SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER 2026 + 29TH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME +

MASSES THIS WEEKEND
17TH/18TH OCTOBER



6.00 PM	EBENEZER ODEI-KWALIA **RIP**
9.30 AM	EILEEN DARCY (**L/D) RIP**
11.30 AM	PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK / IN NEED
Tom Cole, Josephine McRae, Ida Houlden, Teresa Collins, Audrey Farrell.

THOSE IN OUR NURSING HOMES especially
Sarah Joyce, Katie Loftus, Hilda Minoli, Bill Garvey , Ray & Elizabeth King, Angela Johnson, John Moore.

FOR OUR HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS
especially Marie Hardy**,** Pat Faille, Flora Zudthipunmare

FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES OCCUR AROUND THIS TIME : Gary Ashby, Betty Benstead, Anthony Mullin, Suan Mullin, John Henrick, Eileen Athanasiou, Ellen McAndrew,

THE CANDLE FOR THE SANCTUARY LAMP



has been donated this week
in loving memory of

MARY O' SULLIVAN

RIP





THE VIGIL LAMP AT OUR LADY
burns this coming week
in thanksgiving for

ST JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO

Dear Parishioners,

"Render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God."

In the Gospel reading for this Sunday we hear the response given by Jesus to the attempted trap set for him by the Pharisees. Jesus is asked if it is lawful to pay the Roman taxes or not. If Jesus says, 'yes, it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar' he can be accused of being a Roman sympathiser and fall out with his Jewish contemporaries. However, if Jesus says 'no, it's not lawful to pay taxes to Caesar' he can be accused of rebellion against the Roman government. By seeking a 'yes' or 'no' answer, the Pharisees try to get Jesus into trouble no matter what answer he gives. In response, Jesus begins by asking whose '*likeness'* is on the coin used for the taxes. The Greek word used for likeness is *eikon,* from which comes the English word 'icon'. The *eikon* of Caesar on the coin means that it belongs to Caesar which legitimises the lawfulness of paying taxes to him. We could see however, that Jesus is also alluding to another occurrence of that word in the book of Genesis, when we are told God makes man and woman in his '*image and likeness.*' The Greek word used for this term uses the same word, *eikōn.* Man and woman are therefore icons of the creator and we are all created to bear the likeness of God in ourselves and our lives. Our likeness of God is threatened by the damage of sin and therefore Jesus comes among us to restore our true likeness by the gift of his Gospel. This is most true when Jesus allows his own perfect likeness of his Father to be crucified for us. When Jesus finally says to the Pharisees *"Render to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God*" he means – let Caesar's money be given to Caesar, but give to God what is most like God; our love, our service and our lives. Let us pray on this World Mission Sunday to be witnesses of this Gospel message in all we do and say to always give to God what belongs to God.

God bless you, ***Fr Martin***

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY there will be retiring collections after all the masses this weekend. "World Mission Sunday is our chance to show love and solidarity to our brothers and sisters overseas. In offering our prayers, we join with missionaries everywhere in communion and compassion to support them in spreading the Good News, Your prayers and your donations on World Mission Sunday support our Church family overseas." Thank you

SVP—Will meet this **Sunday 18th October** after the 9.30 mass in the Library.

LINDA GRIMES RIP



As a parish we are extremely saddened by the unexpected death of Linda Grimes this week following a sudden deterioration in health last Thursday. Linda gave an enormous amount of time to the parish over many years, most recently managing all the counting and banking of donations, fundamental to the day to day running of the parish. She also supported the Parish Office / our current and previous administrators and was always very willing to help.

Our sympathy and prayers are with John, her husband and their children Jack and Ellie and her husband Alex.

+ We pray for the repose of Linda's soul that she may be given eternal rest and that the family will be sustained and consoled by God at this very sad time. +

MASS TIMES

19th October –25th October

DAY	CHURCH OPEN	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS / DETAILS / FEAST
MON 19TH OCT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	CASPIAN NUNN **INTS** ST PAUL OF THE CROSS
TUES 20TH OCT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	KATHLEEN JENKINS **INTS**
WED 21ST OCT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	PETER COYNE **INTS**
THURS 22ND OCT	10 AM TO 11 AM	**NO MASS**	**ROSARY AND EXPOSITION**
FRI 23RD OCT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	JIMMY AND LUCY **INTS** ST JOHN CAPISTRANO
SAT 24TH OCT	9 AM TO 11 AM	**9.30 AM**	PATSY O'DONNELL **(L/D) RIP** ST ANTHONY MARY CLARET **FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND CONFESSIONS**
SUN 25TH OCT		**6.00 PM (SAT)** **9.30 AM** **11.30AM**	THANKSGIVING MASS– LUCKHURST FAMILY PEOPLE OF THE PARISH ISABEL NORTH **(L/D) RIP** 30TH SUDAY 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
Tel. 0208 866 6581 **E mail:** Eastcote@rcdow.org.uk



THANK YOU FROM THE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL At our meeting last week with Fr Martin the PPC wanted to thank everyone who came to the parish open meeting and participated so well in the discussion and everyone who completed the parish survey. We discussed how best to follow up the open meeting and survey by creating opportunities for people to become involved in what is going well in the parish and also in new possibilities, including intergenerational activities and contacts. Whilst recognising the pressures on everyone at the moment, we are keen to ensure that anyone who would like to help with the work of the parish, including any new initiatives planned should feel welcome and supported. We will say more about what we have in mind next week. Anthony Inglese, Chair PPC

FUNERAL MASS OF THE LATE PAT WILBY will take place on **Wednesday 28th October at 11.30am,** with the Reception of the body into the church **Tuesday 27th at 5pm.**

SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 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.**

PARISH OFFICE will be closed until **Thursday 22nd October.**

DATES FOR THE DIARY



THE LIFE ASCENDING GROUP The next meeting will be **Wednesday 28th October at 2.30 pm** in the Library and every fortnight thereafter. Their welcome extends to all Christians in their middle to later years.

SAINTS, HOLINESS AND MY DAILY LIFE—talk by Fr James Mctavish on how to live life to the fullest. **Wednesday 28th October,** Sacred Heart Church, Ruislip 7.15—8.30 pm—bring a pen.

FOODBANK next collection will be **Mon 2nd November** They are in urgent need of sugar, long life milk, tinned vegetables & fruit, juice, noodles, jams, honey, condiments, tinned meat, soup, tomatoes, tinned puddings, rice, cereals. Thank you.

ALL SOULS DAY –2nd November, there will be a special evening mass, in addition to the 9.30 am mass, for all those bereaved who will have the opportunity to light a candle for their loved ones during the mass.

FOR INFORMATION: MASSES ARE LIVE STREAMED FOR THOSE HOUSEBOUND AND UNABE TO ATTEND. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO BE VISIBLE ON THE STREAM, PLEASE SIT FURTHER BACK IN THE CHURCH.