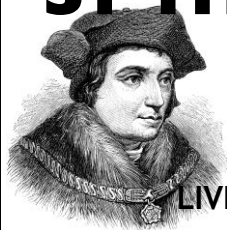


ST THOMAS MORE PARISH NEWSLETTER



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

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LIVESTREAM WEBCAM www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/

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 28th MAY 2017 The ASCENSION of the LORD YEAR A

SUNDAY 28 th May <i>The ASCENSION of the LORD</i>	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Ellen O'Sullivan (RIP) Sean & Margaret Gallagher (Anniv)
Monday 29 th May <i>Solemnity of Dedication</i>	10.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Tuesday 30 th May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Wednesday 31 st May <i>Visitation of BVM</i>	9.15 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Thursday 1 st June <i>St Justin</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Friday 2 nd June <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Saturday 3 rd June <i>St Charles Lwanga & Companions</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20 a.m.	Mass Exposition and Benediction Confession	Mary Jenkins (RIP)
SUNDAY 4th June PENTECOST	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 p.m. 6.00 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Jim Gallagher (Anniv) / Brian Matthews (1st Anniv) Spec Ints Bernadette Armstrong

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 p272

Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 3

READERS: This Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Kris Pears & Pat Jenkins	6.00 p.m. Geraldine Clarkson & Andrew Colby
Next Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Eve Hibberd & Maureen Porter	6.00 p.m. Hannah McBride & Brendon Cunningham
LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection: £987.90	Church Flowers: £369.76
TODAY: Second Collection Catholic Communications	MANY THANKS for all that you give in time, money & effort

Sunday's Readings on p272 of the Parish Mass Book...

TODAY, we hear of Jesus returning to the Father. His disciples watch Him go, but His departure is not a cause for sorrow. He's given them—and us—a mission to be His witnesses to the world and has also promised the Holy Spirit to empower us to do that. And even more so, the Ascension of Jesus reveals yet more of God's plan for salvation. He has risen from the dead, but now Jesus, in His human flesh, takes up a place in heaven. Therefore, all human beings may have a place there too. Our flesh is no barrier. Yes, it gives up and dies, but yes it rises again and yes it can take up a place in heaven. No wonder the disciples were not depressed at Jesus's departure. Not only had they seen at first hand the new and risen life, but seen how humanity may reach heaven and been promised the power of the Spirit. They have been given much to do, and they go off to pray in preparation, for they are excited, excited at what God has done and excited because now they have to tell the world about it.

This Ascension, let us bear witness ourselves to God's love and the Gospel we are called to share by praying for peace, an end to terrorism and for all those killed, injured and bereaved in Manchester. We begin by looking at our own hearts, and being agents of peace ourselves.



Fr. Stephen

MAY IS MARY'S MONTH

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

CHRIST IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Thomas Duignan, Margaret Crilly, Paul Ryan, Elizabeth Wallace, Sean O'Reilly, Consolata, Pat Kenny, Paddy Hughes, Paulina Woodcock, the victims of the Manchester terror attack and all who die suddenly and violently. **ANNIVERSARIES:** Mary Bell, Margaret Mulvenna, David Adams, Mary Shepherd, Doreen Ognibene, Tom Bailey, Josephine Robinson, Johanna Quirke, Mary Butler, Grace Murphy, Jack Swales, Mahala Lamb, Denis Peel, Doris Swales, Patrick McElvenney, Miriam McGuinness, Eileen Gallacher, Andrew Feeney, Eugene Gaughan, May Delargy, Mary Maguire, Daisy Lycett, Daniel McCarthy, Rodney Callwood, Nellie Thompson, Ernest Cairns, Roseann Audahl, Teresa Renella, Arthur Pears, Michael McDermott, Michael Brittain, Ellen Cullinane, Arthur Henton, Gilbert Turvey, Patrick Drum, Edward McGennis, Lily Gallagher, Edgar Parrott, Francis McConville, Jean Dodd, Henry Guise, Agnes Dixon & all the departed
. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

SICK & SUFFERING: Steve Foster, John Walker, Hildegard Atherton, Tom Ashley, Jim Slattery, Betty Carr, Norman Rowe, Roy Haslam, Caroline Fitzpatrick "Fitz", 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 Budkiewicz, David Warr, Pam Brown, Bill McGiven, Heidi O'Neil, Mary Walsh, Lily Bailey, Mike Campbell. All who are taking exams at this time.
Please advise a member of the clergy if any names can be removed. Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick: Pray for us!

PRAY FOR THE VICTIMS OF TERRORISM, for the injured and the grieving and for the conversion of the hearts of those who bomb and kill

TODAY: ASCENSION OF THE LORD *God goes up with shouts of joy!* The Lord returns to the Father and we prepare for the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The day is designated **Communications Sunday** to support the Church's work in communicating Christ

MONDAY BANK HOLIDAY Communion Service at **10am** and **no** Exposition this week therefore. Pray for the Lourdes pilgrims as they will us!

NEXT SUNDAY: PENTECOST SUNDAY *The coming of the Holy Spirit!* God's plan for our salvation is continued in the gift of the Spirit whose life-giving grace and forgiving of sins Christ Himself has revealed. **Come Holy Spirit!** This day is the last of the Easter Season and so there is one week left for the making of our **Easter duty of Holy Communion and Confession.**

ROB RIDLEY'S CYCLING PROGRESS TO LOURDES has been Tweeted on the parish account and described by him at robertridley.co.uk. *Please sponsor him* through the Justgiving website at <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Rob-RidleyTDF2017> cancer research.

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

AFTERNOON TEA Saturday 17th 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 Wooltorton 07968 370195.

*** **PARISH SUMMER FETE SATURDAY 24TH JUNE - MAKE A DATE WITH THE FETE!** ***

We are trying a **Saturday** this year – please look out items for stalls.

*** **PLANNING MEETING – MONDAY 5th JUNE at 7.30 p.m. in the MRR.** ***

All hands on deck are required – please offer your services as always or for the first time. All welcome.

PRAYER PEBBLE ROAD TO THE RESURRECTION As announced last week, picture postcards of pebbles are available at 60p each next to the display by the shrine to the Sacred Heart. Please buy to remember this event and help raise funds for the next.

MISSION RED BOXES Additional collectors are needed to collect and count boxes' contents. Please see Vic Bellanti or Fr Stephen

JOB OPPORTUNITIES The Archdiocese seeks to appoint a Head of Communications & Community Engagement (£34-40K) and a Press & Media Relations Officer (£27-31K). Contact Gerry Dryden, Director of Human Resources at gerry.dryden@rc-birmingham.org Poster in porch

OUR LADY'S STATUE IN THE GROUNDS You may have noticed that the Christ Child is missing a hand. The hand is safe and had simply become loose and was just lodged in place. It is being safely kept until it can be repaired.

YOUTH POLL ON LIFE, FAITH AND VOCATIONAL DISCERNMENT Young people between 13-29 can give their views to the poll at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/cathnews-synod-youth-poll>. It closes on 5 June and can be completed in less than 30 mins. These resources will be used by the Bishops of England & Wales for the 2018 Synod on: 'Youth, Faith and Vocational Discernment'.

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

MARKING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY of the CHURCH BUILDING 2018 A number of people have commented that we should explore the possibility of 'thinking big' with the building to mark our anniversary year in a lasting way. What do you think? Would enlarging the porch level with the front of the balcony create a more useful welcoming space? Where would the font go? What about renewing the heating entirely – the boiler is only ten years old but the pipes and heaters are all 50 next year. What about the lighting? Improved fire exits are desirable, and why not the entrance doors while we're at it? This is all at the earliest stage of discussion. How about it? 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. **In the meanwhile, 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.** Thanks be to God!

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.

MASS INTENTIONS If you are willing to share a Mass that eases the problem of current high demand - please state clearly on the envelope.

PARISH WEEKLY EVENTS	
Tuesday	TUESDAY SOCIETY: No meeting for half term.
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 No meeting for half term.
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**

