SUNDAY 30TH NOVEMBER + FIRST SUNDAY ADVENT +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

6.00 PM JACK KEATING **(A) RIP**

9.30 AM MARGARET RIST **(A) RIP**

11.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

FOR OUR PRAYERS

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Judy Doke**,** Bill Garvey , Loreto Berry, Ida Houlden, Stella Murray, Andrew Hencel, 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 : Albert Gray, Margaret Rist, Derek Miles, Sheila Carey, James Reilly, James Tobin, Dorothy Heaney.



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY
has been donated this week
In loving memory of

JACK KEATING

THE CANDLE FOR THE SANCTUARY LAMP
has been donated this week
for the intentions of the

SCHAEFFER FAMILY





Dear Parishioners,

'Stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

This Sunday we begin our new liturgical year with the season of Advent, in which we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. As the Church, we seek the grace to *'Stand ready because the Son of Man is coming...'* For the human race this ultimately means preparing to welcome the Son of Man in this world when Jesus returns in glory at the end of time. How do we prepare for this? What can we do? Through the help given by God we can ask that we may grow in the gift of faith. The faith and trust that we carry in our hearts and minds, according to the tradition of Christianity, is that God has come to be with us to reveal his truth and his love to us through his beloved Son, Jesus Christ. By the goodness of his life among us, by the depth of his beautiful teaching, by the unrelenting example of his care and compassion for us and finally his sacrificial death on a Cross and his glorious Resurrection and Ascension into heaven, Jesus has shown God-is-with-us. By giving his life for us, Jesus has definitively assured us of God's divine mercy, which can liberate us from all evil, sin and death. By rising from the dead Jesus also proves the existence of heaven. This opens up the treasures of God's everlasting love for us as we are invited to both contemplate the beauty of God in the new born Jesus at Christmas and simultaneously to prepare for God's plan for the future of the world. This entire world is returning to God; the question is – will it be willingly or reluctantly? Let us reflect, today, on how we can *stand ready* this Advent and renew our spiritual lives through our prayer and our participation in this holy season. Let us ask to be led by God's grace to a deeper trust in the wonderful promises of our Christian faith. Let this desire in us be the antidote to fear and doubt and may it inspire us to hope and pray for our world – that all people may find the strength to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man.

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

POSADA -As we enter the season of Advent we are once again following a Mexican tradition of Posada (travelling nativity) and welcome Mary and Joseph into our homes, moving around the parish. If you would like to take part and host these figures, please sign the list at the back of church and supply your contact details. (This is not just for young families, it is open to all) Once the list is complete, you will receive the contact details for the person hosting the day before you, so that you can arrange to collect the figures from them. Mary and Joseph will visit the Carol Service and then go back out to hosting families to return on Christmas Eve 6pm mass. Please sign up this weekend.

CHRISTMAS ITEMS There are advent calendars, Christmas cribs and other items in the repository for sale. There are also hand made Christmas cushions, suggested donation of £5. We have hand made Christmas tree angels too. Payment can be made either using the contactless machine, option repository shop or by cash / cheque.



AN EVENING OF SONG TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Led by the Folk Group. Doors open at 7.00 and singing starts at 7.30pm.
Bring your own picnic for you and your guests. No charge, donations on the night.
Please see posters for more details and sign up sheet for numbers if you are coming.



Mass Times
1st December to 7th December

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 1ST DEC	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM	VELAUTHAN THANMALINGHAM **(A) RIP**
TUES 2ND DEC	9 .30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	CHRIS CHANDRASENA– **THANKSGIVING**
WED 3RD DEC	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	TOBY JONES **INTS** ST FRANCIS XAVIER
THURS 4TH DEC	10 AM— 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 5TH DEC	9.30 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	FRANCISCA GUERRERO **(A) RIP**
SATURDAY 6TH DEC	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	PETER O ROURKE **(L/D) RIP** ST NICHOLAS **EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS**
SUNDAY 7TH DEC		6.00 PM **SAT EVE** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM**	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH PEGGY MCMAHON **RIP** CLIVE AND LENA THOMAS **(A) RIP** SECOND SUNDAY ADVENT

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 November draw will take place this weekend.

COUNTING ROTA'S—hard copies are available in the narthex, if you haven't already received this via e mail.

PARISH BREAKFAST– special thanks to Denise and Robert, her right hand man, who supplied a lovely parish breakfast last Sunday after the 9.30am mass.

HALL FLOOR—The parish hall with be closed and doors sealed with no access, from Wednesday **17th December** to **Saturday 10th January** to allow for sanding and re vanishing. Access to the toilets will be from the front door and activities will be continuing in the Anglim Room. This will be funded by the National Lottery grant received earlier in the year. Any queries, please contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 Thank you to those who have enrolled– e mails will be sent out shortly with dates / programme.
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, please complete the application forms by the front entrance to church or on the church website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SVP—meet next on **SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER** after the 9.30 am mass in the library.

NEXT FOOD BANK Collection will be on **MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER** They are in particular need of Tinned potatoes/ packet mashed potato, Longlife milk and the usual following list: Lentils/pulses, Tinned fruit, Tinned spaghetti, Tinned vegetables, Rice, Juice, Sugar, Biscuits/treats, Jams/ Bread spread, Sauces/ Condiments, Noodles, Toiletries, Puddings.

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meet next on **WEDNESDAY 10TH DECEMBER** at 2.30pm in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

ST LUKE'S ADVENT MORNING OF RECOLLECTION on **SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER-**This year we welcome Clement Harrold, a contributor and partner of the St. Paul Center, USA, who will help us reflect on the deeper meaning of this Christmas season: "**The Greatest History Ever Told: Advent Hope for a Hurting World".** 11:30 am start in the church, to conclude at 1:15 pm. A light lunch, coffee and tea will be served in the Parish Centre at the break.



PARISH CAROL SERVICE SUNDAY -14TH DECEMBER

Starting at 3pm, finishing with a candlelit procession from the church to the Shrine of Our Lady, followed by warming refreshments. Come along– bring a friend or neighbour.

CTE CAROL SERVICE—TUESDAY 16TH DECEMBER 8 PM- this year hosted by St Thomas More -All welcome.