

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED:**

We pray for Maria Westcott, Nikki Fonseca, Benoit Saget, Patrick Hannon, Mark Walsh, Lionel Earles and Jessica Fitzpatrick who have died recently and remember also Breda Costello, Catherine Ann Paul & Laurel Baptiste, Tom & William Dwyer, Teddy Osborne, Eleanor Carlson, Stanislaw Czwalga and all the faithful departed.

**OUR SATURDAY MORNING MASS IS OFFERED FOR  
THE SICK AND THE HOUSEBOUND**

**EASTER V**

<b>Sat 27th</b>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>The Sick and Housebound</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Exposition and Benediction</b>
	<b>12.30 pm</b>	<b>Holy Baptism</b>
	<b>5.30 pm</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>
<b>Sun 28th</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Nikki Fonseca (RIP - LD)</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Catherine Ann Paul &amp; Laurel Baptiste (RIP - anniversary)</b>
	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>Breda Costello (RIP)</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Patrick Hannon (RIP - LD)</b>
<b>Monday 29th</b> <i>St Catherine of Sienna</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Breda Costello (RIP)</b>
<b>Tuesday 30th</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>The Canon Law Society</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer Group</b>
	<b>2.30 pm</b>	<b>St Anthony Prayer Group</b>
<b>Wed 1st May</b> <i>St Joseph the Worker</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Tom and William Dwyer (RIP anniv)</b>
<b>Thu 2nd</b> <i>St Athanasius Bp Dr</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Teddy Osborne (RIP - anniversary)</b>
<b>Fri 3rd</b> <i>Ss Philip &amp; James Ap</i>	<b>9.30 am</b>	<b>Mark Walsh (RIP - LD)</b>
<b>Sat 4th</b> <i>The English Martyrs</i>	<b>10.00 am</b>	<b>The Sick and Housebound</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Exposition and Benediction</b>
	<b>12.30 pm</b>	<b>Holy Baptism</b>
	<b>5.30 pm</b>	<b>Lionel Earles (RIP - LD)</b>
<b>Sun 5th</b> <b>SIXTH SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>	<b>9.00 am</b>	<b>Jose Carlos Fernandez Conceicao (int)</b>
	<b>10.30 am</b>	<b>Jessica Fitzpatrick (RIP - LD)</b>
	<b>12.00 pm</b>	<b>Eleanor Carlson (RIP)</b>
	<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>Pro Populo</b>

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION / CONFESSION:  
AFTER BOTH MASSES ON SATURDAY**

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS OPEN WEEKDAYS 11 AM UNTIL 3 PM**



**CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY**  
**60 Rylston Rd, Fulham, SW6 7HW: 020 7385 4040**

**Email: fulham@rcdow.org.uk**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Dennis Touw-Tempelmans Plat**

**Assistant Priest: Fr Linferd Fernandes**

**Parish Deacon: Rev Wayne O'Reilly**

**Parish Administrator: Gerald Daly Esq.**

**Catechetical Co-ordinator: Rev Wayne O'Reilly**

**Email address: fulhamcatechist@rcdow.org.uk**

**Safeguarding Representative: Shirley Mills**

**Website: https://stthomasfulham.com**

Dear Friends,

In the gospel of last Sunday, Jesus identified himself as a Good Shepherd who loves and cares for his sheep even to the point of laying down his life for the sheep. It is a parable he used to explain the relationship between him and the Church. In today's gospel, he uses the parable of the vine and its branches to explain the unity between him and the believers. Like the sheep which is defenceless without the shepherd, so it is between Christ and us. In order to understand this parable clearly, we need to know the importance of the grapevine in the life of Jewish society. The grapevine was very symbolic in Ancient Israel. It was a prized possession in the ancient Middle East, much care was taken when planting and maintaining the vine. The image of a Vineyard runs through the Old Testament to describe God's special relationship with Israel, how he carefully chose them, cared for them, provided for them in their time of need and protected them in times of danger. Israel was described as the Lord's choicest vine planted in his vineyard expecting to produce good grapes. For each branch to bear fruit, it must be firmly grafted to the vine. Jesus used the connection between the vine and its branches to describe the relationship between him and us. He is the true Vine and we are the branches.



Today Jesus is telling us that we are part of him and we belong to him. We derive existence, joy and happiness from him. Being part of Him and derive graces from him, we are expected to bear good fruit in return. Bearing good fruit is a compliment of gratitude to Him and to God almighty. St. Paul bore good fruit after he encountered Jesus on his way to Damascus. He not only accepted Jesus in his life, but he also became a strong instrument of evangelization. Paul grafted himself strongly onto the true Vine Jesus Christ. He bore abundant and lasting fruit through his good works in the gentile

nations. Its no wonder he exclaimed that when anyone is in Christ Jesus, that one is a new creation... (2nd Cor. 5:17). That one is a new creation by keeping God's commandment. Today, the Church invites us to reflect on our spiritual progress. How is my relationship with Christ going? Am I still believing and living in Him? Am I bearing any good fruit as a Christian? Bearing good fruit involves spiritual growth and positive impact on others. We cannot be in Christ for years and suffer from spiritual lethargy, because a stagnant water is not worth drinking. There has to be progress in our relationship with Christ, this progress must be expressed in our trust in him, in our better knowledge of him, and in our love for him and for others. In doing so we become branches of the true Vine, Jesus Christ.

*Da Wayne*

**LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR  
4th and 5th May 2024**

The Little Sisters of the Poor is a charity caring for the Elderly. The Sisters will be in the Parish next weekend to tell us about their work. A retiring collection will be taken up after every Mass.

**BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE  
Thursday 9th May, 7pm**

If you would like to have your child Baptised, please speak to Deacon Wayne after Mass to register.

**RED BOX 2023: THANK YOU!**

In 2023 we raised £1620 through our Red Boxes and donations to Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries. Thank you! Our missionary community here at St. Thomas' is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayer and financial assistance. Your support of Missionaries, like Fr. Ignatius MHM working with a rural community in Uganda, enables people to come together to celebrate the Eucharist and to work together to improve the lives of the whole community. Visit [mission.org.uk](http://mission.org.uk) to find out more.

**200 CLUB - APRIL DRAW**

*There were 123 members in the April draw, the winners are:*

75	£153.75	Krystyna Miller	138	£30.75	Christina Zoltowska
45	£30.75	Ingrid Hierner	52	£18.45	Finola Juster
14	£18.45	Laura Perriera	60	£18.45	Rosalie Macfarlane

*Congratulations to the winners. Prizes will be paid by bank transfer if details were provided, otherwise by cheque.*

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** If you have not completed a **Registration Form** recently, please take one and complete it now!  
**The Bible Study Group:** Not meeting this week.

**PRAYER GROUPS:**

Tuesday morning prayer group - 10.30 am in church.  
**St Anthony Prayer Group:**

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES  
19th - 26th JULY 2024**

Once again Cardinal Vincent Nichols will lead the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. This is a truly wonderful week of prayer, intercession, and fun! More details and booking forms are available on line or may be collected from the presbytery. Further information can be had from Gerald in the parish office.

**MARRIAGE CARE TRUSTEE ROLE**

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation providing marriage preparation and relationship counselling services across England, Wales and Gibraltar. We are looking for **Trustees** to strengthen and help us to provide vital support services to the Catholic community and beyond. For more information please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email: [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for Couples celebrating  
significant wedding anniversaries - Westminster Cathedral  
25th May 2.30 pm**

Please send your names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) to: the Parish Office or Marriage & Family Life, Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN  
[family@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk) 020 79312363

***Please email details using Email or Word format only.***

**COLLECTION LAST SUNDAY: £1,400 MANY THANKS**

Don't forget you can also make an offering via the 'Touch & Tap' at the door. Further to this, a number of parishioners have asked for details re the Parish Bank account; please find them below.

**PARISH BANK DETAILS: HSBC**

**Sort code: 40-05-20 Acct. No.: 11263137  
Acct name: WRCDT ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY FULHAM**