

St Thomas More – Parish Newsletter

Maresfield Gardens London NW3 5SU Tel: 020 7435 1388

Email: swisscottage@rcdow.org.uk Web page: parish.rcdow.org.uk/swisscottage

Web camera: www.churchservices.tv/swisscottage

Parish Priest: Mgr Nicholas Morrish nicholasmorrish@rcdow.org.uk

Other priests helping in parish:

Fr Bernard Marsh bernardmarsh@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Álvaro Tintoré alvaro.tintore@netherhall.org.uk

SUNDAY 2nd July 13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

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. This is the last week therefore when there will be 7am Mass for quite some time. 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.

Preparation for First Holy Communion

The school summer holidays are not too far away but we need to be thinking already about the classes to prepare the children for their first Holy Communion in 2024. There will be a registration meeting on Saturday 23 September at 11am for all those parents who wish to present their children for first Holy Communion. Children should be in Year 3.

The registration meeting will consist of an introduction to the syllabus, the role of the parents and provide an opportunity to talk

with the catechists and register formally.

The classes for the children for the year 2023/2024 will start on Saturday 30th September also at 11am.

For further information, contact Margaret Browne at: swisscottagefhc@rcdow.org.uk

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>

In the discussion after the film there was talk of doing something during the days before the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4th October to follow up the messages in the film. 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

Collections during June

Sunday offertory collection: £1,666.14
(Envelopes: £561; Loose: £1,105.14)

Contactless card machine: £725.64

Grand total: £ 2,391.78

Many thanks for your generous contributions to the upkeep of the Parish.

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) are available. 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.

Another thank you

The evening Mass on the feast St Josemaría Escrivá last Monday 26 June was very well attended. Thank you to all those who contributed to making it a very beautiful

celebration. Thank you especially to those who decorated the church and the choir who sang so beautifully.

Summer Absences

I shall be away from the parish from Monday 7th July until the end of the month. During that time Fr Bernard and Fr Alvaro will celebrate the Masses and can be contacted using the email addresses above. Fr Bernard will be away part of August.

Mgr Nicholas

Other Items

Ordinations to the Priesthood and the Permanent Diaconate

Five priests were ordained last Saturday 24th June in the Cathedral by Cardinal Nichols. Please continue to keep the new priests in your prayers as they begin their priestly ministry.

On Saturday, 8th July at 2.30pm in Westminster 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.

World Youth Day

World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with Pope Francis, taking place in Lisbon, Portugal this summer 1st—6th August to reflect on the theme: "Mary arose and went with haste" (Lk 1:39).

If you can't attend the main event and are aged 15-25, you can join WYD in London - a day celebration on Saturday 5th August 2023 from 11am-5pm in the church by Leicester Square. The morning programme will include prayer, music, talks, group discussion followed by a lunch break and the afternoon will continue with interactive activities aimed at putting faith into action, followed by a time for Eucharistic Adoration, reflection and conclude with Mass from 4-5pm.

Venue: Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Donations only. To register a group or individually, fill in the form: bit.ly/wydlondon.

The event is organised by the Assumption Sisters' youth team in collaboration with other movements and groups.

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From the Holy Father

On Wednesday 28 June 2023 during his General Audience in St Peter's Square Pope Francis spoke about the passion for evangelization: the apostolic zeal of the believer, referring to the Australian St Mary MacKillop. Some extracts from the audience:

Mary MacKillop was born near Melbourne to parents who emigrated to Australia from Scotland. As a young girl, she felt called by God to serve him and bear witness to him not only with words, but above all with a life transformed by God's presence (cf. *Evangelii gaudium*, 259). Like Mary Magdalene, who first encountered the risen Jesus and was sent by him to bring the proclamation to the disciples, Mary was convinced that she too was sent to spread the Good News and attract others to an encounter with the living God.

Wisely reading the signs of the times, she understood that for her, the best way to do so was through the education of the young, in the knowledge that Catholic education is a form of evangelisation. It is a great form of evangelisation. (...)

An essential characteristic of her zeal for the Gospel was caring for the poor and marginalised. And this is very important: on the path to holiness, which is the Christian path, the poor and marginalised are protagonists, and a person cannot advance in holiness if he or she is not dedicated to them too, in one way or another. But they are the presence of the Lord, those who are in need of the Lord's help. Once I read a phrase that struck me; it said: "The protagonist of History is the beggar. They

are the ones who draw attention to this great injustice, which is the great poverty in the world". Money is spent on manufacturing weapons, not providing meals. And do not forget: there is no holiness if in one way or another there is no care for the poor, the needy, those who are somewhat on the margins of society. This care for the poor and the marginalised drove Mary to go where others would not or could not go. On 19 March 1866, the feast of Saint Joseph, she opened the first school in a small suburb of South Australia. It was followed by many others that she and her sisters founded in rural communities throughout Australia and New Zealand. But they multiplied, apostolic zeal is like that: it multiplies works.

Mary MacKillop was convinced that the purpose of education is the integral development of the person both as an individual and as a member of the community; and that this requires wisdom, patience and charity on the part of every teacher.

Indeed, education does not consist of filling the head with ideas: no, not just this, but: what does education constitute

Accompanying and encouraging students on the path of human and spiritual growth, showing them how friendship with the Risen Jesus expands the heart and makes life more humane. Educating and helping to think well, to feel well (the language of the heart) and to do good (the language of the hands). This vision is fully relevant today, when we feel the need for an "educational pact" capable of uniting families, schools and society as a whole.

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ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

2nd July – 8th July 2023

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

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 2nd July 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Readings. Year A)	9.30am Club Lodwar/People of Lodwar 11am Mass Helen Conlon (RIP) 6pm Mass People of the Parish	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions 12pm Coffee after 11am Mass 5.30pm Confessions
MON 3rd July ST THOMAS, Apostle	7am Mass For Peace in Ukraine 10am Mass Margaret De Valero Wills (RIP)	The Church opens at 6.50am Monday to Friday for 7am Mass (entry via Church car park). Main doors open at 9.30am
TUE 4th July St Elizabeth of Portugal	7am Mass Fr Stefan's intentions 10am Mass Catherine Birch (intentions)	
WED 5th July St Anthony Zaccaria, Priest	7am Mass Persecuted Christians 10am Mass Maureen Ward (RIP)	
THU 6th July St Maria Goretti, Virgin & Martyr	7am Mass Biancardi Family (intentions) 10am Mass Bridie Irvine (special intention)	
FRI 7th July feria Friday abstinence	7am Mass Greg Birch (intentions) 10am Mass For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life	10am to Noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 8th July Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	10am Mass Rose Marie Karlsson and 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** Holy day of Obligation