

St Thomas More – Parish Newsletter

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Sunday 9th April 2023 EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (Year A)

Easter Sunday

Having seen the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. We worship your Cross, O Christ, and we hymn and glorify your holy Resurrection. For you are our God, we know no other but you, we name you by name. Come all the faithful, let us worship the holy Resurrection of Christ; for behold through the Cross, joy has come in all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, we hymn his Resurrection. For having endured the Cross for us, he has destroyed death by death.

Anonymous, 5th-6th Century

The Lord is alive and wants to be sought among the living. After having found him, each person is sent out by him to announce the Easter message, to awaken and resurrect hope in hearts burdened by sadness, in those who struggle to find meaning in life. This is so necessary today. However, we must not proclaim ourselves. Rather, as joyful servants of hope, we must announce the Risen One by our lives and by our love; otherwise we will be only an international organisation full of followers



and good rules, yet incapable of offering the hope for which the world longs.

How can we strengthen our hope? The liturgy of this night offers some guidance. It teaches us to remember the works of God. The readings describe God's faithfulness, the history of his love towards us. The living word of God is able to involve us in this history of love, nourishing our hope and renewing our joy. The Gospel also reminds us of this: in order to kindle hope in the hearts of the women, the angel tells them: "Remember what [Jesus] told you".

Remember the words of Jesus, remember all that he has done in our lives.

Let us not forget his words and his works, otherwise we will lose hope and become "hopeless" Christians. Let us instead remember the Lord, his goodness and his life-giving words which have touched us. Let us remember them and make them ours, to be sentinels of the morning who know how to help others see the signs of the Risen Lord.

Pope Francis, Easter Vigil, 2016

Our faith must be living — a faith which makes us really believe in God and keep up a continuous conversation with him. A Christian life should be one of constant prayer, trying to live in the presence of God from morning to night and from night to morning. A Christian can never be a lonely person, since he lives in continual contact with God, who is both near us and in heaven. We must seek Christ in the word and in the bread, in the Eucharist and in prayer. And we must treat him as a friend, as the real, living person he is — for he is risen. Christ, we

read in the Epistle to the Hebrews, "holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who draw near to God, since he always lives to make intercession for them."

Christ, the risen Christ, is our companion and friend. He is a companion whom we can see only in the shadows — but the fact that he is really there fills our whole life and makes us yearn to be with him forever. "The Spirit and the Bride say, Come. And let him who hears say, Come. And let him who is thirsty come, let him who desires take the water of life without price... He who testifies to these things says, Surely I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus."

*St Josemaría Escrivá,
Homily for Easter Sunday*

Collections for 26th February to 2nd April

Sunday offertory collection: £1,762.98
(Envelopes: £744.08; Loose: £1,018.90)
Contactless card machine 25th February to 6th April: £1,023.55.

Grand total: £ 2,786.53

Many thanks.

Club Lodwar March 2023 Prize Winners

1 st	£164.80	101	Philomena Casey
2 nd	£123.60	63	Jeremy Sharman
3 rd	£ 41.20	56	Andrei Karlsson
4 th	£ 41.20	20	Michael Drudy
5 th	£ 41.20	42	Tom Hunt

Thank you for your support. Membership is still available. It would make a treasured and loving gift for Easter.

Magnificat — April

The April *Magnificat* (£5) is available to buy. Please ask Maggie, or one of the priests for copies.

Easter Mini-Retreat for Women Tuesday 11 April

This time of recollection starts after the 10am Mass and includes a time of guided

prayer during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. It finishes at 12.40 after which there is coffee in the Hall.

Gift Aid and Planned Giving

The boxes of envelopes for the next tax year starting on 9th April are available to be collected. If there has been any change in your situation (new address, change in tax status, change of name), please kindly contact our Finance Officer, Yolaine, at: swisscottagefin@rcdow.org.uk as soon as possible.

If you are a UK Income or Capital Gains Taxpayer, please sign a Gift Aid Declaration and support our parish in this free, easy way (donating either via online transfers to the parish bank account, standing order, weekly envelopes or using the Contactless devices). Gift Aid means our parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you. Thank you!

Young Adults Group

A group of young adults (between 21 and 30 years of age) have started a monthly social meeting with informal discussions about philosophical, anthropological and sociological questions related to the faith. These will generally take place monthly in the Parish Hall after the 6pm Sunday Mass. Please contact Fr Alvaro for further details: (alvaro.tintore@netherhall.org.uk)

Health and Safety Inspection

Looking ahead there will be a health and safety inspection of the church and the church buildings on Thursday 20th April. Unfortunately this means that there will be no 10am Mass on that day. The church will close after the 7am Mass. Please make note if you usually attend the 10am Mass. Please pray the inspection goes well and sorry for any inconvenience.

REGINA CAELI

Fr Bernard, Fr Alvaro and I wish you and your loved ones a very happy, joyous and holy Easter!

I want to extend my thanks to all those who helped to prepare the church for the Holy week services and the Easter Liturgy. A great amount of work went into these preparations, as I think everyone must have noticed. It was a work of love. The altar of repose was very beautiful, very fitting for the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament after Mass on Holy Thursday through to Good Friday. The flowers for Easter are quite spectacular and help us all praise God with joy as we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. Thanks also to musicians who add so much to the liturgy and of course the readers and stewards, there are so many different ways people contribute to the work of the parish, much of it unseen.

I shall be away the week after Easter in Rome for a Congress; one reason why there is no 7am Mass. I shall remember all the people of the parish in my prayers from there, especially if I manage to get to St Peter's Basilica, as I hope to do.

May God bless you all!

Fr Nicholas

*Happy
Easter*

**V. Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia;
R. For he whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.**

**V. Has risen as he said, alleluia;
R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.**

**V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia;
R. For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.**

Let us pray. O God, who by the Resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, granted joy to the whole world: grant, we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may lay hold of the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord.
Amen.

EASTER WEEK 2023

9th April - Easter Sunday

9.30am Easter Day Mass

11.00am Easter Day Mass

N.B. There is no 6pm Mass today

10th April - Easter Monday (Bank Holiday)

10.00am Mass

N.B. There will be no 7am Mass from Monday 10th to Friday 14th April



ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Easter Sunday

9th April – 15th April 2023

Tel: 020 7435 1388; <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/swisscottage/>

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 9th April EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION (Readings. Year A)	9.30am Cynthia Wilson and children (intentions) 11am Mass Holy Father's intentions <u>No 6pm Mass</u>	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions
MON 10th April Monday within the Octave of Easter	BANK HOLIDAY 10am Mass Jim and Hildegard Charles (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.30am Monday to Friday.
TUE 11th April Tuesday within the Octave of Easter	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Helen Birch (RIP)	10.45am Womens' Mini-Retreat
WED 12th April Wednesday within the Octave of Easter	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Mick Morisse Tabet (recently deceased)	
THU 13th April Thursday within the Octave of Easter	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Pat Gibson (intentions)	10.45am Seniors' Coffee morning (Easter Celebration)
FRI 14th April Friday within the Octave of Easter No Friday abstinence	No 7am Mass 10am Mass People of the Parish	10am to Noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 15th April Saturday within the Octave of Easter	10am Mass Debbie Wicks Dessa (RIP)	The Church opens at 9.30am

Prayer Intentions:

Recently deceased: Angela Carpos; John Stopplecamp; Wendy Bellas; Peter Glenn; Joseph Power; Ghislaine Williams; Helen Birch; Alice Hancock; Rita McNally

Anniversary: Sofia Vukusic; Maroun Ramia; Iris Nally; Veronica O'Farrell; Peggy Attlee;

Confessions:

Monday to Friday (before and after 10am Mass)

Saturday: before and after 10am Mass

Sunday: 10.30am (before Mass)

Forthcoming Events:

16th April: Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)

24th April: St George, Martyr, Patron of England

18th May: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD