

## **PARKING POLICY for St Thomas More RC Church, 380 Lordship Lane, SE22 8ND**

This policy has been developed for the health and safety of everyone at St Thomas More RC Church, given our duty of care for one another, and to ensure access for emergency vehicles to the church, presbytery and John Paul Centre at all times.

The following policy comes into force with immediate effect for anyone parking in the above car park:

**Parking in the car park is for St Thomas More RC Church users only.** The gate will remain open around Masses, Adorations, Church celebrations as well as other parish events and activities. If you require regular access outside of these times, please come to the parish office Monday-Wednesday 8.30-15.30 where we will need to take your car registration and contact details. The access code will change regularly, is only for parishioners and should not be distributed further afield.

Parking around the Church, Presbytery and Parish Centre on weekdays and at weekends is very limited. **Parking is not permitted directly in front of the church.** This is to ensure access for emergency vehicles and safe pedestrian access from Lordship Lane. **Parking is also prohibited down the access road leading to the Presbytery** at the side of the church closest to the library as the Priests require constant access in case of emergencies.

**Priority parking should always be given to our elderly and less able parishioners,** particularly at weekday and weekend Masses.

There are 16 spaces in the car park. Once these spaces are filled the car park is full and no more cars are permitted to park. **There is to be no double parking or parking down the centre of the car park. All gates into the car park should remain accessible and not blocked by any car at any time.**

Given the limited availability of parking spaces at St Thomas More, parishioners are encouraged to use alternative local parking facilities.

If necessary and if parking continues to be an issue, the parish will need to recruit volunteers as parking attendants. Occasionally, the stewards may be appointed to manage the car park, in which case please adhere to their instructions.

**Fr Bartłomiej Dudek, Parish Priest, St Thomas More Church, September 2023**