SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY + 7TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

22ND/23RD FEBRUARY

6.00PM MOIRA O ROURKE **INTS**

9.30AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

11.30AM JOHN HINDE (A) **RIP**



FOR OUR PRAYERS

For those who are sick / In need
Sharon Evans**,** Loreto Berry, 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, Marie Hardy, Hilda Minoli.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :
John Hinde, Matthew Rammelt, Sheila Fitzgerald, Kathleen Dunleavy, Renita Adams.

WE PRAY FOR The repose of the soul of **Alan Edmondson, Derek Perry and Norma Kolakowska** recently departed.

THE CANDLE FOR THE SANCTUARY LAMP



has been donated this week in

THANKSGIVING

from the **HALL FAMILY**





THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burn this coming week
in loving memory of

PAULINE FITZGERALD

RIP

Dear Parishioners,

Love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

In this week's Gospel for the 7th Sunday in our liturgical year we arrive at the most challenging core of the teaching of Jesus: *Love your enemies.* Jesus tells us that God himself is '*kind to the ungrateful and the wicked*.' When we encounter ingratitude from someone or any sort of wickedness, we are tempted to respond in a similar way. Our fallen human nature lures us into cruelty when faced with cruelty. We tend to criticise, condemn, attack or get angry. However, Jesus is very clear that this is not how the *Most High* acts towards us. If wicked people fail to repent they will endure the consequences of their rejection of God's mercy in the final judgment. However, until then, the hope of conversion must always be present. For this reason, we are encouraged to never give up on each other, no matter how difficult this may be. Kindness shown to everyone, in every circumstance, goes to the heart of the mission we have received as children of God and the Gospel. Through the Cross of his Son, God has shown us perfect and sacrificial goodness simply because he has willed to love us in this way. If we want to be *children of God the Most High*, then we are to reciprocate the love given to us. That's the nature of God's love, which cannot be fully received without also allowing it to pour forth from our lives. When we understand this, we will see the reason Jesus instructed us to: *'Love your enemies and do good to them.* This is simply how God has treated us. Let us reflect, today, upon the unlimited love God has for us. It is beyond what we could ever comprehend. Let us reflect, also, upon the great benefit there is in opening ourselves to God's perfect love, kindness, generosity and mercy. The benefit is that we are able to be filled with that which we receive. As we receive this love of God, it necessarily overflows into the lives of everyone we encounter, the good and the wicked. Everyone can always be offered this love so let us not hesitate, for God does not hesitate with us.

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

PANCAKE SUNDAY 23RD FEBRUARY - After the 9.30 folk mass, we will be serving coffee and pancakes, with a variety of toppings. Come along and enjoy this late breakfast together and be imaginative with your toppings. We will also be drawing the raffle. Some of the prizes are on display in the narthex. Beautiful baskets or a mystery wrapped box, 11 prizes in total, the choice will be yours to pick, as the winning numbers are drawn. Tickets are £1 each or £5 a strip—just choose your number and ticket colour on the sign up sheet and use the envelopes provided for ticket money. All proceeds to church funds, thank you

YOUTH MASS- SUNDAY 2ND MARCH 6.00PM for year 9 and above. Followed by a social in the hall to 8.30pm. Come along, bring a friend and spread the word.

RETROUVAILLE
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Retrouvaille is a marriage ministry for couples who are in crisis. They reach out to people who may need their help and support- www.retrouvaille.org.uk or call 0797 338 0443.

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/

Mass Times
24th February to 2nd March

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 24TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	LUISA TOMKINS **INTS**
TUES 25TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	CLIVE & CARMELINA THOMAS **RIP**
WED 26TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	MOIRA O'ROURKE **INTS**
THURS 27TH FEB	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 28TH FEB	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	ROSALIA CATOLICO **(L/D) RIP**
SAT 1ST MARCH	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	ROSALIA CATOLICO **(L/D) RIP** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** **ST DAVID, BISHOP PATRON OF WALES**
SUN 2ND MARCH		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM** **6.00 PM**	PATRICK DENIS AND EILEEN O'SULLIVAN **(A) RIP** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH PAULINE FITZGERALD **(A) RIP** YOUTH MASS **8TH 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

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EASTCOTE—LENT GROUPS "Opening the Scriptures: setting our hearts on fire", written by Clare Amos. There will be two groups, Tuesday afternoons 2.30 to 4pm in Pinner Methodist Church, led by Lynita Conradie, and Wednesday evenings 8 to 9.30pm in the Elsie Fischer Room, St Lawrence Church, led by Jane Inglese. The course takes inspiration from the Road to Emmaus and the words of the disciples: "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was talking to us on the road, while He was opening the scriptures to us?" please follow the link https://forms.gle/ZY6ygaUtJEQv9Dut5 or use the paper sign-up sheet at the back of church, by **28th February.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

TAIZE Service -23rd February at Pinner Methodist Church, Love Lane, PINNER 6.30 pm. Music, readings and prayers reflecting the theme of Loving Kindness.

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

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting on **Wednesday 5th March** 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 half an hour of discussion around the latest literature produced by the diocesan Agency for Evangelisation.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER—FRIDAY 7TH MARCH 2PM Sacred Heart Church, Ruislip, followed by refreshments.

FOODBANK– Thank you for your donations, please keep them coming. The next collection will be on **10th March.**

EVENING OF IRISH SONG - SATURDAY 22ND MARCH in the Parish Hall to celebrate St. Patrick's Day led by the Folk Group. Free entry. Donations to Barnardo's Eastcote and Churches Together in Eastcote welcome. Doors open at 7.00 and singing commences at 7.30. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. Please bring your own picnic for the interval.

SPECIAL MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS– 5TH APRIL 2025 Westminster Cathedral celebrated by Bishop McAeenan at 2pm. Open to individuals, couples and families, no booking required.

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY AT WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL **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 let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

LIVE STREAMING –For INFORMATION -All the parish masses and services are live streamed. Those on the sanctuary, sanctuary steps during mass or seated at the front of the church, may appear on the live feed on line.