

St Thomas More – Parish Newsletter

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SUNDAY 25th June 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Forthcoming Parish Event and News

Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul

Thursday 29th June is the Solemnity of St Peter and St Paul, a day when we are invited to pray in a special way for the Church and the Holy Father. It is a holy day of obligation; to make it easier for people to attend Mass that day in addition to the 7am and 10am Masses in the morning there will be an evening Mass at 7pm.

Feast of St Josemaría Escrivá Monday 26 June 7.30pm

The parish of St Thomas More is entrusted to the pastoral care of priests of the Opus Dei Prelature. For many years we have marked the feast of St Josemaría Escrivá, the founder of Opus Dei, with a more solemn Mass and an invited preacher. This year the Mass will be celebrated at 7.30pm Monday 26 June, with confessions from 7pm. Fr Paul Hayward will be the main celebrant and preacher. It is an opportunity learn more about the life and teaching of a priest described by St John Paul II as *the saint of the ordinary*.

Advance Warning No Early Morning Mass from 10 July

As in previous years, due to the absence of priests during the summer months, the 7am Mass will be suspended from 10 July. The last early morning Mass will be on Friday 7th July.

Peter's Pence

There will be a retiring collection on Sunday 2 July called Peter's Pence. This is an annual collection taken all over the world to support the Holy See in Rome. Peter's Pence is the name given to the financial support offered by the faithful to the Holy Father as a sign of their sharing in the concern of the Successor of Peter for the many different needs of the Universal Church and for the relief of those most in need.

Seminar on Catholic Anthropology: Understanding yourself in today's world

The seminar on Catholic Anthropology last weekend was well attended and much appreciated. Many thanks to Dr James Navarro who delivered the sessions for his time and expertise, encouraging discussion and answering the many questions.

Help needed in the Parish

Thank you to those who have already expressed willingness to provide some help. As well as the tasks mentioned in previous newsletters there are very many ways to help in the life of the parish, for example reading at Mass, acting as steward, serving Mass, helping to count the collections. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Fr Nicholas.

Laudato Si Group

It was great to have so many attending the

showing a few weeks ago of the film THE LETTER, about the encyclical Laudato Si. If you missed the film, you can find out more about the subject at <https://www.laudatosi.va/en.html>

We will be considering how we can follow up the messages in the film during the Season of Creation in September. If you want to be involved, or just want to know more about Laudato Si, please get in touch with cath.attlee@blueyonder.co.uk

Confessionals

Confessions are once again being heard in the confessionals in the church. They are located towards the back on the right hand side. This means the office near the Narthex can once again function as an office.

Magnificat — July

Copies of the July *Magnificat* (£5) have just arrived. Please ask Maggie, or one of the priests for copies. It is possible to pay using the card reader at the entrance or placing cash in the newspaper and leaflet collection slot

Mass intentions

If you would like to have a Mass offered for a particular intention please contact Maggie in the parish office (Tuesday & Friday mornings) or email her at swisscottage@rcdow.org.uk

Alternatively, please use the brown Mass Intention envelopes in the Narthex.

If requesting a Mass to be celebrated on a specific day please bear in mind that some times are particularly popular, for example the 11am Sunday Mass. Intentions for that Mass have already been fixed as far as 20th August.

Thank you

The Catholic Children's Society sent a thank you message for the £103.39 raised via this parish at Christmas time for their work to help disadvantaged children and families.

Other Items

Ordinations to the Priesthood and the Permanent Diaconate

On Saturday, 24th June at 10.30am in the Cathedral Cardinal Nichols will ordain Rev John Casey, Rev Marco Lazzaron, Rev Juan Sola Garcia, Rev Francis Thomas and Rev Patrick van der Vorst to the Sacred Priesthood.

On Saturday, 8th July at 2.30pm in the Cathedral, Bishop Paul McAleenan will ordain Phil Etuk (from West Drayton and Yiewsley), Jim McLean (from Hampton-on-Thames) and Sam Mulira (from Bayswater) as Permanent Deacons.

Please keep the new priests and deacon in your prayers.

CAFOD News

The CAFOD Westminster Office sent the following items for the parish newsletter.

Update on the conflict in Sudan:

Violent conflict continues in Sudan and thousands of people are running out of food, water and medicine. Working as part of the Caritas network, your previous donations to CAFOD are enabling our teams to provide practical help to families who have escaped to neighbouring countries, including South Sudan. Please join Pope Francis in praying for peace in Sudan. Find out more on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/sudan-conflict

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On the occasion of the feast of St Peter and St Paul

From a homily given by Pope Francis on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul in 2013 while imposing the Pallium on a group of new Archbishops

I would like to offer three thoughts on the Petrine ministry, guided by the word “confirm”. What has the Bishop of Rome been called to confirm?

1. First, *to confirm in faith*. The Gospel speaks of the confession of Peter: “You are

Christ, the Son of the living God” (*Mt* 16:16), a confession which does not come from him but from our Father in heaven. Because of this confession, Jesus replies: “You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church” (v. 18). The role, the ecclesial service of Peter, is founded upon his confession of faith in Jesus, the Son of the living God, made possible by a grace granted from on high. In the second part of today’s Gospel we see the peril of thinking in worldly terms. When Jesus speaks of his death and resurrection, of the path of God which does not correspond to the human path of power, flesh and blood re-emerge in Peter: “He took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him ... This must never happen to you” (16:22). Jesus’ response is harsh: “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me” (v. 23). Whenever we let our thoughts, our feelings or the logic of human power prevail, and we do not let ourselves be taught and guided by faith, by God, we become stumbling blocks. Faith in Christ is the light of our life as Christians and as ministers in the Church!

2. *To confirm in love.* In the second reading we heard the moving words of Saint Paul: “I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith” (2 *Tm* 4:7). But what is this fight? It is not one of those fights fought with human weapons which sadly continue to cause bloodshed throughout the world; rather, it is the fight of martyrdom. Saint Paul has but one weapon: the message of Christ and the gift of his entire life for Christ and for others. It is precisely this readiness to lay himself open, personally, to be consumed for the sake of the Gospel, to make himself all things to all people, unstintingly, that gives him credibility and builds up the Church. The Bishop of Rome is called himself to live and to confirm his brothers and sisters in this love for Christ and for all others, without distinction, limits or barriers. And not only the Bishop of Rome: each of you, new archbishops and bishops, have the same task: to let yourselves be

consumed by the Gospel, to become all things to everyone. It is your task to hold nothing back, to go outside of yourselves in the service of the faithful and holy people of God.

3. *To confirm in unity.* Here I would like to reflect for a moment on the rite which we have carried out. The pallium is a symbol of communion with the Successor of Peter, “the lasting and visible source and foundation of the unity both of faith and of communion” (*Lumen Gentium*, 18). And your presence today, dear brothers, is the sign that the Church’s communion does not mean uniformity. The Second Vatican Council, in speaking of the hierarchical structure of the Church, states that the Lord “established the apostles as college or permanent assembly, at the head of which he placed Peter, chosen from their number” (*ibid.*, 19). To confirm in unity: the Synod of Bishops, in harmony with the primate. Let us go forward on the path of synodality, and grow in harmony with the service of the primacy. And the Council continues, “this college, in so far as it is composed of many members, is the expression of the variety and universality of the people of God” (*ibid.*, 22). In the Church, variety, which is itself a great treasure, is always grounded in the harmony of unity, like a great mosaic in which every small piece joins with others as part of God’s one great plan. This should inspire us to work always to overcome every conflict which wounds the body of the Church. United in our differences: there is no other Catholic way to be united. This is the Catholic spirit, the Christian spirit: to be united in our differences. This is the way of Jesus! The pallium, while being a sign of communion with the Bishop of Rome and with the universal church, with the Synod of Bishops, also commits each of you to being a servant of communion.

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ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

25th June – 1st July 2023

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

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 25th June 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Readings. Year A)	9.30am People of the Parish 11am Mass Rose Mac Crea (intentions) 6pm Mass Holy Souls	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions 5.30pm Confessions
MON 26th June feria	7am Mass Joseph Chagoury-Tabet (recently deceased) 10am Mass For those suffering addictions	The Church opens at 6.50am Monday to Friday for 7am Mass (entry via Church car park). Main doors open at 9.30am 7.30pm Solemn Mass in honour of St Josemaria
TUE 27th June ST JOHN SOUTHWORTH, Priest & Martyr	7am Mass For peace in Ukraine 10am Mass Angelo Biancardi (intentions)	
WED 28th June St Irenaeus, Bishop, Doctor & Martyr	7am Mass Marie Sobotta-Tabet (RIP) 10am Mass Donor's intentions of thanksgiving	
THU 29th June SS PETER and PAUL, Apostles	7am Mass For Christian Unity 10am Mass For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life 7pm Mass Holy Father's intentions	
FRI 30th June The First Martyrs of Holy Roman Church Friday abstinence	7am Mass Priest's intention 10am Mass Persecuted Christians	10am to Noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 1st July DEDICATION OF WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL	10am Mass D'Andrea family (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.30am

Prayer Intentions:

Recently deceased: Rita McNally; Mick Morris Tabet; Edouardo Arboleda; Duarte Costa Pereira; Joseph Chagoury-Tabet

Anniversary: Camillo de Castiglioni; Peter Monaghan; Arthur Gibson; Laura Deschamps; Mario Miranda Cruz; Alex Bento; Mike Humberstone; Claire Ekins

Confessions:

Monday to Friday (before and after 10am Mass)

Saturday: before and after 10am Mass

Sunday: 10.30am and 5.30pm (before Mass)

Forthcoming Events:

15th August: **THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**