



# St Thomas à Becket Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Monsignor Matthew Dickens  
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Parish Office: Mon 10am-2pm, Wed 2pm-5pm, Fri 10am-5pm



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

5<sup>th</sup> September 2021

*'He has done all things well,' they said, 'he makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'*

## Mass Times

- Sat 4th The Blessed Virgin Mary**  
09:30 Mgr Canon Cyril Murtagh RIP  
17:30 Vigil Mass of Sunday  
People of the Parish
- Sun 5th Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (B)**  
10:00 Fahy Family Thanksgiving  
11:30 Baptism
- Mon 6th Feria**  
09:30
- Tues 7th Feria**  
09:30 Fr Chris O'Brien RIP
- Weds 8th The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Feast**  
09:30 Holy Souls
- Thurs 9th Feria**  
09:30 Holy Souls
- Fri 10th Feria**  
09:30 Alberto Delos Santos RIP
- Sat 11th The Blessed Virgin Mary**  
09:30 Stefania Rondoni RIP  
17:30 Vigil Mass of Sunday  
Lino Alfiler RIP
- Sun 12th Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) Education Day**  
10:00 People of the Parish  
12:00 Baptism

## Confessions:

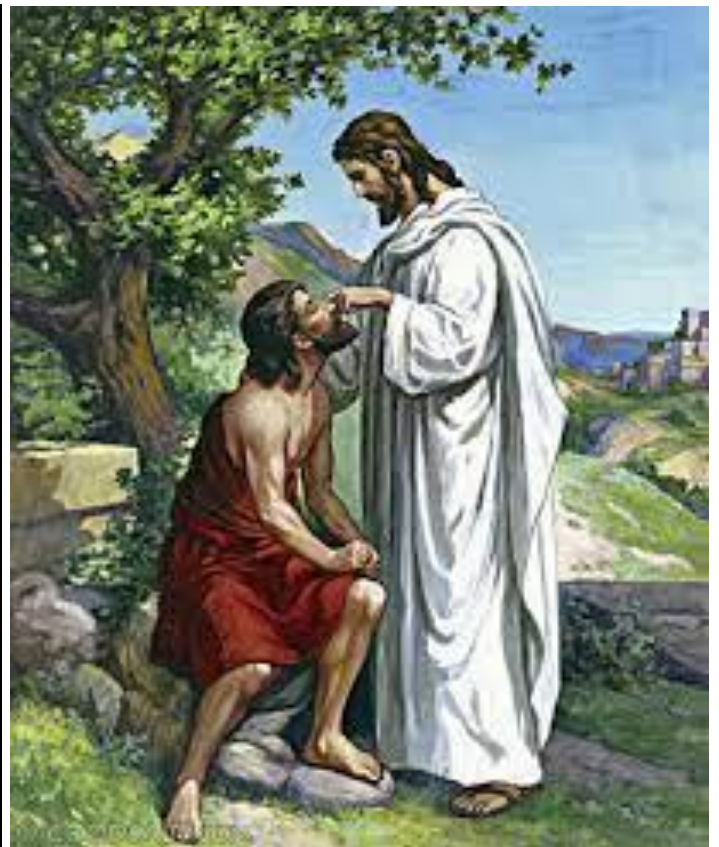
Saturday 10.15-10.45

**Sunday Readings:** Year B **Weekday Readings:** Year 1

**This Week's Liturgy Group:** John  
**Next Week's Liturgy Group:** Matthew

**Baptisms & Marriages:** Please contact the Parish Priest

**Please wear a face mask while in Church**



The gospels are full of wonderful accounts of Jesus healing the sick and forgiving sinners. Today we have a particularly powerful record from St Mark's gospel of the healing of a man who can neither hear nor speak. "Ephphatha," Jesus says in Aramaic: "be opened". Jesus's healing miracles are signs of the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God means love, joy and peace in the Holy Spirit. By healing the sick and forgiving sinners, Jesus shows us what salvation is. Salvation is freedom from whatever may hinder us from enjoying the fullness of life with God. Salvation is the freedom to know and to share the eternal joy of God's presence.

**Mgr Matthew**

## The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Wednesday 8th September



This beautiful feast celebrates the birth of Mary to her parents Joachim and Anne, marking nine months from her Immaculate

Conception which we celebrate on 8th December. In many countries this feast is also a celebration of the new crops of harvest, notably in France where grapes are brought to be blessed on the feast of 'Our Lady of the Grape Harvest.' We honour Mary the Mother of Jesus, through whom is born the Saviour of the world.

### Bishop Paul - fundraising for Lourdes

As we come up to the time when dioceses would normally be preparing for their Lourdes pilgrimage, I'm asking people to sponsor me to raise money for the Lourdes Sanctuaries. This will help them maintain their facilities for pilgrims and people who need particular assistance, at this time when little money is coming in from visitors, because of travel restrictions. If you would like to help, please visit <https://catholicassociation.enthuse.com/pf/bishop-paul-hendricks>

Thank you very much. Bishop Paul



***There is nothing more beautiful than to be surprised by the Gospel, by the encounter with Christ.***

*(Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI)*

## Refugees collection at St Thomas

From this autumn our parish will start a new year-long initiative to support the needs of refugees in our local area. At the start of each month we're asking you to donate different hygiene and non-perishable food items, which can be dropped off in a signposted box at the Church entrance. All items will be delivered to the South London Refugee Association.

**Starting Saturday 4th of September until October 1<sup>st</sup>** we ask you to please drop off the following items: Toothpaste, Shower gel, any further hygiene products. We thank you all for your generosity.

### FREE English Classes

Merton Home Tutoring Service offer free ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) classes around Merton for adult learners who are not able to get to formal college classes because of cost, family situation, childcare responsibilities, or other reasons. Please follow this the link to get all the details. <https://mhts.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/MHTS-Prospectus-2021-2022.pdf>



***Love to pray – feel the need to pray often during the day and take the trouble to pray. If you want to pray better, you must pray more. Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God's gift of himself. Ask and seek and your heart will grow big enough to receive him and keep him as your own.***

*(St Teresa of Calcutta 1910 -1997)*

### Rotas

**Stewards: SAT:** P&C Macaulay **N/W** C. Kawesi, T. De Souza, S. Doney. **SUN:** C. Quirke, D. Lyons, J. Murray, J. Brine **N/W** H&B Dallman, V. Crewe, J. Neligan

**Readers: SAT:** N. Nolan, E. De Souza **N/W** E. De Souza, M. Slade. **SUN:** A. Harris, A. Stacey **N/W** G. Fayers, T. Brown

**Flowers:** A. Oliva **N/W** L. Northeast

**Maintenance Team:** 11am Sat 11<sup>th</sup> September