SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER + SECOND SUNDAY ADVENT +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

6.00 PM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
9.30 AM	PEGGY MCMAHON **RIP**
11.30 AM	CLIVE AND LENA THOMAS **(A) RIP**

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

PATRICK O'ROURKE

RIP

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

EVANS FAMILY





Dear Parishioners,

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.'

On this Second Sunday of Advent we hear, from the Gospel about St John the Baptist. John was the one that Isaiah prophesied would come before the Messiah. John was given the privilege and responsibility of being the herald of the Saviour of the World, announcing: '*Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths*.' By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, John the Baptist was driven into the desert from where he drew many people to accept a message of repentance in preparation for the coming of Jesus. Like John the Baptist, God continues to call us today to follow in his footsteps. The '*way of the Lord*' still needs to be prepared in our hearts and in our world. God desires that everyone would know the everlasting saving love revealed in Jesus and he still needs prophets to prepare the way for his continual coming by grace and his Second Coming at the end of time. We are constantly made aware in our times of the amount of bad news which tells of discord, conflict and suffering in so many peoples' lives. Every one of us is invited by God to discern how we might witness to the Gospel every day in our lives in the circumstances in which we live to be a presence of faith, hope and love in response to this need. We do this by the example of our actions, our words and by numerous other ways that God provides. The first 'desert' we can look to in this holy season is our own hearts. By the gift of God's Son and by the sacrifice of his life on the Cross, we can now find a way forward beyond the effects of evil, sin and death, into the new life of resurrected love in God's friendship. Let us reflect, today, upon all the 'deserts' to which we have been called, so as to prepare our self and others for the coming of Jesus into our world. Let us ask God to help us in this holy season to seek to enter those deserts and to be open to be a channel of God's grace in all circumstances.

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

SVP—meet this Sunday after the 9.30 am mass in the library.

YOUTH MASS there will be no youth mass on Sunday evening at 6pm this weekend.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS There will be a collection after the masses this weekend and next weekend for Christmas flowers. Thank you.

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

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.



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.

Mass Times
7th December to 14th December

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 8TH DEC	9.30 AM TO 10.15 AM	9.30 AM	PATRICK O'ROURKE **RIP** THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
TUES 9TH DEC	9 .30 AM TO 10.15 AM	**9.30 AM**	BABY EDITH WALSHE **RIP** ST JUAN DIEGO CUAUHTLATOATZIN
WED 10TH DEC	9.30 AM TO 10.15 AM	**9.30 AM**	SHARON EVANS **RIP** OUR LADY OF LORETO
THURS 11TH DEC		**NO MASS**	**CHURCH CLOSED**
FRIDAY 12TH DEC	9.30 AM TO 10.15 AM	**9.30 AM**	JEANETTE HALL **INTS** OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
SATURDAY 13TH DEC	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	LAURIE SYMONDS **INTS** ST LUCY, VIRGIN AND MARTYR **EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS**
SUNDAY 14TH DEC		6.00 PM **SAT EVE** **9.30 AM** **11.30 AM** **3.00 PM**	DONNA SCHAEFFER, PATRICIA HEFTLER, PATRICIA SCHIEL **RIP** PEGGY MCMAHON **RIP** CLIVE AND LENA THOMAS **(A) RIP** **PARISH CAROL SERVICE** THIRD 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– Winning numbers for the November draw: Maria F. No 20, Anne H. No 35, Madaline No 89. Please collect your envelopes from the sacristy.

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

READERS ALWAYS WANTED-We always welcome new readers to the rota for the Saturday evening and Sunday Masses. Let me know if you would like to join the rota or even if you would like to try it just once and see how you get on. Anthony Inglese anthony.inglese@btinternet.com, 07710 160977

CHRISTMAS EVE—FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS 6PM All the children are invited to come and take part by dressing as a **shepherd** or **angel**. This mass gets very busy so please arrive early.

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.

SERVE YOUR PARISH COMMUNITY — Become a Foundation Governor at St Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School. We provide full training, guidance, and mentoring. We're looking for parishioners who care deeply about children's spiritual and educational growth, support the school's Catholic mission. Whatever your background or experience, your skills can make a real difference to the parish and school community. Around **6–8 meetings per year**, plus occasional visits and training. Contact governance@ascat.co.uk.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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.

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