

# ST THOMAS MORE – PARISH NEWSLETTER

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## SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER 2023

### 23<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

#### First Holy Communion 2023–2024

Classes to prepare children who are old enough to do their first Holy Communion in 2024 will begin at the end of September.

There will be a registration meeting at **11am on Saturday 23 September** 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 and the role of the parents. It will also be 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](mailto:swisscottagefhc@rcdow.org.uk)

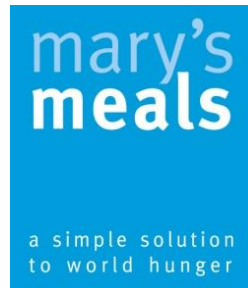
#### Mini Retreat for Women

The September “MINI RETREAT” for Women. Theme: Joy and gratitude for God’s gifts

It will be held on Tuesday 11th September from the 10am Mass till 12.40pm, including a time for Eucharistic adoration. Followed by coffee in the Hall. It is a time set aside to

look at our lives in God’s presence. You are welcome for all or part of it.

#### Mary’s Meals—foreign currency



September is a time when many people have returned from holidays abroad and may have foreign currency.

**Mary’s Meals** would like to

invite you to collect all your foreign currency\* no matter how old or obscure. This weekend there will be envelopes at the back of church for you to take home and put all your foreign coins and notes into. Clear out your drawers and have a look under the sofa. The envelopes can then be left in the collection basket the following weeks (starting Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> September). If you do not get one of the special envelopes currency can be left in an ordinary envelope as long as it is clearly marked MARY’S MEALS.

Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in

their place of education – by giving Mary’s Meals your foreign coins and notes you can help feed the next hungry child.

Mary’s Meals feeds in over 18 countries. Because of our low costs we can do this for as little as £19.15 per child per year!

\*We will also take UK coins/notes that aren’t legal tender

### **The Laudato Si Group**

The Season of Creation started on 1st September and runs to 4th October (the feast of St Francis of Assisi). “Let Justice and Peace Flow” is the theme of this year’s ecumenical Season of Creation, inspired by the words of the prophet Amos: “Let justice flow on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream” (5:24). Pope Francis has issued the following Message for the Season of Creation: (full text available at <https://laudatosimovement.org/news/message-of-pope-francis-for-creation-day-2023/>)

If you would like to know more about the Season of Creation see <https://seasonofcreation.org/> and to receive information about future events please get in touch with [cath.attlee@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:cath.attlee@blueyonder.co.uk)

We hope to include an intention related to the Season of Creation in the bidding prayers at Mass each Sunday. There is information available in the Narthex, including prayers for the novena before the feast of St Francis.

### **Collections 30th July – 27th August**

Sunday offertory collection: £2,022.73

(Envelopes: £595; Loose: £1,427.73)

Contactless card machine: £690.22

**Grand total: £2,712.95**

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

### **Club Lodwar August Prize Winners**

1st	£163.20	76	Angela Docherty
2nd	£122.40	36	Iris Moore
3rd	£40.80	33	George Dean
4th	£40.80	31	Rupert Ainsworth
5th	£40.80	101	Philomena Casey

Thank you for supporting Club Lodwar’s Vulnerable Children’s Fund. As explained in Jim Charles’ presentation after last Sunday’s Masses, membership is still available.

### **Area for young children during Sunday Mass**

During the 9.30am and 11am Masses on Sundays we generally open the parish hall and project a view of the sanctuary onto the screen in the seminar room on the top floor. This enables parents with small children who become restless to follow the Mass from there if they so wish.

### **Talk at St Mary’s Hampstead: “Beauty and Sorrow: Tolkien’s Journey of Faith.”**

Sunday 10 September 2023, 4-5pm, St Mary’s Church, 4 Holly Walk, Hampstead, London NW3 6QU

Dr Holly Ordway is the Cardinal Francis George Professor of Faith and Culture at the Word on Fire Institute, and Visiting Professor of Apologetics at Houston Christian University. She holds a PhD in English from the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and is the author of *Tolkien’s Faith: a Spiritual Biography* and the award-winning Tolkien’s *Modern Reading: Middle-earth Beyond the Middle Ages*.

A unique opportunity to hear insights from a world leading scholar on Tolkien and the influences that shaped his faith.

If you are planning on attending in person please email the Parish Administrator at [hampstead@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:hampstead@rcdow.org.uk) to book your place. You are welcome to livestream the lecture by visiting

<https://www.churchservices.tv/hampstead>

## **Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School Open Evenings**

The Cardinal Vaughan School will hold some open evenings for Year 7 (First Form Pupils) on **Thursday 14th September 2023 & Tuesday 19th September 2023**.

These events are designed for parents and prospective pupils to attend. They will include an address from Mr Stubbings, the Headmaster, and a tour of the school. The Headmaster will speak at 4.30pm and 6.00pm.

Full details are available on the website <https://www.cvms.co.uk/Admissions/>

## **Seniors' Coffee Morning**

The Seniors' coffee morning turned out to be an enjoyable event. Many thanks to Jim Charles and his two helpers who provided much amusement running the Bingo. If anyone has any suitable entertainment skills to enliven future sessions please do volunteer.

## **Forty Martyrs: TV Programme**

Shalom World TV have produced a series on the Forty Martyrs

<https://www.shalomworld.org/show/40-martyrs-of-england-&-wales>

In the latest episode Fr William Massie gives an outstanding interview on St Ralph Sherwin. To watch the programme click <https://www.shalomworld.org/episode/st-ralph-sherwin-protomartyr-of-the-english-college-rome>. The series is currently being broadcast weekly, and each episode is then added to the 'catch-up' page where you can see all the episodes that have been broadcast so far.

## **Parish Notes**

*I was hoping to announce something about the 7am weekday Mass in this newsletter. However there have been quite a number of changes with regard to the availability of the other priests who help in the parish. Owing to a decreasing number of priests (because of deaths and ill health), Fr Bernard and Fr Paul have growing commitments elsewhere. It is looking increasingly likely that we will not be able to restart the 7am weekday Mass on a daily basis. I realise that this reduction in the number of Masses will make it more difficult for those who go to Mass during the week and need an early Mass, so it is a difficult decision. I thought it only fair to warn about this change. It is clear that many parishes have had to cut back on the number of Masses in recent times. But more about that later when we see what is possible.*

*Mgr Nicholas*

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## **From Pope Francis on the Season of Creation**

*From the letter of Pope Francis 13<sup>th</sup> May 2023*

So too, like a river basin with its many tiny and larger tributaries, the Church is a communion of countless local Churches, religious communities and associations that draw from the same shared waters. Each source adds its unique and irreplaceable contribution, until all flow together into the vast ocean of God's loving mercy. In the same way that a river is a source of life for its surroundings, our synodal Church must be a source of life for our common home and all its inhabitants. In the same way that a river gives life to all kinds of animal and plant life, a synodal Church must give life by sowing justice and peace in every place it reaches.

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**ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH****23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Tel: 020 7435 1388

10<sup>th</sup> September – 16<sup>th</sup> September 2023<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/swisscottage/>

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
<b>SUN 10<sup>th</sup> September</b> <b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> (Readings. Year A)	<b>9.30am</b> People of the Parish <b>11am Mass</b> Catherine Pearson (intentions) <b>6.00pm Mass</b> Jean Canavaggio (RIP)	The Church opens at 9.15am  <b>10.30am</b> Confessions <b>5.30pm</b> Confessions
<b>MON 11<sup>th</sup> September</b> feria	<b>No 7am Mass</b> <b>10am Mass</b> Molly Tarling (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.30am Monday to Saturday.
<b>TUE 12<sup>th</sup> September</b> The Most Holy Name of Mary	<b>No 7am Mass</b> <b>10am Mass</b> For Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life	<b>After 10am Mass</b> Womens' Mini-Retreat
<b>WED 13<sup>th</sup> September</b> St John Chrysostom, Bishop & Doctor	<b>No 7am Mass</b>  <b>10am Mass</b> Duarte Cost Pereira (RIP)	
<b>THU 14<sup>th</sup> September</b> THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	<b>No 7am Mass</b>  <b>10am Mass</b> Marie Sobotta-Tabet (RIP)	
<b>FRI 15<sup>th</sup> September</b> Our Lady of Sorrows <b>Friday abstinence</b>	<b>No 7am Mass</b>  <b>10am Mass</b> Pat Gibson (intentions)	<b>10am to Noon</b> Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
<b>SAT 16<sup>th</sup> September</b> Ss Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs	<b>10am Mass</b> Joan Aldridge (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.30am

**Prayer Intentions:**

**Recently deceased:** Joseph Chagoury-Tabet; Violeta Astudillo; Nunzio Spina; Esrom Ephrem; Anton John; Christine Green; Phil Argent; Denis Unsworth

**Anniversary:** Joe Casey; Maj- Lis Karlsson; Sam Alan Boodoosingh; Josephine Tayar-Tabet; Hana Ramia; Junior Manuel Agogo

**Confessions:**

Monday to Friday (before and after 10am Mass)

Saturday: before and after 10am Mass

Sunday: 10.30am and 5.30pm (before Mass)

**Forthcoming liturgical celebrations:**

21<sup>st</sup> September: ST MATTHEW, Apostle & Evangelist

29<sup>th</sup> September: SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL, Archangels