

ST THOMAS MORE – PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

Also helping in the parish:

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SUNDAY 31ST MARCH 2024

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (Year B)



Offertory Collections 3-24 March 2024

Sunday offertory collection: £1,830.23
(Envelopes: £518.00; Loose: £1,312.23)

Contactless card machine: £1,532.85

Grand total: £3,362.08

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

First Holy Communion Classes

The First Holy Communion classes have been interrupted for the Easter school holidays. They will resume on Saturday 20th April.

Gift Aid and Planned Giving

The new boxes of envelopes for the next tax year starting on 7th April are ready to be collected. Please ask our Finance Officer, Yolaine, or one of the priests for your box.

If there has been any change in your situation (new address, change in tax status, change of name), please kindly contact Yolaine at: swisscottagefin@rcdow.org.uk as soon as possible.

If you are a UK Income or Capital Gains Taxpayer, please sign a Gift Aid Declaration and support our parish in this free, easy way (donating either via online transfers to the

Easter Sunday

"We bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, this day he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus." The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament; and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross:

Christ is risen from the dead! Dying, he conquered death; To the dead, he has given life.

(Catechism of the Catholic Church no. 638)

parish bank account, standing order, weekly envelopes or using the Contactless devices). Gift Aid means our parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you donate, at no extra cost to you. Thank you!

Young children during Sunday Mass

If you are new to the parish it may help to know that 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 (top floor). This enables parents with small children who become restless to follow the Mass from there if they so wish. Please help to make newcomers aware of this helpful area in the parish hall.

Sunday 7th April: Tea and Coffee

There will be tea and coffee after the 11am Mass on Sunday 7th April in Seminar 1 on the lower floor of the parish centre. It provides an opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners better, and also to buy items from the parish shop (repository), also located on the lower ground floor.

Seniors' Coffee Morning

The next Seniors' Coffee Morning will be on Wednesday 10th April after the 10am Mass.

Mass Intentions

Please use the brown Mass Offering envelopes in the Narthex to request a Mass and provide the information requested. These envelopes can be handed to a priest or put through the letterbox of the presbytery. Please speak to Maggie Ainsworth in the Parish Office (Tuesday or Friday mornings) or email her at swisscottage@redow.org.uk about any Masses you wish to be offered on a specific day.

If your Mass intention is for someone who has recently died or is seriously ill, we shall try to allocate a Mass as soon as possible. However, bear in mind that it is not unusual for Masses to be offered several weeks after they have been requested.

Please do not use the Mass Offering envelopes for general donations to the church, as there are separate larger blue donation envelopes for this purpose.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

The Cardinal is inviting to a Mass in **Westminster Cathedral, 2:30pm, Saturday 25th May 2024** all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Nicholas the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

From various Easter Homilies

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages."

St. John Chrysostom, Easter Homily

Having seen the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship the Holy Lord Jesus, the only sinless one. We worship your Cross, O Christ, and we hymn and glorify your holy Resurrection. For you are our God, we know no other but you, we name you by name. Come all the faithful, let us worship the holy Resurrection of Christ; for behold through the Cross, joy has come in all the world. Ever blessing the Lord, we hymn his Resurrection. For having endured the Cross for us, he has destroyed death by death.

Anonymous, 5th-6th Century

Our faith must be living — a faith which makes us really believe in God and keep up

a continuous conversation with him. A Christian life should be one of constant prayer, trying to live in the presence of God from morning to night and from night to morning. A Christian can never be a lonely person, since he lives in continual contact with God, who is both near us and in heaven.

We must seek Christ in the word and in the bread, in the Eucharist and in prayer. And we must treat him as a friend, as the real, living person he is — for he is risen. Christ, we read in the Epistle to the Hebrews, "holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who draw near to God, since he always lives to make intercession for them."

Christ, the risen Christ, is our companion and friend. He is a companion whom we can see only in the shadows — but the fact that he is really there fills our whole life and makes us yearn to be with him forever. "The Spirit and the Bride say, Come. And let him who hears say, Come. And let him who is thirsty come, let him who desires take the water of life without price... He who testifies to these things says, Surely I am coming soon. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus."

St Josemaría Escrivá, Homily for Easter Sunday

I am putting this newsletter together rather hurriedly before the Holy Week Services begin. I would like to thank all those who have worked so hard this week to prepare the altar of repose, the beautiful flower displays and all the other tasks which are required to have worthy liturgical celebrations. I wish everyone a happy Easter and assure you that I and the other priests will keep you and your families in our prayers in special way during this holy season.

Mgr Nicholas

Regina Caeli

V. Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia;

R. For he whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.

V. Has risen as he said, alleluia;

R. Pray for us to God, alleluia.

V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia;

R. For the Lord is truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who by the Resurrection of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, granted joy to the whole world: grant, we beseech you, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, his Mother, we may lay hold of the joys of eternal life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Easter Sunday

31st March-6th April 2024

Tel: 020 7435 1388

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

	MASS	OTHER ACTIVITIES
SUN 31st March EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD (Readings. Year B)	9.30am People of the Parish 11am Mass Holy Father's intentions <u>No 6pm Mass</u>	The Church opens at 9.15am 10.30am Confessions Church closes after the 11am Mass
MON 1st April MONDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	BANK HOLIDAY 10am Mass Alex Bento (RIP)	Church <u>opens</u> at 9.30am Monday to Saturday Church closes today after the 10am Mass
TUE 2nd April TUESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10am Mass Mick Morrise-Tabet (RIP anniversary)	Church closes about 5.30pm Tuesday – Friday this week
WED 3rd April WEDNESDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10am Mass Joan Aldridge (intentions)	
THU 4th April THURSDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10am Mass Donor's private intention	
FRI 5th April FRIDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER No Friday abstinence	10am Mass Antonio Valdez (RIP anniversary)	10.30am - 12noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 6th April SATURDAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF EASTER	10am Mass Jim and Hildegard Charles (intentions)	<u>No First Holy Communion Class</u>

Prayer Intentions:

Recently deceased: Joan Ross; Maria Maguire; Mervyn Agnew; Fr Terry Murray OMI; Brian Ainsworth; Vasil Chornay; Evenamede Afiavi
Anniversary: Letizia Goodfellow; Patrick O'Donnell; Helen Birch; Frances Brown; Mick Morrise-Tabet; Antonio Valdez

Confessions:

Weekdays: before and after 10am Mass
 Saturday: before and after 10am Mass
 Easter Sunday: 9.30am and 10.30am (before Mass)

Forthcoming liturgical celebrations:

7th April: **Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday)**
 8th April: **THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD (transferred from 25 March)**