

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

Also helping in the parish:

Fr Bernard Marsh

bernardmarsh@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Paul Hayward

paul.hayward@netherhall.org.uk

SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2023

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

First Holy Communion 2023–2024

First Holy Communion classes began on Saturday 30th September. Those who attended the registration meeting now have a schedule for the classes which take place at 11am on Saturdays.

If you missed the registration meeting and would still like to register please contact Margaret Browne at:

swisscottagefhc@rcdow.org.uk

Children should be in Year 3.

Collections 3rd – 24th September

Sunday offertory collection: £1,454.25

(Envelopes: £451; Loose: £1,003.25)

Contactless card machine: £633.20

Grand total: £2,087.45

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

Seniors' Coffee Morning

The Seniors' coffee morning will take place after the 10am Mass on Wednesday 4th October. Please sign the list in the Narthex if you intend to come. This will facilitate the catering.

Sunday Tea and Coffee

There will be tea and coffee after the 11am Mass on Sunday 8 October, providing an opportunity to get to know other parishioners better. The repository will be open for those who would like to buy devotional items.

Annual Mass Count 2023

This Sunday 1st October we continue the annual Mass count, which takes place over four consecutive Sundays.

Thank you to all those who volunteered to take the count.

The Laudato Si Group

The Season of Creation started on 1st September and runs until next Wednesday 4th October (the feast of St Francis of Assisi). 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

There is information available in the Narthex, including prayers for the novena before the feast of St Francis.

Young Adults Group

The young adults group which met occasionally after the 6pm Sunday Mass last academic year will hopefully start up again on Sunday 15th October. The group is for young adults (between 21 and 30 years of age). The aim is to have a monthly social meeting with informal discussions about philosophical, anthropological and sociological questions related to the faith. More information and contact details to follow soon.

Family Fast Day

Friday 6th October is Family Fast Day, the time when we are encouraged to make a contribution to CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) to support their work with local organisations and churches in their work to bring relief and support to so many people around the world. We will not be taking a special collection this year, but donation envelopes are available in the Narthex, and you can also donate online using the QR code shown on the poster. There are also prayer cards available. It does not say so on the envelopes, but if posting them to CAFOD remember it is not advisable to enclose cash.

Mary's Meals—foreign currency

Thank you to all those who donated foreign currency for the charity Mary's Meals. The response was great. At some stage I presume the charity will tell us how much our collection was worth and ask us to pass on their thanks. There is still time to hand in envelopes this weekend. Just make sure that any envelopes are clearly marked Mary's Meals, if you don't have an official one.

October Magnificat Special Offer

There are still copies of the October Magnificat available. We are offering it for £2.50 a copy instead of £5 this month. Please ask Maggie or one of the priests. You can pay using the card reader in the entrance or by putting cash in the collection box in the wall of the Narthex marked Newspaper/leaflet.

Rosary to be broadcast from St Dominic's, Haverstock Hill

From Anna Fleischer, the London Promoter of Radio Maria England: "If you haven't already got plans for the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th - or even if you have! - what better way to spend it than by joining Radio Maria England in the beautiful shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Dominic for the rosary. Starting at 3pm, it will be broadcast to every Radio Maria station around the world, boasting a reach of 500 million listeners, accompanied by beautiful choral music from the Rosary Shrine singers. Before the rosary there will be Mass at 11am at Tyburn convent, the place of martyrdom for many of our English saints, followed by a walking pilgrimage to the Rosary Shrine, stopping by at St. James' Spanish Place along the way. Bring your own picnic for lunch on Primrose Hill. After the rosary, tea and coffee will be provided with the opportunity to build friendships with Catholics from across London. To sign up, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/vhv36kjm>

You can find more details on our website, RadioMariaEngland.uk, or by emailing anna.fleischer@radiomariaengland.uk "

Parish Notes

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. Priests are encouraged to recommend this prayer to the faithful and explain its importance. The Church encourages the recitation of the Rosary by offering a plenary indulgence for reciting five decades

of the Rosary in church, as a family at home, as a religious community, or as a pious fraternity, or on general whenever several person have gathered for a good purpose; in other circumstances a partial indulgence may be gained.

In this parish a Rosary group often pray the Rosary after the 10am weekday Mass.

As part of explaining the importance of the Rosary it occurred to me to quote below a few relevant paragraphs from Pope Paul VI's apostolic Exhortation Marialis Cultus 2nd February 1974. Of course more recent Popes have also written about the Rosary. I offer these paragraphs as they contain some ideas that are helpful to pray the Rosary better.

Mgr Nicholas

The Rosary

Some excerpts from Pope Paul VI Marialis Cultus 2/2/1974

No. 46. As a Gospel prayer, centred on the mystery of the redemptive Incarnation, the Rosary is therefore a prayer with a clearly Christological orientation. Its most characteristic element, in fact, the litany-like succession of Hail Mary's, becomes in itself an unceasing praise of Christ, who is the ultimate object both of the angel's announcement and of the greeting of the mother of John the Baptist: "Blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk. 1:42). We would go further and say that the succession of Hail Mary's constitutes the warp on which is woven the contemplation of the mysteries. The Jesus that each Hail Mary recalls is the same Jesus whom the succession of the mysteries proposes to us - now as the Son of God, now as the Son of the Virgin - at His birth in a stable at Bethlehem, at His presentation by His Mother in the Temple, as a youth full of zeal for His Father's affairs, as the Redeemer in agony in the garden, scourged and crowned with thorns, carrying the cross

and dying on Calvary, risen from the dead and ascended to the glory of the Father to send forth the gift of the Spirit. As is well known, at one time there was a custom, still preserved in certain places, of adding to the name of Jesus in each Hail Mary reference to the mystery being contemplated. And this was done precisely in order to help contemplation and to make the mind and the voice act in unison.

No. 47 There has also been felt with greater urgency the need to point out once more the importance of a further essential element in the Rosary, in addition to the value of the elements of praise and petition, namely the element of contemplation. Without this the Rosary is a body without a soul, and its recitation is in danger of becoming a mechanical repetition of formulas and of going counter to the warning of Christ: "And in praying do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard for their many words" (Mt. 6:7). By its nature the recitation of the Rosary calls for a quiet rhythm and a lingering pace, helping the individual to meditate on the mysteries of the Lord's life as seen through the eyes of her who was closest to the Lord. In this way the unfathomable riches of these mysteries are unfolded.

No. 52 We now desire, as a continuation of the thought of our predecessors, to recommend strongly the recitation of the family Rosary. The Second Vatican Council has pointed out how the family, the primary and vital cell of society, "shows itself to be the domestic sanctuary of the Church through the mutual affection of its members and the common prayer they offer to God."(*Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 11)

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tel: 020 7435 1388

1st October – 7th October 2023

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/swisscottage/>

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 1st October 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Readings. Year A)	9.30am People of the Parish 11am Mass Season of Creation (in thanksgiving) 6.00pm Mass Bridie and Dymphna Gilbride (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions 5.30pm Confessions
MON 2nd October The Holy Guardian Angels	No 7am Mass 10am Mass David Ibison (RIP)	The Church opens at 9.30am Monday to Saturday.
TUE 3rd October feria	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Iris Nally (RIP)	
WED 4th October St Francis of Assisi	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Darren and Jackie Bass (intentions)	After 10am Mass Seniors' Coffee morning
THU 5th October St Faustina Kowalska, Virgin	No 7am Mass 10am Mass Patricia Pinsent (RIP)	
FRI 6th October St Bruno, Priest Friday abstinence	No 7am Mass 10am Mass George Tarling (RIP)	10am to Noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 7th October Our Lady of the Rosary	10am Mass Joan Ross (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.30am 11am First Holy Communion Class (2)

Prayer Intentions:

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

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

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:

9th October: ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest

13th October: ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, Patron of the Diocese