

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH NEWSLETTER



St Thomas More, pray for us!

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



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 HEAD:	Mr Morgan Williams	Tel: 024 7684 9910	www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk
PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:	Claire Rutter	Tel: 024 7641 2535	Alison Cullinane Tel: 024 7644 1436
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SUNDAY 5th March 2017 FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

SUNDAY 5 th March <i>The First Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Sr Patrick DHS (Maureen Totin) RIP Larry Kelly (10 th Anniv) RIP
Monday 6 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 7.00 – 8.00 p.m.	Mass Exposition	Linda Walker (Anniv)
Tuesday 7 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass, followed by Stations of the Cross	Jean Davenport (RIP)
Wednesday 8 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	11.45 a.m.	Requiem Mass	Tony Miller RIP
Thursday 9 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Friday 10 th March <i>(CAFOD Lent Fast) Lent Feria</i>	7.00 a.m. 12 noon	Mass, followed by breakfast Mass	William & Irene McGivern (Sick) Jackie Buckley (RIP)
Saturday 11 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20	Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	Theresa Chamley (10 th Anniv)
SUNDAY 12th March <i>The Second Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Gordon Howell (Anniv) Phil McShane (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 the READINGS are on p 151

Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 1

READERS: This Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Noreen Thornhill & Judy Freeman	6.00 p.m. Louise Poole & Andrew Colby
Next Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Rachel Thompson & Marisa Gunn	6.00 p.m. Hannah McBride & Sheila Browne

LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection: £974.89

This Week's Second Collection: Cathedral Maintenance **Next Week's:** CAFOD Lent Fast Day

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

Sunday's Readings on p 151 of the Parish Mass Book...

TODAY'S READINGS TELL US OF FOUR TEMPTATIONS. One given into, the others resisted. Sin is not temptation itself, but rather temptation given into. Genesis describes how Eve then Adam give in to the serpent's suggestion, and life for the whole human race is changed for the worse. God's plan is spoiled. Paradise is lost. And then, thank God, the rest of the Bible is the story of God working to restore us to paradise. As we start Lent, we are reminded of our need for God's mercy, that earthly pleasures of food and drink, power and authority are as nothing compared to our need of God and His love and mercy. Jesus's resisting of temptation overcomes Adam's failing and, returning from the desert to begin His ministry the stage is set for His death and resurrection— which are our way back to paradise.

F. Steffen



LENT: a springtime for the soul by prayer and penitence, fasting and almsgiving.
Let Lent lift your Christian life!



LENT THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH... Prayer: Mass and Exposition. **Penitence:** Confession Saturday mornings and Sunday evenings. **Fasting:** a focus on giving something up for CAFOD this week. **Almsgiving:** support for CAFOD. **And whatever else you decide...** Perhaps a fast from grudges, intolerance and dismissiveness... a taking on of visiting a neighbour... giving up an indulgent luxury and saving the money for those who cannot afford even necessities... turning the TV off earlier and read the gospel for the day...

March: Month of St Joseph Foster father of Christ, pray for all fathers!

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Bridie Rogers, Eileen Kennedy, Tony Miller, Betty Wainwright, Colm Gleeson, Linda Proctor, Robert Webster
ANNIVERSARIES: Percival Miller, Elizabeth Garry, Daphne Carvell, Margaret McBeth, Lawrence Kelly, Sequoia Collier, Desmond McDade, Dagmor Halliwell, Jean Craft, Sean Gallagher, Mary Winston, Jack Tarlington, Angela Domican, Joseph Power, Catherine McNab, Lucy Brennan, George Montgomery, Henry Pickersgill, Catherine Smart, Francis Hughes, Esther Brooks, Teresa Wardle, Richard Royal, Leonard Roberts, Denis Twoomey, Cyprian Texeira, May O'Connor, Mary Hallinan, Nora Payne, Evelyn Doyle, James Hannigan, William Malone, Mary Tams, Alfred Waters, Margaret Mulligan, Margaret Pokorny, Mary Vertigan, Madge Quigleas, Peter Clark, Thomas Kane, Linda Walker.

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

SICK & SUFFERING: Betty Carr, Norman Rowe, Roy Haslam, 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, Julie Burke, John Nugent, Natalie Molloy, Bill Molloy, Sean Craig, Marie Lynch, Ken Stone, Caroline Cunningham, Sylvester & Kitty Budkiewjez, David Warr, Pam Brown, Bill McGiven, Heidi O'Neil, Mary Walsh, Lily Bailey.

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

TODAY: the FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT The great season of prayer, fasting, penance and almsgiving has begun. May our Lenten discipline draw us closer to God and deeper into faith. Today's second collection is for our Cathedral of St Chad in Birmingham. The church will look different and the liturgies take on a more penitential feel as we begin our Lenten pilgrimage. Lent is a time to grow in faith and love as we set aside extra times for PRAYER, FASTING, PENITENCE and ALMSGIVING. **Let Lent make a difference!** An extra Mass, a time before the Blessed Sacrament and Confession will make us focus more on God and strengthen us to serve our neighbour. What will you do for Lent? And remember, Confession is **not** about how bad we are but about how merciful God is!

CONFIRMATION CLASSES for children not in Catholic schools: **Meeting for Parents TODAY at 11.00 a.m. in MRR.**

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. Contact: Annemarie Vincent-Poole in school on 024 7684 9910.

JAM 'N' CAKE: THANK YOU TO SOUL REASON for organising these sessions of getting to know music and singing along. The next are **7 - 8.30 pm on Tuesday 7th March and 11th 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!**

FRIDAY For Lent, Mass is at 7.00 a.m. followed by breakfast. Mass is also at 12 noon. (From 13th March there will be an evening Mass on Mondays at 6.30.p.m. and Exposition and Benediction will follow) There will be a Frugal Soup Lunch for CAFOD after the noon Mass on Fri 24th

THIS FRIDAY IS CAFOD LENT FAST DAY. Next Sunday the second collection is for CAFOD. Giving envelopes are available this Sunday and tax payers please Gift Aid your donation by completing the form. Laura and Kris will each speak after Mass to explain the focus of CAFOD's work with people like Florence. She is a hard-working mother who is devoted to her family. A few years ago, she was only just making enough to feed her family. However, CAFOD's partner, the Sisters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, recognised how determined Florence was to stand on her own two feet and so they gave her 500 tiny fish, tools and training to build a pond and farm fish. By selling some of the fish at market, Florence could feed her children a future and send them to school. Support this Lent Fast Day to help more like Florence.

SVP will be serving **bacon sandwiches** on 12th March and 9th April after 9.00 a.m. Mass. Any money raised will be used for further SVP causes and projects. If you know of anyone who needs help or would like a visit, please talk to a member of the SVP. If you would like to become a member or find out more information about what we do please contact Alison Cullinane on 02476 441436.

PRAYER PEBBLE ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION A parish community art project is being organised for Lent to create a sculptural installation for Easter. Everyone welcome to try two simple crafts to transform pebbles into beautiful objects which you can take home to keep when the community piece is dismantled after Pentecost. No experience necessary. **Please see display in the porch and take a leaflet.**

BRIDIE ROGERS RIP Please pray for her and for her family. Her funeral Mass will be on **Tuesday 14th March at 10.00 a.m.**

PARISH SHOP now in stock: cards for St Patrick's Day, Mothering Sunday, Easter, First Communion and Confirmation. *Have a browse!*

SOUTH COVENTRY CHURCHES Ecumenical Forum is holding a time of prayer on 3rd May 7.30pm Woodside Methodist Church.


WANTED – SOMEONE TO MOW THE CHURCH GRASS. George, after years of hard work, is stepping down. We thank him for the care and effort put into keeping the grass look neat round the church. Please volunteer to Fr Stephen. A lack of volunteers would mean we shall have to pay to have this done –pushing up costs and tying up money that could be spent elsewhere. Such as on the MRR kitchen or the church floor!

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*.

SCHOOL 100 CLUB Winners February 2017: List of winners on the sheet in the porch.

MASSES NOW BROADCAST ON THE INTERNET. Link on the website to <http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/>. Only the sanctuary is 'in shot', plus the ends of the first three rows. *Please give any sick or housebound a hand to watch this if they need help*

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.** If two people ask for the same Mass one will be disappointed: sharing opens possibilities. Please bear with us: **at the moment it is simply impossible to guarantee to offer every Mass on the day requested.**

THE PARISH WEBSITE has been updated and includes the weekly sheet and a lot of other information. See stmcov.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 50th ANNIVERSARY of the CHURCH BUILDING 2018 Do you have any old photos or mementoes of the first St Thomas Church or the second? We should like to borrow them to scan and create a display or parish history book. 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 KEEP ALL DOORS SHUT!! PLEASE KEEP ALL DOORS SHUT!!

+ **Parish Weekly Events** +

Tuesday **TUESDAY SOCIETY:** 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Fish & Chip lunch in the MRR.

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:** 10.00am in the MRR.

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

PLEASE STAY FOR TEA OR COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASS