Holy Spirit is to be held in faith and trust. Sometimes we have to wait a long time before seeing the results of what we are hoping or praying for. For Simeon, this interior spiritual knowledge and belief was suddenly united with his five senses when Jesus was brought into the Temple. Simeon then saw, heard and felt this Child whom he believed he would one day see with his own eyes and touch with his own hands. For Simeon, that moment was the culminating experience of his life. Simeon was then given a further gift to prophecy that Jesus would be *the salvation which you prepared for all the nations to see.* Indeed, Jesus then grew up to offer himself on a Cross for all the nations, so that we could both see the gift of God's love, sacrificed for us and also see him resurrected, as the victor over sin and death. Let us reflect, today, upon what God might be saying to us in the depths of our soul. How can we unite the different ways of knowing so that they include a trust and faith in the goodness of God and his love for us? The Christian faith proposes that this is the way we will discover the central purpose and meaning of our lives. This is also the way to retain our hope, as did Simeon, so that we can continue as Pilgrims of Hope, throughout this Jubilee year.

God Bless You, ***Fr Martin***

YOUTH MASS this Sunday 2nd February at 6pm in the church, followed by a social time until 8.30 pm. If you are in school year 9 or above, (or below 30!) this is an opportunity to be with people of similar ages, both at mass and after. Why not bring a friend– All welcome.

SVP—Will next meet this **Sunday 2nd February** after the 9.30 am mass in the library. All are welcome.

FR SEAN CARROLL'S OBITUARY FROM WESTMINSTER DIOCESE– If you would like to read the obituary prepared by the Diocese of the late Fr Sean, former parish priest at The church of the Most Sacred Heart Ruislip, please use this link to our parish website where it can be viewed under NEWS.
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/news/obituary-of-the-late-fr-sean-carroll-rip/

HYMN BOOKS We no have our new hymn books in circulation and have been able to split the old ones into those which need to be recycled and those that can still be used. These will be kept as spares but if anyone would like to take one for home use or knows someone who is perhaps housebound and would appreciate having the hymn book to use whilst watching the live feed at home, please take one. They are in a box by the front entrance.

Mass Times
3rd February—10th February

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 3RD FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	LISA AND MARK **INTS** **ST LAURENCE**
TUES 4TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	BETTY AND RON **INTS**
WED 5TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	MOIRA O ROURKE **INTS** **ST AGATHA**
THURS 6TH FEB	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 7TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	BERNIE MINOLI **(A) RIP**
SAT 8TH FEB	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	HELEN HINDE **INTS** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** **ST JEROME**
SUN 9TH FEB		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	KATHLEEN KENNY **L/D RIP** TESSA MAUDE & FAMILY **INTS** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH **5TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME**

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 WINERS OF THE JANUARY 100 CLUB DRAW: YVONNE H. NO 3, ANNEGIRT H. NO 35, BERNARD L, NO 60, please collect your envelopes from the sacristy.
If you are not signed up for this, it is not too late. You could be the winner of either £100, £50 or £25 each month. for the equivalent of £5 per month, all proceeds to church funds. See posters and flyers for details of how to join.

THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL met on 14 January. The main theme of our discussions was "bringing people together", which is important for the life of our parish. We expressed our congratulations and gratitude to Earlroy Edwards and Fr Martin for getting the monthly Youth Masses up and running. There have been three so far, all well-attended. We look forward to the Folk Group's St Patrick's night on 22 March and to Bernard Luckhurst's dramatization of The Passion, which opens on 8 April. If you would like to find out more about our work, feel encouraged to contact me Anthony Inglese, Chair PPC (anthony.inglese@btinternet.com) or our secretary, Patricia Barron (patricia@rfwassociates.com).

CLOTHES RAILS If anyone has a full height clothes rail they can loan to the church to help store garments for The Passion at Easter, please contact Madaline Luckhurst 020 8866 7706– we are looking for two.

RESPONDING TO THE PSALMS The Spirituality Committee of the Bishops' Conference has been reflecting on how best to support and sustain a person's prayer life. Taking the Responsorial Psalm from the Sunday Liturgy of the Word, we're inviting you to reflect on each verse for a few days and hope to stimulate this process by providing short, simple questions to encourage deeper thought before moving on to the next verse. Please follow this link for more information and to download the monthly material https://www.cbcew.org.uk/responding-to-the-psalms/

DATES FOR THE DIARY



FOODBANK– Thank you for your donations, please keep them coming. The next collection will be on **3rd February.**

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting on **Wednesday 5th February** 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.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Matrimony at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2:30pm
The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025 their **5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, and 60th (and any year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage. Please give your parish these details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email (or phone number, if no email). Details of attendees are then sent by the parish to family@rcdow.org.uk