



EMBASSY OF HUNGARY  
LONDON



## THE RELICS OF ST THOMAS BECKET RETURN TO ENGLAND FROM HUNGARY AFTER MORE THAN 800 YEARS



### HOLY MASS

Celebrating the Commencement of the Pilgrimage of the Relics of St Thomas Becket

#### CELEBRATED BY

His Eminence Cardinal Péter Erdő, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest,  
Primate of Hungary, and

His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

#### IN THE PRESENCE OF

His Excellency János Áder, President of the Republic of Hungary

### WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

42 Francis St, London SW1P 1QW

**MONDAY, 23 MAY, 2016, 5.30 PM**

This Holy Mass will celebrate the first major solemn event of the return of Saint and Martyr Thomas Becket's relic from Esztergom, Hungary, to London, Rochester, and Canterbury for the first time in more than 800 years. The Relic of St Thomas Becket has been kept with great reverence at Esztergom, seat of the Metropolitan Archdiocese and Primatial See of Hungary. The Holy Mass will be celebrated by His Eminence Péter Cardinal Erdő, Archbishop of Esztergom-Budapest and Primate of Hungary, and His Eminence Vincent Cardinal Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster.

Under the patronage of the President of Hungary, this joint initiative between the Embassy of Hungary in London together with the Roman Catholic Church of England and Wales, and the Church of England, will allow believers to venerate the relic of St Thomas Becket.

The relic, held in the Basilica of Esztergom, the country's most important Catholic church, is to form the centerpiece of an elaborate week-long pilgrimage to London and Canterbury involving the Hungarian President János Áder, the Speaker of the Hungarian Assembly, László Kövér, and senior clerics from the two churches.

It will be reunited temporarily with a handful of other relics revered for their associations with the murdered archbishop as it travels from his birthplace on Cheapside in the City of London to the site of his murder in Canterbury Cathedral.

