SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER + 30TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

6.00 PM MARY O'SULLIVAN **(A) RIP**
9.30 AM SHARON EVANS **INTS**
11.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE P[ARISH

FOR OUR PRAYERS



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

THOSE IN OUR NURSING HOMES especially Sarah Joyce, Katie Loftus, Hilda Minoli, Martin Duggan, Ray and Elizabeth King.

FOR OUR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS
especially Marie Hardy **,** Pat Faille.

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME :

Tom McKearney, Ted Blundell, Julia Hoy, Tina Galvin, Kathleen Murchan, David Barker, John McMahon, Peter Hutchinson, Clair Wheeler



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY
has been donated this week for the intentions of

THE SCHAEFFER FAMILY

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/

Dear Parishioners,

O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.'

This Sunday we hear the parable of Jesus about the pharisee and the tax collector. The different ways they act in the synagogue shows a sharp contrast. The pharisee speaks to God about his achievements and his own righteousness whilst the tax collector humbly stays at the back and can only say: *'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.'* We can detect the sin of pride in the Pharisee and a also lack of self-knowledge. Even his physical posture of standing can depict pride because throughout the Scriptures, kneeling, or even falling prostrate, is the disposition of the humble. In addition to standing, the pharisee's prayer was a description of his own goodness. His prayer suggests that he doesn't need God in order to do good. This is also seen in the fact that he asks nothing of God. The result is that God gives him nothing, since he asked for nothing. In contrast, the tax collector expresses humility by bowing his head to the ground, not even daring to look up to Heaven. This reveals that he did not consider himself worthy of God's grace. All he can do is simply say, from the heart: *'O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.'* These words are a perfect model of prayer because the tax collector knows he doesn't deserve help but he still begs for God's gift of his mercy. This mercy is the fundamental gift of love that Jesus comes to give us by his sacrifice of his life for us. On the Cross Jesus says: *'Forgive them Father, for they know not what they do.'* When we pray, this gift of mercy is what we are invited to receive, whilst we express our gratitude in response. Let us reflect this week on how we pray. What is the disposition of our heart and for what do we pray? Do we begin our prayer in humility? We begin the Mass by examining our conscience and saying *'Lord, have mercy'*. Humility like this helps us to see ourselves as God sees us, and this will help us open ourselves to the grace we need from God to grow in holiness. This is the humble truth on which all our prayer can be based. The more we can humble ourselves in this way, the more God will lift us up and pour forth his mercy upon us, through Jesus, his beloved Son.

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



British summer time ends this weekend, don't forget to turn your clocks back and take advantage of that extra hour in bed.

NOVEMBER DEAD LIST –MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS During the month of November, we remember the Holy Souls at mass. If you would like your loved ones to be included, please complete a sheet with their name/names on and place in an envelope found at the back of church. Your mass offering can also be placed in the envelope. If you are a tax payer, please consider Gift Aid for your offering and complete the blue gift aid form. The names will be placed in a box, which will remain on the altar for the month of November.

ALL SOUL'S DAY -MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER– There will be mass at 9.30 am and also a special Mass at 7pm for All Souls and especially for those who are bereaved, with an opportunity to remember our loved ones.

YOUTH MASS next **Sunday 2nd November 6pm** followed by food/social in the hall. If you are in school year 9 or above, come along and bring a friend. We would love to see more youth, please encourage them to come. We are very fortunate to be able to offer this at St Thomas More but it needs to be supported. Families are also welcome to come along to the mass too. Celebrate this Feast Day with Mass and a social after. Why not give it a go.

RED BOXES If you have a red mission , please bring these to church for counting and hand in or leave in the sacristy.

Mass Times
27th October—2nd November 2025

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 27TH OCT	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	JACK LEIGH **RIP**
TUES 28TH OCT	9 .30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	CATHY FADE **(A) RIP** SS. SIMON AND JUDE
WED 29TH OCT	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	ANNE MC ARDLE **(A) RIP** BLESSED MARTYRS OF DOUAI
THURS 30TH OCT	10 AM— 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 31ST OCT	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	MARY RICHARDS **RIP**
SATUR-DAY 1ST NOV	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	PATRICIA HANDSCOMBE **INTS** BLESSED VIRGIN MARY **EXPOSITION AND**
SUN-DAY 2ND NOV	ALL SAINTS	6.00 PM **SAT EVE** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	MARY KELLY **(A) RIP** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH BILL SMYTH **INTS** ALL SAINTS

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 The draw for October will take place this Sunday– winners announced in the newsletter next weekend and displayed in the narthex.

RED BOXES If you have a red mission box at home, please bring these to church for emptying and counting. They can be placed in the sacristy after mass.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026 If your child is in year 9 or above and they would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on 24th May 2026, applications are now open. Forms can be found as you come into church or on the website. The course will begin in the New Year.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 If your child is in year 3 or above and you would like to enrol for the First Reconciliation and Holy Communion programme, please complete both the application form and medical form found in the narthex or download them from the website. The closing date for applications is **30th November.**

DRAMATISATION OF THE PASSION The video link for the "THE LAST DAYS OF JESUS" is now available. It is not open to general access, so if you would like the link please contact Bernard Luckhurst, preferably by e mail bernardjluckhurst@btopenworld.com or call **020 8866 7706 (Mob: 07770 731060)** There is also a transcript of the dialogue you can request at the same time to supplement the sometimes quieter segments of the presentation.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS – We are running 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 started last week, but its not too late. Please provide the parish office with the names and contact details of anyone who may like to join.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meet next on **Wednesday 29th October** 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.

SVP will meet next on **Sunday, 2nd November** after the 9.30 am Mass in the Library.

FOODBANK–next collection **Monday 3rd November**. Thank you for your continues support and donations. The foodbank are desperately short of stock at the moment. The following tinned and cupboard / dried items are needed: Potatoes, puddings, fruit, noodles, jam, sugar, cooking sauces, juice, rice, toilet roll. Thank you.

BLESSING OF THE GRAVES will take place for Northwood Cemetery this year on 8th November, 2pm