

ST THOMAS MORE – PARISH NEWSLETTER

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SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER 2023

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)

Annual Mass Count 2023

This Sunday 8th 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.

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.

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.

Club Lodwar September Prize Winners

1 st	£166.40	27	Joan Aldridge
2 nd	£124.80	93	Yola Tabet
3 rd	£41.60	55	Christopher Collado
4 th	£41.60	2	Aron Balas
5 th	£41.60	53	Kevin Ford

Thank you for supporting Club Lodwar's Vulnerable Children's Fund. Membership is open and applications are available in the Narthex near the right hand exit door.

Young Adults Group

The young adults group which met occasionally after the 6pm Sunday Mass last academic year will 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. For more information contact Diego Cobian email: diegocobian@gmail.com mobile: +34 603 10 67 55

Women's Mini-Retreat

The October "Mini-Retreat" for women will be held on **Tuesday October 10th** 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.

Theme: Called to be holy and to bring others closer to Christ.

The Laudato Si Group

On 4th October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, the Season of Creation came to an end. Thank you to all those who have prayed the Novena to St Francis and/or the other prayers for God's Creation.

Pope Francis has issued an Apostolic Exhortation dated 4th October, called *Laudate Deum*. The theme of the document, is human ecology, and it addresses issues such as climate change, care for the environment, and the defence of human life and dignity. Commentators say the document needs to be read together with Laudato Si.

Once people have had the opportunity to read the new document we may organise a meeting to study *Laudate Deum*. Anyone who would like to be involved can contact cath.attlee@blueyonder.co.uk or speak to Cath at the 11.00 Sunday Mass.

Family Fast Day

Friday 6th October was Family Fast Day, one of the days when CAFOD (the Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) ask for funds for their work with local organisations and churches bringing relief and support to many people around the world. We will not take 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 so generous we have had to ask the charity to send extra boxes to send all the notes and coins to their counting centre. We'll find out in due course how much was raised.

October Magnificat

The special offer for the October Magnificat was so successful that we sold them all. If anyone has purchased Magnificat for the first time, finds it helpful and intends to continue buying it please talk with Maggie or one of the priests and we will increase our monthly order.

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 in general whenever several persons 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 last week, I quoted some relevant paragraphs from Pope Paul VI's apostolic Exhortation Marialis Cultus 2nd February 1974. As there was not much space available, I continue with some paragraphs about the family rosary in the hope that they may encourage this custom.

Mgr Nicholas

The Rosary

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

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) The Christian family is thus seen to be a "domestic Church" (*Lumen Gentium*, 11) if its members, each according to his proper place and tasks, all together promote justice, practise works of mercy, devote themselves to helping their brethren, take part in the apostolate of the wider local community and play their part in its liturgical worship. (Cf. *Apostolicam Actuositatem*, 11) This will be all the more true if together they offer up prayers to God. If this element of common prayer were missing, the family would lack its very character as a domestic Church. Thus there must logically follow a concrete effort to reinstate communal prayer in family life if there is to be a restoration of the theological concept of the family as the domestic Church.

53. In accordance with the directives of the Council the *Institutio Generulis de Liturgia Horarum* rightly numbers the family among the groups in which the Divine Office can suitably be celebrated in community: "It is fitting...that the family, as a domestic sanctuary of the Church, should not only offer prayers to God in common, but also, according to circumstances, should recite parts of the Liturgy of the Hours, in order to be more intimately linked with the Church." (*Op cit*, 27)

No avenue should be left unexplored to ensure that this clear and practical recommendation finds within Christian families growing and joyful acceptance.

54. But there is no doubt that, after the celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours, the high point which family prayer can reach, the Rosary should be considered as one of the best and most efficacious prayers in common that the Christian family is invited to recite. We like to think, and sincerely hope, that when the family gathering becomes a time of prayer, the Rosary is a frequent and favoured manner of praying. We are well aware that the changed conditions of life today do not make family gatherings easy, and that even when such a gathering is possible many circumstances make it difficult to turn it into an occasion of prayer. There is no doubt of the difficulty. But it is characteristic of the Christian in his manner of life not to give in to circumstances but to overcome them, not to succumb but to make an effort. Families which want to live in full measure the vocation and spirituality proper to the Christian family must therefore devote all their energies to overcoming the pressures that hinder family gatherings and prayer in common.

55. In concluding these observations, which give proof of the concern and esteem which the Apostolic See has for the Rosary of the Blessed Virgin, we desire at the same time to recommend that this very worthy devotion should not be propagated in a way that is too one-sided or exclusive. The Rosary is an excellent prayer, but the faithful should feel serenely free in its regard. They should be drawn to its calm recitation by its intrinsic appeal.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8th October – 14th October 2023

Tel: 020 7435 1388

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

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 8th October 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Readings. Year A)	9.30am People of the Parish 11am Mass Club Lodwar/People of Lodwar 6.00pm Mass Maria Rosa Piaggio (intentions)	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions 5.30pm Confessions
MON 9th October ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Priest	10am Mass Fr Peter Haverly (RIP)	The Church opens at 9.30am Monday to Saturday.
TUE 10th October St Paulinus of York, Bishop	10am Mass Anton Noonan (RIP anniversary)	After 10am Mass Womens' Mini Retreat
WED 11th October St John XXIII, Pope	10am Mass Judy Cheal (RIP)	
THU 12th October St Wilfrid, Bishop	10am Mass Solweig Karlsson (RIP anniversary)	
FRI 13th October ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR, Patron of the Diocese Friday abstinence	10am Mass Duarte Costa Pereira (RIP)	10am to Noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 14th October Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday	10am Mass Francis Ching (RIP)	The Church opens at 9.30am 11am First Holy Communion Class (3)

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: Maj- Lis Karlsson; Sam Alan Boodoosingh; Josephine Tayar-Tabet; Hana Ramia; Junior Manuel Agogo; Colomba Kako; Helen Conlon; Solweig Karlsson; Anton Noonan

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:

1st November: **ALL SAINTS**

2nd November: THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)