

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 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
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 26th March 2017 THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A

SUNDAY 26 th March <i>The 4th Sunday of Lent (Mothering Sunday)</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Thomas Lawlor Nora O'Brien (Sick)
Monday 27 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	6.00 p.m. 6.30 p.m. 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. 7.15-7.45 p.m.	Reception into Church – Paulina Woodcock Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	Madge & Bobby Ward
Tuesday 28 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	11.30 a.m.	Requiem Mass	Paulina Woodcock RIP
Wednesday 29 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.15 a.m.	Mass	Monica & Oliver Fagan
Thursday 30 th March <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Friday 31 st March <i>Lent Feria</i>	7.00 a.m. 12 noon	Mass, <i>followed by breakfast</i> Mass, <i>followed by soup lunch for CAFOD</i>	Mgr T J Gavin RIP (B'day Anniv) Gerry Carpenter (RIP)
Saturday 1 st April <i>Lent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20 a.m.	Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	Terry Brooks/Theresa Chamley (B'day) & Nina May (Sick)
SUNDAY 2nd April <i>The 5th Sunday of Lent</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Mrs Suzanne Martin (Sick) Emrys Evans (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 164

Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 4

READERS: This Sunday:	9.00 a.m. Debbie Middleton & Kris Pears	6.00 p.m. Caitlin McBride & Anthony Buckley
Next Sunday:	9.00 a.m. Eve Hibberd & Judith Doherty	6.00 p.m. John Burns & Geraldine Clarkson
LAST SUNDAY:	Main Collection: £1054.14 MANY THANKS for all that you give in time, money & effort	

Sunday's Readings on p 164 of the Parish Mass Book...

We too often fail to see people as God sees them. The choosing of a new king for Israel was crucial, but the one God had in mind was the youngest, most insignificant looking for 'God does not see as man sees'. Jesus sees in the blind man a man needing healing of eyes and spirit. The blind man sees Jesus as the Saviour, but paradoxically the Pharisees who have their physical sight see Jesus as nothing more than a troublemaking sinner. What we see with the eyes of faith is far more important than what we see physically!

F. Steffen



We thank God for Mother Church, Mary our Mother, and our own Mothers...

O almighty and eternal God, Lord of both the living and the dead, Your tender mercy embraces all people who are Yours by faith and a good life. Through the intercession of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother, and of all the saints, grant Your merciful graces to all mothers for whom we pray, whether they still are living in this world or have departed from this flesh into the world to come. Especially, dear Lord, grant the requests I now make of You for my own beloved mother... Through Him born Himself of woman, Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*



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



March: Month of St Joseph Husband of the Mother of God, pray for all mothers!

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Paddy Hughes, Paulina Woodcock, Bridie Rogers, Eileen Kennedy, Tony Miller, Betty Wainwright, Keith Sutton
ANNIVERSARIES: Irmgard Wainwright, Bridie Williams, Philip Maguire, Dora Merry, Ellen Craig, May Falconer, Peter Stockman, Beatrice & Roger Jackson, Eileen McCann, Kevin Bills, Kitty Ryan, John Griffin, Catherine Desmond, Conrad Cerowski, Frank Philips, Philomena McKenna, Donal Warburton, Caroline Kelly, William Vickerstaff, Geoff Stenner, Joyce Ellis, Frederick O'Grady, Sr Isobel Harrington, Johanna O'Connell, Mary Healey, Walter Roche, Ronald Stokes, Anne Norden, Sheila Ferguson, Teresa McGavin, Seamus O'Malley, James Costello, Sarah Simpson, Cornelius Harrington, Margaret Smith, Tom Norris

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

SICK & SUFFERING: Pat Kenny, Betty Carr, Norman Rowe, Roy Haslam, Caroline Fitzpatrick "Fitzs", Suzanne Martin, Diane Taylor, Liam Mee, Rev Gerry O'Reilly, Peter Brookes, John & 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 Budkiewiez, David Warr, Pam Brown, Bill McGiven, Heidi O'Neil, Mary Walsh, Lily Bailey, Mike Campbell, the victims of terrorism especially in Westminster, God's blessing on all who seek peace.

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

TODAY: the FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT By ancient tradition, we rejoice in motherhood on this day – the Motherhood of the Church, of Our Lady and of our own mothers on **MOTHERING SUNDAY** *God bless all mothers! CAKE SALES after both Masses* for Parish funds. *Do come!*

MONDAY for LENT Mass at 6.30pm, leading into Exposition and Benediction. Confession will be available 6.45-7.15 p.m. All in the side chapel.

PRAYER PEBBLE ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION The next is on Thurs 30th March 1 – 3.00 p.m. in the Margaret Roper Room. *All welcome!*

FRIDAY for LENT Mass is at **7.00 a.m. followed by breakfast and also Mass at 12 noon followed by SOUP LUNCH for CAFOD'S AFRICAN FAMINE APPEAL.** Thank you to all who are turning out to Mass in such numbers! Both Friday Masses have been well supported.

LENT IN THE PARISH THIS WEEK *Prayer:* Mass and Exposition is on Monday and Saturday. *Penitence:* Confession Sunday evening Monday evening and Saturday mornings. *Fasting* CAFOD Soup Lunch Friday after noon Mass. *Almsgiving:* support for those in need. *And whatever you decide...* Make a needed apology... Accept an offered apology... Read one of the Gospels... Spend half an hour in church...

NEXT SATURDAY 11.30 a.m. Any brave and practical minded volunteers to see if it is practicable to veil the big crucifix for Passiontide?

NEXT SUNDAY: LENT moves towards the forthcoming Passion and Death of the Lord, Passiontide. In preparation for Holy Week, the Gospel tells of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. But the eternal resurrection of all the departed can only come through the resurrection of Christ and that is only possible because of His death.

SVP will be serving **bacon sandwiches 9th April** after 9.00 a.m. Mass. Any proceeds 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.

A RETIRING COLLECTION for EASTER FLOWERS will be held next Sunday. A lot of small donations would be a very big help! *Thank you*

♪♪ **JAM 'N' CAKE: THANK YOU TO SOUL REASON** for organising these sessions of getting to know music for 9am Mass and singing along. The next is **7.00 - 8.30 pm on Tuesday 11th April.** This will be a social evening with refreshments - *all are welcome!* ♪♪

EASTER MONDAY MASS The traditional Coventry Easter Monday Mass will be celebrated at St Osburg's at 10 a.m. by Bishop Kenney

KNOCK PILGRIMAGE 5 Night Pilgrimage to Knock 24th April 2017. £649 per person sharing. Price includes flight from Birmingham, all taxes, luxury transfers, 5 nights' Knock House Hotel with full Irish Breakfast and 4 Course Dinner. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Single supplement of £50. Groups and Individual bookings welcome. Contact Patricia anytime on 07740 175557, email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (Octave Day of Easter): Devotions for Divine Mercy Sunday at St Mary & St Benedict's beginning at 2.00 p.m.

THE GIFT LIFE IN THE SPIRIT COURSE To be held at Christ the King Church – 6 sessions beginning at 7.15 p.m. on Thursday 27th April, 4th, 11th 18th, 25th May and 8th June. An overview of the course will be held on Sun 23rd April 6.30 p.m. at Christ the King Church. See flyer

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

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE 26th November flying from Birmingham for four nights from £485 aglowpilgrimages.com/fatima or 0800 689 4792

ALLOTMENTS AT CHURCH? As part of our commitment to *Live Simply* it has been suggested that the grass area at the very back of church be turned into allotments. If you'd be interested in exploring the implications of this possibility, please speak to Fr Stephen to form a working group to plan a way forward. This would be a very constructive use of an area that currently just sits there, largely hidden.


OUR BEAUTIFUL MONSTRANCE has gone away to lose its dents and dings and regain its shine and lustre. This may take up to eight weeks.

PARISH SHOP now in stock: cards for Easter, First Communion and Confirmation. *Have a browse – drop in after Mass*

CHURCH BOILER Yet another electronic component has failed which is completely unrelated to the previous problems... It *might* be working. A very big thank you to Tom who has worked very hard to try to solve its annoying problems that come one after another...

MASS 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 but 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. See stmcov.org for all the latest. And the parish is now on **TWITTER @StThosMore.**  *Please follow this!*

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.

+ Parish Weekly Events +	
Tuesday	TUESDAY SOCIETY: 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Bring and Share 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. <i>All welcome.</i>
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 *after Sunday Mass.* For the baptism of children over four and of adults see the parish priest.



ST JOSEPH  PRAY FOR US!

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