



# ST THOMAS MORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

This parish is part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No. 234216

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A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery [www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk)



St Thomas More, pray for us!

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr Stephen Day Tel: 024 7641 1900  
**Parish Deacons:** Rev Mr Pat Jeary Tel: 024 7641 2564 Rev Mr Leo Poole Tel: 024 7641 9731  
**St. Thomas More Primary School Headteacher:** Mr Morgan Williams Tel: 024 7684 9910  
**Parish Safeguarding Representatives:** Claire Rutter Tel: 024 7641 2535 Alison Cullinane Tel: 024 7644 1436  
**Gift Aid Co-ordinator:** Tony Curristan Tel: 024 7641 1280  
**Parish Administrator/Room Bookings:** Amanda Kelly Tel: 024 7641 4473 email: [amandafriswells@btconnect.com](mailto:amandafriswells@btconnect.com)

## SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2016 SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

SUNDAY 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2 <sup>nd</sup> of ADVENT	9.00 a.m. 5.30 – 5.50 p.m.	Mass Confession	Harold Webster (6 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>St Birinus</i>	9.00 a.m. 7.00- 8.00 p.m.	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Gordon Aspell (2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniv) Mrs Adrianna Reeves (Mem Mass)
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	Catherine McClean (Anniv)
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>St Ambrose</i>	9.15 a.m.	Mass	Michael Kapusta (Anniv)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Immaculate Conception BVM</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	The People of the Parish
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	Gerry Carpenter
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20 a.m.	Mass Exposition, followed by Benediction Confession	George McMullin (RIP)
SUNDAY 11 <sup>th</sup> Dec 3 <sup>rd</sup> of ADVENT	9.00 a.m. 5.30 – 5.50 p.m.	Mass Confession	Shaun Cleary (RIP)
	6.00 p.m.	Mass	The People of the Parish

Morning and Evening Prayer is said 15 minutes before all weekday Masses

There is a loop system in the church. Set your hearing aid to 'T'. Best reception at side walls of the church.

### MASS TODAY begins on pg 7 of THE PARISH MASS BOOK and READINGS on pg 85

*Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 2*

**READERS: This Sunday:** 9.00 a.m. Laura Martin & Rob Ridley 6.00 p.m. Brendon Cunningham & John Burns  
**Next Sunday:** 9.00 a.m. Kris Pears & Jim Etheridge 6.00 p.m. Andrew Colby & Anthony Buckley

**LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection:** £897.89 **St Barnabas Society Appeal:** £338.81

**This Sunday: Second Collection:** Poor Parishes Fund

**Next Sunday: Second Collection:** Father Hudson's Care

**MANY THANKS for all that you give in time, money & effort**

### Sunday's Readings are on pg 85 of the Parish Mass Book...

ISAIAH paints a picture of a wonderful future time, when the world would be as God wants it to be. Peace, justice, integrity—all these qualities and more will be in evidence, affecting everyone and everything. Teamed with this reading is the beginning of St Matthew's account of John the Baptist's preaching. The keynote of this preaching is "Repent". And the people listen, captivated by his speaking and his appearance. It is through repentance that people can be prepared for Jesus. The word repentance in the Gospels has a literal meaning of turning around or away from. John calls us to leave behind all that gets between us and Jesus. Leave it behind! His urgency is heeded, and crowds flock to him to receive a kind of baptism, the water being a symbol of cleansing from sin. Many people need deadlines and a sense of urgency before they can be bothered to do anything. Doubtless, when Christ comes again there will be many last moment but genuine conversions. But in the meanwhile we are not to waste time. Jesus comes to establish God's kingdom. We who have heard the call of the Baptist and the Gospel of Jesus, have a duty to work now for that kingdom. Isaiah's prophecy shows us what is possible. Jesus comes to make it happen, and asks us to be ready to help Him.



*Fr Stephen*

## ADVENT – Come Lord Jesus!

DO STAY FOR TEA OR COFFEE AFTER MASS

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Isabel Dow, Emrys Evans, Bridie Farrell, Margaret Delargey, Hubert Hackett, Pat Hackett, Norah Mary Duffy, Helen Martin  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Julia Kelly, Patricia Kerr, Ruth Higgins, Mary Ullah, Frances Winfield, Declan Loughnane, Richard O'Callaghan, Edgar Bevan, Sabina Monaghan, Kathleen Sullivan, Rozalia Koltun, Josephine Harrison, Tony Mulrooney, Peter Doyle, Catherine Gallacher, Michael Jordan, Michael Kapusta, Elsie Wynne, Madge Markey, John Fallon, John Lynch, Julia Byrne, James Burnett, Margaret Fletcher, Bernadette Russell, James Ronan, Mme Andree Bringue, James Burke, Edith Carr, Jack Musgrave, Charles Cowles, John O'Reilly, Michael Grady, James Browne, Margaret Glynn and all whose anniversaries fall at this time.

*Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.*

**SICK & SUFFERING:** Caroline Fitzpatrick "Fitzs", Suzanne Martin, Jane Hogan, Diane Taylor, Liam Mee, Rev Gerry O'Reilly, Peter Brookes, Helen McDonnell, Margaret Young, James Young, Teresa Mellon, Cecil & Margaret Dowson, Madge Vowles, Carl Smith, Peter David, Mary Morris, Harry Davenport, Vera Lee, John Martin, Ron Hamilton, Beatrice Upham, Diane Sharpe, Bill Brennan, Christopher, Ben Green, Felix Rooney, John & Jeanne Gould, Charlie Addison, Joanne Bazen, Kaime Orchard, Deacon Jim Gilligan, Dolores Heffernan, Jerry Casey, Maisie Taylor, William Begley, Imogen Jones, Tommy Carberry, Thomas Ryan, Rebecca Power, Julie Burke, John Nugent, Natalie Molloy, Bill Molloy, Sean Craig, Marie Lynch, Ken Stone, Caroline Cunningham, Sylvester & Kitty Budkiewiez, David Warr, Pam Brown, Bill McGiven, Heidi O'Neil, Mary Walsh, Lily Bailey, Mike Campbell, persecuted Christians, victims of war and violence, those who have died in war, those who mourn.

*Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick: Pray for us*

**GREETING CARDS FOR PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE** - there will be card signing sessions after each Mass TODAY in the MRR. Information and materials will be provided by the Justice and Peace Group. Please follow the instructions about what to write – some prisoners will be made to suffer if they receive a Christian message their captors don't like. Donations towards postage are welcome. More information at <http://www.acatuk.org.uk> **Please take a moment to provide some hope for those imprisoned and separated from family and friends simply because of their beliefs. Many Christians are imprisoned in non-Christian countries simply for being a Christian!**

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?** The 'Footsteps in Faith Group' will this Wednesday next at 7.30pm in the MRR to explore what the Catholic Church believes and what being a disciple of Jesus means. This will be the last meeting before the Christmas break.

**FORTHCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS** Next Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> Dec the postponed Fr Hudson's Care collection. Father Hudson's is the social care agency of the Archdiocese, reaching out to support vulnerable people young and old. Please give generously to this worthy cause. The number of compulsory second collections has recently been increased by the Diocese. As well as compulsory collections we are also expected to host appeals from charities and the Missions from time to time and we of course have our own three second collections over the year.

**CHRISTMAS MASSES** will be as previous years. **5pm** Family Vigil Mass, **12** Midnight Mass (preceded by carols), **9am** and **11am**.

**ADVENT "WALK WITH ME" BOOKLETS AVAILABLE** on the bookcases at the back of church. Please do make a donation towards the cost of £1 but most of all please take copies for yourself, family and friends.

**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** - each year our parish buys practical gifts to help people in developing nations to help themselves. There will be a retiring collection after Mass on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Or place an order yourself from the catalogues available in church. Please see our virtual village on the display in church, on the wall on the confessional side of church. [www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)

**MASSES BROADCAST LIVE** Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner this church, like several others in Coventry, will soon be broadcasting Sunday Mass live over the internet. We hope to the system running by Christmas: details soon. Coincidentally, this year's BBC televised Midnight Mass is to come from our own St Chad's Cathedral.

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★ ★ ★ **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: THANK YOU!** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**THANK YOU to everyone** who came and enjoyed a lovely community evening at the school.  
★ ★ ★ **Thanks to everyone who made the event possible** – the takings were £3400 (slightly up on last year) and we'll know the profit soon. ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**WORKCARE Coventry & Warwickshire** is an ecumenical Christian organisation providing workplace chaplaincy and support to those in and seeking work. It is seeking a lay or ordained person to develop the organisation to meet these objectives, salary £20-30K. See [www.workcare.org](http://www.workcare.org)

**THE PARISH WEBSITE has been updated and includes the weekly sheet and a lot of other information.** See [stmcov.org](http://stmcov.org) for all the latest. And the parish is on **TWITTER @StThosMore**. Please follow this to see news, reflections and information about events.

♪♪ **JAM 'N' CAKE:** a new initiative that is open to all parishioners. In the new year, we will be offering the chance to learn and practice hymns and songs that have been planned for forthcoming 9 a.m. Sunday Masses. The aim is just singing for fun, increasing confidence and learning new hymns together - there is no expectation that people will join the music group, just sing out from the pews, although new members are always welcome. This will be a social evening with refreshments, so please consider joining us - all are welcome! More details will follow ♪♪

**DYING WELL** <http://www.artofdyingwell.org/> A Catholic web resource of beautiful stories, prayers and help with dying, death and bereavement.

**PARISH SHOP** Advent Calendars, advent candles, Christmas cards, Nativity sets, Miniature Nativity sets, Calendars and diaries.

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT** Further copies of the report are available at the back of church with a summary on the reverse. Thanks to all.

**100 Club Winners:** 1<sup>st</sup>: £20 Mr Evans 2<sup>nd</sup>: £10 Phil O'Malley 3<sup>rd</sup>: £8 Claire Price 4<sup>th</sup>: £7 Sarah Hall 5<sup>th</sup>: £5 Mrs Bagri 6<sup>th</sup>: £4 Mr O'Reilly

**MARKING THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the CHURCH BUILDING in 2018** A two-week Parish Mission has now been booked for **Lent 2018**, to be led by the Sion Community. Other events: Mass with the Archbishop in the summer, pilgrimage to Rome - autumn, parish meal, trip to Chelsea & the Tower in the footsteps of St Thomas More, Flower Festival and Tudor themed social event. Clearly, nothing happens without planning, we shall need a parish **Jubilee Action Group** to co-ordinate. Volunteers will be called for in due course... Meanwhile, the first artist's impression of the glass screen between font and porch can be seen in the porch. If this happens, St Thomas More will move from the porch, perhaps to where Our Lady is now and Our Lady move to the opposite side of the sanctuary where, with shortened pews, there will be much more space to pray at her shrine. What about the MRR kitchen? The heating? The exterior down pipes? The lighting? The floor? The side chapel? The curtain wall round Knoll Drive and Watercall Avenue? We can't do it all, so what shall we do? Ideas of costs for these various projects are being sought. **We have much to be thankful for: our marking of this anniversary should be joyous and lasting.**

**BEING A SERVER...** If you have made your first communion and can make a commitment to being at Mass, then **please be a server.** Young or old, male or female the servers' ministry enhances worship. Please see Malcom Pollard or one of the clergy to know more.

**THE HEATING IS ON – PLEASE KEEP THE HEAT IN..!** Please **make sure that all doors are kept shut** now the cold weather is here. **Thank you for doing this: it helps us all keep warm, helps the planet and helps our bank balance.**

+ Weekly Events in the Margaret Roper Room +

<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>TUESDAY SOCIETY:</b> 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Christmas Carols in the MRR. <i>All welcome.</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>ADORATION PRAYER GROUP:</b> 1.30 p.m. in Chapel and 2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. in the MRR. <i>All welcome.</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>EXTEND gentle exercise group:</b> 10.00 a.m. in MRR
<b>Friday</b>	<b>STEPPING STONES:</b> 1.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. Parents & Toddlers in MRR. <i>All welcome.</i>

**ARRANGING THE BAPTISM of BABIES & YOUNG CHILDREN**

Baptism is arranged by appointment. It usually happens at 12.15 p.m. on a Sunday **or** at either Sunday Mass. Parents should collect a form from one of the clergy **after Sunday Mass**. For the baptism of children over 4 and of adults see the parish priest.

**ARRANGING A WEDDING**

Please speak to one of the clergy in the first place. You will need a meeting with the Parish Priest to go through all that needs to be done. About six months' notice at least is desirable: but it's never too soon.

