SUNDAY 6TH APRIL + 5TH SUNDAY LENT +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

5TH/6TH APRIL

6.00 PM BRIDGET GRAYDON **(L/D) RIP**
9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.30 AM MARY CONNOLLY AND JAMES & KATHLEEN MASKELL **RIP**

FOR OUR PRAYERS

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Sharon Evans, Loreto Berry, Ida Houlden, Stella Murray, Andrew Hencel, Teresa Collins, Audrey Farrell.

THOSE IN OUR NURSING HOMES especially Dolores Walsh, Sarah Joyce, Katie Loftus, Hilda Minoli.



FOR OUR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS ESPECIALLY
Peggy McMahon, Marie Hardy.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :
Patrick Dixon, Mollie Durkin. Anthony Durkin, Anthony Ryan.

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Anne Shanahan **RIP**

THE CANDLE FOR THE SANCTUARY LAMP



has been donated this week
in Loving Memory of

STEPHEN HIGGINS RIP

On the occasion of his birthday





THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burns this coming week
in Loving Memory of
the deceased members of
THE O'ROURKE FAMILY

Dear Parishioners,

"Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."

For the Fifth Sunday of Lent we are offered the Gospel story of a woman accused of sin who is dragged before a crowd for judgment. The scribes and Pharisees present this woman to Jesus to see if he will be soft on her sin or have to submit her to the full penalty of being stoned. What a painful and humiliating experience this must have been for her. Interestingly no man is similarly accused. There is something hostile and aggressive in the mob's apparent frenzy to see this woman punished, but no similar treatment seems to be extended towards a male counterpart. Thankfully, the Saviour of the world was able to care for her and help her navigate this situation through his abundant mercy. Today we can reflect on our own life experience. How far are we willing to go when it comes to mercy? It is easy for us to resort to condemnation when we see the sins of others. We might feel justified in condemning them and even obliged to do so out of a desire to condemn sin itself. However, the words and actions of Jesus show that the sin can be differentiated from the sinner. Sin must be condemned and was condemned by our Lord when he said to this woman: *"Go, and from now on do not sin anymore."* Though he condemned her sin, Jesus did not condemn her, as he said: *"Neither do I condemn you."* The mercy of God is infinite and therefore a mystery. On the Cross, Jesus cried out *"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do."* Imagine the surprise that the first hearers of those words would have had. How could this man ask that God forgive the people who were executing him? Perhaps the only person who truly understood this prayer of mercy from the Cross was Jesus' own mother as she stood there gazing at him with love. Yet, by this totally sacrificial act, Jesus won for all the world the total forgiveness of all sins for those who recognise their need for God's mercy. Let us reflect, today, upon how deeply we seek to understand God's mercy. Do we rejoice when mercy is offered to another? None of us can claim to be without sin; therefore, none of us has the right to cast a stone at another. Let us allow the apparent scandal of God's mercy to challenge us so that we can both receive God's infinite mercy and also act as an instrument of that mercy to everyone.

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

PASTORAL LETTER– A copy of this weeks pastoral letter is available on line using the following link: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/eastcote/news/pastoral-letter-4th-5th-april-2025/ or some copies will be available in church.

EASTER FLOWERS– There will be a collection this weekend for anyone who would like to contribute to Easter Flow**ers.**

YOUTH MASS– This Sunday **6th April 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.

DRAMATISATION OF THE PASSION - LAST CHANCE TO BUY Tickets for "The Last Days of Jesus, " the dramatisation of The Passion on Thursday 10th and 11th April at 7.30 pm and Saturday 12th April at 3.00pm, will be available after all Masses this weekend or through Jackie Keating on **07932 051742**.

SVP will be meeting this Sunday **6th April** after 9.30 am mass. The annual pilgrimage to Walsingham organised by the SVP takes place this year on **SUNDAY 1ST JUNE.** If you are interested in going, please let the Parish Office know.

EUCHARISTIC MINSTERS– Please see sign up sheet at the back of church for Easter Services availability. Thank you

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
7th April—13th April

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 7TH APRIL	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	EVELYN BRIONARSKI **INTS** ST JOHN THE BAPTIST DE LA SALLE
TUES 8TH APRIL	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM** **11.30AM**	LIZ ALEXANDER **(L/D) RIP** **FUNERAL** OF THE LATE TRACY ASHBY **RIP**
WED 9TH APRIL	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	IN THANKSGIVING **INTS**
THURS 10TH APRIL	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 11TH APRIL	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM 	JOHN HINDE **(A) RIP** **FOLLOWED BY STATIONS OF THE CROSS** ST STANISLAUS
SAT 12TH APRIL	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	LUISE SANDER **(L/D) RIP** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS**
SUNDAY 13TH APRIL 		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	ANTHONY RYAN **(A) RIP** SHARON EVANS AND FAMILY **INTS** Children's Mass– Passion Playlet PEOPLE OF THE PARISH PALM SUNDAY

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

THE 100 CLUB DRAW will take place this weekend for March. Winning numbers will be announced next week in the newsletter.

GOOD FRIDAY 18TH APRIL 2025 There will be a **Stations of the Cross Service for children at 10am.** This will involve the children as much as possible and will make the way of the Cross understandable to them. We invite families to "adopt" a Station. If you do this, your children will be enabled to take an active part in the service with your support. Please sign the paper form in the porch by 13th April (Palm Sunday) and I will contact you during Holy week to give you more details. If you have any questions please email jinglese@btinternet.com

ASSISTED DYING It's looking more likely that the final vote on the Bill in the House of Commons will be delayed until either **16th May** or later. If you have not yet registered your concerns with your MP, this can be done **ONLINE** as Petitions are being kept open for the time being. **https://carenotkilling.org.uk/petition/** OR the **QR code**

DATES FOR THE DIARY

FOODBANK–We have received a thank you from Hillingdon Foodbank for our joint contributions with St Lawrence church that totalled 75.2 kilograms. Special thanks also to Anna who delivers them for us each month. The next collection will be on **7th April**.

ANNUAL LENTEN TALK SATURDAY 12TH APRIL—Given by Fr John Hemer, reflections on Christ's Resurrection and our Baptism at St Luke's Church, Pinner in the Parish Centre at 10.30 am. See poster for details

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting on **Wednesday 16th April** 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.

JUBILEE FOR THE YOUTH –SUNDAY 27TH APRIL FROM 3 PM—An afternoon of praise , reflection, adoration and Holy Mass followed by a party in the parish Hall . All young people from confirmation age are invited to celebrate the canonisation of Blessed Carlo Acutis in this Jubilee Year. St Gregory the Great Church, South Ruislip. See poster

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY : 8 PM Mass of the Last Supper and washing of the feet
GOOD FRIDAY: 10 AM Children's Stations of the cross
3 PM Liturgy of the Word with Communion
HOLY SATURDAY: 8.30 PM Easter Vigil, with reception into the church of the RCIA candidates
EASTER SUNDAY MORNING: 9.30 AM AND 11.30 AM— HOLY MASS

