SUNDAY 11TH JANUARY +THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD+

MASSES THIS WEEKEND

10TH/11TH JANUARY

6.00 PM JOHN, ELLEN & MARY MCANDREW **(A) RIP**
9.30 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH
11.30 AM MASS OF THANKSGIVING–WENDY KENNEDY

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Josephine McRae, 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 :
Victoria Gattey, Emile Potts.

THE CANDLE FOR THE SANCTUARY LAMP

has been donated this week
in loving memory of

ELLEN MCANDREW

RIP



THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY

burns this coming week
in loving memory of

ALICE CLIFFORD

RIP

Dear Parishioners,

"You are my beloved Son; with whom I am well pleased."

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord concludes the Christmas Season for us and leads us into the start of Ordinary Time. From a Scriptural point of view, this event in Jesus' life is also a transitional moment from his hidden life in Nazareth to the beginning of his public ministry. As we commemorate this glorious event, we can ask: why was Jesus baptised? John's baptism was one of repentance, an act by which he invited his followers to turn from sin and to turn to God. But Jesus was sinless, so what was the reason for his baptism? We see that Jesus' true identity was made manifest through his humble act of baptism. *"You are my beloved Son; with whom I am well pleased,"* spoke the voice of the Father in heaven. Furthermore, we are told that the Spirit descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove. Thus, Jesus' baptism is in part a divine manifestation of who he is. Jesus is the Son of God, a divine Person who is one with the Father and the Holy Spirit. This public testimony is an *epiphany*, a revelation of the true identity of Jesus for all to see as he prepares to begin his public ministry. Jesus allows himself to become identified with sinners. By sharing in an act that was focused upon repentance, Jesus speaks volumes through his action of baptism. Jesus came to unite himself with us, to enter our sin and to enter into our death. By entering the water, Jesus anticipates his entry into death itself on the Cross and rises triumphantly, allowing us to also rise with him to new life. For this reason, Jesus' baptism was a way of him sanctifying the waters of our own baptism. The water itself, from that moment onward, would be endowed with the divine life of Jesus and the Holy Spirit to be communicated to all the baptised. Therefore, sinful humanity is now able to meet divinity through baptism, becoming beloved sons and daughters of God. This Sunday at the start of our new year is an ideal time to treasure the gift of our own baptism and to pray that we will come closer to Jesus in the coming months and as we follow him in our lives.

God Bless You, *Fr Martin*

HALL FLOOR We are grateful to the National Lottery and those in our Finance Committee, who worked to secure a grant for replacing the narthex floor and hall kitchen/toilets and for the refurbishment of the hall wooden floor. The works are now complete and have made such a difference helping to offer a warm welcome to all who attend and visit the parish. Special thanks also to Marian and Paul and their team who have painstakingly replaced the feet protectors on all of the hall chairs and tables to help ensure the floor surface is protected from damage.

CHURCH FLOWERS Thank you to all those who generously gave donations towards the Christmas flowers. There have been many compliments regarding the flower arrangements and how beautiful the church looked for our Christmas celebrations. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Madaline Luckhurst for her many years of service to the church with her flower ministry /talents, together with the additional hours spent designing and purchasing the flowers, which goes on behind the scenes alongside the arranging. She has been instrumental in organising and teaching the current team of arrangers that we are very fortunate to have in this parish. Special thanks also to Margaret who has been such a loyal support to her in this. As she stands down from taking the lead, we hope that she can take a well earned rest and sit back and enjoy the displays produced by the team who are stepping up to the challenge of taking over without her at the head. Thank you to Maria and Susanne who have agreed to head this.

Mass Times
12th January to 18th January

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 12TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	THANKSGIVING -COLLEEN WALLACE ST AELRED OF RIEVAULX
TUES 13TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	LEONIE CAMPBELL **RIP** ST HILARY
WED 14TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	JAKE HALL **INTS**
THURS 15TH	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRIDAY 16TH	9 AM TO 11 AM	9.30 AM 11.30 AM	MARGARET NEVIN **(L/D) RIP** **FUNERAL** OF THE LATE JANINA BARBARA ZAK **RIP**
SAT 17TH	9 TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	ROY MITCHELL **(L/D) RIP** **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS** ST ANTHONY ABBOT
SUN 18TH JANU-ARY		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30AM**	MARY (KITTY) KEATING **RIP** PEOPLE OF THE PARISH LINA & CLIVE THOMAS **RIP** AND FAMILY SECOND 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

100 CLUB The draw will take place this weekend for December. Winning numbers will be announced in the news-letter next week and displayed on the board in the narthex.

WORLD YOUTH DAY, SOUTH KOREA 2027 – Westminster Diocese is organising a group to go to the World Youth Day next year in South Korea. Each parish is being invited to begin by nominating one parishioner to go, who will be over 18 by next summer. More places may become available. Given the distance and the level of transport and accommodation costs, t is estimated that the total cost will be around £3000. Our parish would be in a position to partly financially support someone as well as encourage any fundraising activities that might be undertaken to help raise funds. More information about the World Youth Day can be found here www.youtube.com/dowym . Please contact the parish office to register interest.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION Thank you to all who have signed up for the Sacrament of Confirmation 2026. E mails will be sent out next week with the programme details, which starts on 10th February.

RADIO MARIA—If you like to listen to the radio, this is a Catholic 24 hour radio station based in the Uk and also part of the world family of Radio Maria formed in 1998. Follow this link to learn options on how to listen and what the daily programmes involve. https://radiomariaengland.uk/ examples are the Angelus, Rosary , readings of the day, Holy Mass, poetry , hymns, discussions.

FLAT TO RENT Two double bedrooms, allocated parking close to Pinner High Street—available from 15th January. Contact Teresa 07792 308912 for further details.

DATES FOR THE DIARY



FOODBANK– Thank you for your donations, the next collection will be **Monday 12th January** 2026.

PPC MEETING—The next meeting will be **14th January at 8pm** in the library.

SVP will meet next on **Sunday 18th January** after the 9.30 am mass.

THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP meeting on **Wednesday 21st January** 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.

LIVE STREAMING –For information: All the parish masses and services are streamed live, for people who are unable to attend in person. Those on the sanctuary during mass and when receiving communion, may appear on the live feed on line. If you wish to avoid this, please sit further back in church.

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/