

# 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](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk)



<b>PARISH PRIEST:</b>	Rev Fr Stephen Day	Tel: 024 7641 1900	
<b>PARISH DEACONS:</b>	Rev Mr Pat Jeary	Tel: 024 7641 2564	Rev Mr Leo Poole Tel: 024 7641 9731
<b>ST. THOMAS MORE PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:</b>	Mr Morgan Williams	Tel: 024 7684 9910	<a href="http://www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk">www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk</a>
<b>PARISH SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES:</b>	Claire Rutter	Tel: 024 7641 2535	Alison Cullinane Tel: 024 7644 1436
<b>GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:</b>	Tony Curristan	Tel: 024 7641 1280	
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR/ROOM BOOKINGS:</b>	Amanda Kelly	Tel: 024 7641 4473	email: <a href="mailto:amandafriswells@btconnect.com">amandafriswells@btconnect.com</a>

**SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017**      **FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**      **YEAR A**

SUNDAY 7 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Fourth Sunday of Easter: Good Shepherd Sunday</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Mary Mannion (RIP) Emrys Evans (RIP)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Ints of Margaret McGee
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	Maureen & Jimmy Murphy (Wedding Anniv)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.15 a.m.	Mass	Fr Luke Magee (RIP)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May <i>St Pancras, M</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	Sheila, Jack & Elizabeth Garry (RIP)
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Our Lady of Fatima</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20 a.m.	Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	June Hirst (RIP)
<b>SUNDAY 14<sup>th</sup> May</b> <i>Fifth Sunday of Easter</i>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b> <b>11.00 a.m.</b> 5.30-5.50 p.m. <b>6.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b> <b>Mass</b> with First Holy Communions Confession <b>Mass</b>	Anne Martin (RIP) The People of the Parish Deidrie Burns (RIP)

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

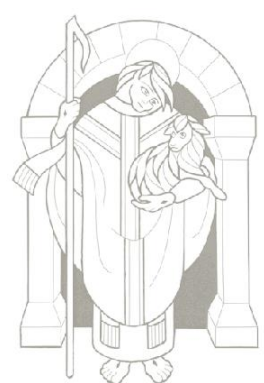
There is a loop system in the church. Set your hearing aid to 'T'. Best reception at side walls of the church.

**MASS TODAY begins on p7 of THE PARISH MASS BOOK and the READINGS are on p262**  
*Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 4*

<b>READERS: This Sunday:</b> 9.00 a.m. Rachel Hickingbotham & Blaise H-O'Sullivan	<b>6.00 p.m.</b> Sheila Browne & Anthony Buckley
<b>Next Sunday:</b> 9.00 a.m. Judy Freeman & Laura Martin	<b>6.00 p.m.</b> Caitlin McBride & Brendon Cunningham
<b>LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection: £962.64 TODAY: SECOND COLLECTION: Clergy Training Fund</b>	
<b>NEXT SUNDAY: Second Collection Parish Development Fund MANY THANKS for all that you give in time, money &amp; effort</b>	

## Sunday's Readings on p262 of the Parish Mass Book...

The relationship of a shepherd with his flock was very different in Jesus's time to how it is in modern western Europe. Modern shepherds have their flocks for only a short time before they are slaughtered. If they have them, they use dogs to drive the sheep in the direction they wish them to go. There are no dangerous lions, bears and wolves to protect them from at grave risk to the shepherd. In Jesus's time, sheep were kept for milk and wool as well as meat and so lived much longer. They were led by the shepherd, not driven by the sheepdog. The shepherd protected them at great personal risk. Jesus uses this kind of imagery to remind His hearers of His sacrificial love that brings life, and that He calls us to follow him. Vocation means answering a call, as a shepherd calls to his sheep. May Jesus lead us into the fullness of life by our answering His call, for as the Good Shepherd we know that, having laid down His life for us, where He calls us to follow can only be the best place for us. And may those whom He calls to the priesthood, the diaconate and the religious life hear and answer that call.



*Fr. Stephen*

**Today is Good Shepherd Sunday, the Day of Prayer for Vocations.** Please join the whole Catholic Church in praying for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. *Almighty God, give us priests!*

# CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

## MAY IS MARY'S MONTH

*Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death*

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Elizabeth Wallace, Sean O'Reilly, Consolata, Pat Kenny, Paddy Hughes, Paulina Woodcock, Bridie Rogers  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Joseph Harvey, Mary Janew, William Kelly, Richard Horner, Eileen O'Brien, Matthew Reilly, John Vertigan, Gladys Donaldson, Elizabeth Gilroy, Fr Patrick Keegan, Ann Le Conte, Andrew Le Conte, Charles Smith, John Healey, John Ahearn, Michael Fahy, George Dutton, Marie Finn, Wilfred Day, Sarah Morton, Mollie O'Connor, John Anderson, Albert Nash, James Phillips, Margaret Pyle, Edwin Chandley, Thomas & Susan Cassidy, Margaret McDade, Rose Harvey, Eugene O'Malley, Margaret Whitehouse, Catherine Grant, Thomas McGee, Sarah Gillespie, Margaret Hills, Maria Rodrigo, Harold Poole, Lilian Brennan & those whose anniversaries occur now.

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

**SICK & SUFFERING:** Tom Ashley, Jim Slattery, 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, 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 Budkiewjcz, David Warr, Pam Brown, Bill McGiven, Heidi O'Neil, Mary Walsh, Lily Bailey, Mike Campbell

*Please advise a member of the clergy if any names can be removed.*

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

**TODAY: 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!** The Easter season continues as we rejoice in the Risen Christ

**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY – World Day of Prayer for Vocations.** Second Collection for the Clergy Training Fund

♪♪ **JAM 'N' CAKE: 7.00 – 8.30 p.m.** in the MRR on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May, 20<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> September, 24<sup>th</sup> October and 21<sup>st</sup> November. Come and join in this social evening with refreshments getting to know music for the 9.00am Mass. **All welcome!** ♪♪

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSLINGHAM Sat 13<sup>th</sup> May** Deanery coaches leave from St John Fisher and from Christ the King 8am, £15 per person incl transport and Pilgrimage costs. Bring a mac and packed lunch. Book a place by phoning Fiona at Christ The King on 76 591618

**NEXT SUNDAY : 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!** The Easter season continues as we rejoice in the Risen Christ  
**FIRST COMMUNION MASS Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 11am** It will be possible this year to use the MRR as usual for tea and coffee after 9am Mass

**LOURDES PETITIONS** – If anyone would like a petition to be placed at the grotto in Lourdes please put them in the box by Our Lady's statue by 22 May. Please do **not** put any money in the envelopes! **The pilgrims are away from 27 May – 2 June.**

**ROB RIDLEY IS CYCLING TO LOURDES** Rob, a parishioner, is cycling to Lourdes in aid of Cancer Research UK. He will cover 1009km and plans to arrive to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage. **Please sponsor him.** through <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Rob-RidleyTDF2017>.

**CONFIRMATION MASS Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> June 7.00pm** Bishop William Kenney CP is coming to confirm the young people of the parish.

**AFTERNOON TEA Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE** Two sittings: 12.30 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. in the MRR. Booking is essential for this Parish fundraiser. Tickets £8 per head. To purchase/reserve please text or call Mandy Woollorton 07968 370195.

**FATIMA PILGRIMAGE 26<sup>th</sup> November** flying from Birmingham for four nights from £485 [aglowpilgrimages.com/fatima](http://aglowpilgrimages.com/fatima) or 0800 689 4792

**MASS INTENTIONS** Demand is **very high** and it is still not possible to guarantee a given date. If you are willing to share a Mass that eases the problem so if so please state clearly on the envelope. This would be a tremendous help.


**GIVING ENVELOPES** These are available in the church porch. If your box is not there or there is some other problem please contact Tony Curristan (who organises both the envelopes and Gift Aid) on 024 7641 1280

**SINGERS AT 6PM?** Would anyone like to support the music at this Mass by joining others by the piano to help lead? Please consider this.

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

**DO YOU LIKE COOKING?** Parishioners at STM have been providing meals to asylum seekers and refugees at Coventry Peace House night shelter since 2012. If you would like to join the cooks' rota or for information see the notice in the porch, contact the Justice and Peace group at [stm.jandpgroup@gmail.com](mailto:stm.jandpgroup@gmail.com) or call Kevin Duffy on 07812211828

**MASSES NOW BROADCAST ON THE INTERNET.** Direct link on the website to <http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/>.

**THE PARISH WEBSITE.** See [stmcov.org](http://stmcov.org) for all the latest. And the parish is now on **TWITTER @StThosMore.**  **Please follow this!**

**MARKING THE 50<sup>TH</sup> 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. The plans for a London pilgrimage to visit the places connected with St Thomas More, a celebratory meal, a Rome pilgrimage and the Archbishop's visit continue being explored. Various suggestions and ideas have been put forward to mark the anniversary in a concrete way, now including larger projects such as extending the porch into the church by including the space under the balcony (which would mean moving the font), the heating system, installing new modern disability friendly glass doors and modern fire exits. Fifty years ago, parishioners 'thought big' to build what we have: isn't there a case for considering 'thinking big' again and assessing how to keep the building up to modern needs and standards for the 21<sup>st</sup> century? Clearly, any spending of 'big money' that we might have to borrow is subject to a thorough vetting process by experts, parish and the diocese and **we would have to be fundraising** too. There is much to think and pray about. 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.

**THIS NEWSLETTER** might well start to look a little different over the next few weeks as we try to use the pages as efficiently as possible. There never seems to be enough room to get everything on!

**TEACHING VACANCY at St Thomas More School.** Please visit the school's website to find out more.

**SCHOOL 100 CLUB WINNERS:** Please see poster in porch. Congratulations to all.

#### PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS

**Tuesday** **TUESDAY SOCIETY:** 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Quiz in 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 p.m. – 3.00 p.m. at St Thomas More Primary 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.

#### 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.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO STAY FOR TEA OR COFFEE AFTER MASS

**IN EASTERTIDE, we sing the traditional Eastertide anthem to Our Lady –**

**Regina coeli, laetare, alleluia!** (*Joy to you, O Queen of Heaven, alleluia*)

**Quia quem meruisti portare, alleluia!** (*He whom you were fit to bear, alleluia*)

**Resurrexit, sicut dixit, alleluia!** (*Has arisen as he said, alleluia*)

**Ora pro nobis deum, alleluia!** (*Pour to God for us your prayer, alleluia*).

V. Rejoice and be glad O virgin Mary, alleluia R. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia. Let us pray... Amen

