



# 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



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

## SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2017 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

SUNDAY 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>The Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m.	6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Harry Mellon RIP (Mem Mass) Mary Jenkins RIP (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv)
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan <i>Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 7.00 – 8.00 p.m.		Mass Exposition	Sylvia Harland (RIP)
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan <i>St John Bosco Pr</i>	9.00 a.m.		Mass	Joan Alderson
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb <i>Feria</i>	10.00 a.m.		Requiem Mass	Colm Gleeson RIP
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb <i>Presentation of the Lord</i>	9.00 a.m.		Mass	The People of the Parish
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb <i>St Blaise Bp &amp; M</i>	9.00 a.m.		Mass	Hugh Murray RIP (Anniv)
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb <i>Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20		Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	Ken Baimbridge RIP (Anniv)
SUNDAY 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb <i>The Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m.	6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Thanksgiving for Exam Results from Grandma for Ellie Tina Frogarty (RIP)

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 p 7 of THE PARISH MASS BOOK and READINGS on p 130

*Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 4*

**READERS: This Sunday:** 9.00 a.m. Rob Ridley & Eve Hibberd 6.00 p.m. Janet Ward & Louise Poole  
**Next Sunday:** 9.00 a.m. Judith Doherty & Pat Jenkins 6.00 p.m. Geraldine Clarkson & Andrew Colby

**LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection:** £976.51

**Next Week: Second Collection: Pro-Life** Last week's second collection envelope for Racial Justice was wrongly dated by our supplier. That second collection is actually on 12th Feb – *sorry for the mistake.*

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

### Sunday's Readings on p130 of the Parish Mass Book...

**Z**ephaniah the prophet can see all about him the people's utter disregard for God's laws and what is right. No good can come from this, and God's punishment seems inevitable. Only a few remain loyal to the covenant between God and His people. Jesus sets out for us a new vision of how to live as saints, to be truly happy as God's people. Once we embrace the first beatitude, then the others will follow for once we set ourselves free of pride in possessions and wealth, then we put God first and we open ourselves up to other people. Free of the need jealously to protect what we have, then we can turn ourselves to protecting other people, and serving their needs rather than our own. Like the old Chinese story: a man is shown Hell. Groups of starving people lie around in great suffering for while there is lots of food the chopsticks they must use are a yard long—they cannot reach their own mouths. Next door, the man is shown Heaven: happy, laughing people enjoy good food and good company—they too have oversized chopsticks. But they are feeding each other...



## January – Month of the Infant Jesus

THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH, AND DWELT AMONG US...

**\* YOU ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR TEA OR COFFEE AFTER MASS \***

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Colm Gleeson, Linda Proctor, Robert Webster, Pauline Ledwidge, Angela, Richard Green, Dolores Hefferman, Patricia Fowler, James McCormick, John Martin, Jane Hogan, Isabel Dow, Emrys Evans, Bridie Farrell, Margaret Delargey **ANNIVERSARIES:** Harry Mellon, Edward Cawley, Olga Humber, Walter Leigh, Thomas Brogan, Peter Lynch, Mary Weir, Peter Keating, Michael Wynne, James Griffin, Jeremy Pilcher, John de Ville, Gladys Biddle, Teresa Shami, James Brennan, Eileen Moore, George Hornibrook, Marjorie Vincent, Helen Mee, James Dempsey, Maureen McQuade, Nora McHale, John Keegan, John Ford, Margaret Jenkins, Teresa McLoughlin, Kenneth Baimbridge and all those 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:** Betty Wainwright, Norman Rowe, Margaret Knight, Roy Haslam, Betty Carr, Caroline Fitzpatrick "Fitzs", Suzanne Martin, 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, 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, Sadie Fulton, 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, all the sick, those who mourn, all who are persecuted for simply being who they are.

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

**TODAY: the FOURTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION at 6PM MASS** A reminder that communion at **6pm Mass** is now from the head of the aisle in front of the altar *without* the clergy moving about: simply queue in the aisle. Communion at the side rails *remains the same*.

**CARRIERS OF HOPE – AGM Tue 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 11.45 a.m.** at their new warehouse, Unit 2c, Swallowgate Business Park, Holbrook Lane, CV6 4BL

**STEPPING STONES toddler group have moved!** The stay and play group now meets in the **Community Room at Saint Thomas More School**. Sessions are now on **Wednesdays at 1:30-3:00**. Everyone welcome. If you have any questions please call Annemarie Vincent-Poole on 024 7684 9910. This award-winning group welcomes all who wish to bring pre-school children along.

**THURSDAY: the Feast of the PRESENTATION OF THE LORD in the Temple (Candlemass).** Mass includes the opening blessing of candles

**USING SOCIAL MEDIA FOR PARISH CATECHESIS & EVANGELISATION Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm at Christ the King.** Now that parishes have websites and Twitter and Facebook this is a chance to learn how best to use them to spread and grow faith.

**FATHER HUDSON'S 113<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FUNDRAISING BALL Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February** from 7.30 p.m. – 1.00 a.m. at National Conference Centre, Birmingham. Tickets from £39.50. Please see poster in porch.

**LIVESIMPLY** Looking for a New Year's challenge which will both enrich a parish community and transform the lives of those overseas? Why not make 2017, a **LiveSimply** year! You invited to our **LiveSimply** evening on **Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Feb from 7.45 – 9.15 in the MRR**. *Light refreshments served from 7.30 p.m.* There will be the opportunity to learn more about **CAFOD's LiveSimply** Award, which encourages parish communities to live simply, sustainably & in solidarity with the poor and to explore how parishes might get involved.

**ASH WEDNESDAY is March 1<sup>st</sup>.** Masses with ashing in the morning and the evening.

♪♪ **JAM 'N' CAKE: THANK YOU TO SOUL REASON** for organising the first session last week. The next are **7 - 8.30 pm on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> March** and **11<sup>th</sup> April**. Learn and practice hymns and songs that have been planned for forthcoming 9 a.m. Sunday Masses. The aim is singing for fun and learning 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- *all are welcome!* ♪♪

**THE GOVERNORS OF BISHOP ULLATHORNE CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL** are seeking to appoint a **new Head Teacher** from September 2017 in succession to Miss Byrne who is retiring at the end of this academic year. Poster in porch and information from school.

**SOUTH COVENTRY CHURCHES Ecumenical forum** is holding a time of prayer on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 7.30pm Woodside Methodist Church to pray for the local churches and to seek God's will in growing and working together. In the meantime local clergy will be meeting too.

**ANDY CULLINANE AND THE BIRMINGHAM HALF MARATHON** – Andy would like to say a big **thank you** to all those who donated money for the ½ marathon. He has raised £1000 which has been split between Parkinson's UK and ARYPT.


**CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** Thanks to your donations of £622 during Advent, we have been able to buy a water testing kit, a medical outreach team, a donkey, a pair of pigeons and a tippy tap. Our parish has donated £10346 since 2008 to CAFOD World Gifts, helping the poor help themselves. See our virtual village on the notice board in church.

**WALSgrave HOSPITAL FULL TIME CHAPLAIN** Following the retirement of Fr Michael Stack, Fr Paul Burch has been appointed full time **Catholic Chaplain**. He is assisted by a team of Catholic volunteers. If you or a relative in hospital wish to see a priest he is available: when he isn't, there is *always* a local priest on emergency call. Ask the staff: Communion is regularly distributed and the anointing of the sick celebrated.

**WANTED** Anyone willing to do some **BRASS CLEANING** would be very welcome – please speak to one of the Clergy if you could spare some time. The cleaners work hard every Tuesday morning and will provide company, find polish for you and make you smile!

**MASSSES NOW LIVESTREAMED TO THE INTERNET.** There is a link from our website to <http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/>. Only the sanctuary is 'in shot', plus the ends of the first three rows.

**MASS INTENTIONS:** At the moment **demand is very great**, particularly Sundays at 9am, so please provide as much notice as possible for a specific date and give alternative dates if you can. Secondly, *if you are willing to share the offering of your intention with another* please write *'willing to share'* on the envelope. At the moment if two people ask for the same Sunday 9am one will be disappointed: sharing opens possibilities

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

**MARKING THE 50<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY of the CHURCH BUILDING in 2018** So far, a **two-week Parish Mission** has been booked for **Lent 2018**, to be led by the Sion Community. The possibility of the glass screen between font and porch is being explored (we have £5,000 towards this from a legacy of Mgr Gavin – money that has been given to beautify the church and not to pay running costs). Contractors are also quoting for a new MRR kitchen and for the stripping down and renovation of the church floor. The lighting is also being looked at. A celebration Mass with the Archbishop, pilgrimage and social events of different sorts are all being considered too. **We have much to be thankful for!**

**BEING A SERVER** If you have made your first communion and can make a commitment to being at Sunday 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**. *Thank you for doing this: it helps us all be less cold, helps the planet and helps our bank balance.* The boiler was repaired last week –we may turn on the heat! **Thank you.**

+ **Parish Weekly Events** +

**Tuesday** **TUESDAY SOCIETY:** 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Talk on St John Bosco in the MRR. All welcome.

**Wednesday** **ADORATION PRAYER GROUP:** 1.30 p.m. in Chapel and 2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. in the MRR. *All welcome.*

**Wednesday** **STEPPING STONES Parent & Toddler Group** 1.30 – 3.30 p.m. in St Thomas More School.

**Thursday** **EXTEND gentle exercise group:** Next meeting in February

#### 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.

