

1943 **ST THOMAS MORE PARISH** 2018

JUBILEE YEAR: 75 YEARS OF THE PARISH 50 YEARS OF THE CHURCH DEO GRATIAS!

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

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WEB: www.stmcov.org and on TWITTER @StThosMore

A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery

WEB: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

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

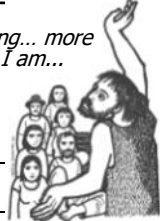


16th December 2018
Third Sunday of Advent

Someone is coming... more powerful than I am...

Mass on p7, readings p87 in the Parish Mass Book

The church has a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 16th <i>3rd of Advent</i>	Sung Mass	9.00 a.m.	Gwen Molloy (Anniv)
	Confession	5.30—5.50	
	Mass	6.00 p.m.	Gordon Aspell (Anniv)
Monday 17th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Cissy O'Malley (B'day)
	Holy Hour	7.00 p.m.	
Tuesday 18th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	6.30 p.m.	Sylvester & Kitty Budkiewicz / Mary Porter (RIP)
Wednesday 19th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Kathleen McKenna (RIP)
Thursday 20th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Nellie McCann (RIP)
	Penitential Service	7.00 p.m.	
Friday 21st <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass <i>with Whole School</i>	9.00 a.m.	Maria & Itoop Paul
Saturday 22nd <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Paul Conneely (RIP)
	Holy Hour & Benediction	9.30-10.30	
	Confession	9.40—10.20	
SUNDAY 23rd <i>4th of ADVENT</i>	Sung Mass	9.00 a.m.	Joseph O'Shea (RIP)
	Confession	5.30—5.50	
	Mass	6.00 p.m.	Jim Fulton (Anniv)

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST: Rev Fr Stephen Day Tel: 024 7641 1900 stmcov@gmail.com

PARISH DEACONS: Rev Mr Pat Jeary Tel: 024 7641 2564

Rev Mr Leo Poole Tel: 024 7641 9731

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & Amanda Kelly Tel: 024 7641 4473

ROOM BOOKINGS: email: amandafriswells@btconnect.com

PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD: Mr Morgan Williams Tel: 024 7684 9910

www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk

SAFEGUARDING REPS: Claire Rutter Tel: 024 7641 2535

Alison Cullinane Tel: 024 7644 1436

GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR: Tony Curristan Tel: 024 7641 1280



DECEMBER MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Holy Mary, conceived without sin,

pray for us sinners who have recourse to thee!

This Weekend

- **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- **BE PUBLICISED** by the parish Justice & Peace Group. Please consider choosing Christmas gifts that help people in developing countries to help themselves. Catalogues in church, shop online at worldgifts.cafod.org.uk or donate to the **retiring collection**. You have donated more than £10,000 over the last 10 years to buy CAFOD World Gifts for our virtual village—see the noticeboard in church to see what we've bought. *Livesimply* in solidarity with people in poverty.
- **REFRESHMENTS** are offered to all after **both Sunday Masses** in the Margaret Roper Room. Please stay if you can.
- **A PARISH CHRISTMAS CARD** with times of all our Christmas Masses is available at the back of church.

This Week

- **Tuesday:**
TUESDAY SOCIETY NO MEETING until January 15th.
JAM N CAKE at 7.15 p.m. in MRR.
- **Wednesday:**
PRAYER GROUP *no meeting* in the chapel this week
- **Thursday:**
EXTEND Gentle Exercise 10 a.m. MRR.
ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE 20 December 7.00 p.m. A number of priests will be here.

Next Weekend

- **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Sunday Readers' Rota

This week...

9.00 a.m. Marisa Gunn & Mary Wilson
6.00 p.m. Brendon Cunningham & Afi Selormey

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Clive Robinson & Blaise H-O'S
6.00 p.m. Janet Ward & Louise Poole

Coming Soon

PARISH PIETY SHOP

Now in stock: Copies of the new **2019 Diocesan Directory** are now available at £5 each, along with calendars, Christmas cards, Nativity sets, miniature nativities, diaries and art calendars.
Many Christmas gifts!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

5pm Family Vigil Mass

Christmas Day

12 Midnight Mass 9am Mass 11am Mass

Christmas & Epiphany Lantern Carol Service

Sat 5 Jan 4pm

You can see some of the great lanterns and ideas beginning to go up in church in readiness, particularly the angel over the stable. Thank you to all

involved.

MESSIAH by Candlelight

Sunday 23rd Dec at 4.00 p.m. at Coventry Cathedral tickets@coventrycathedralchorus.com

HOMELESS SHELTER

Please donate any spare clothes and food items in the box in the porch. *Thank you.*

NEW YEAR'S EVE

There will be an informal New Year's Eve party in the MRR—bring your own drink and a food to share. There will be music and games. Details soon.

NEW YEAR'S DAY:

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY MOTHER OF GOD

There will be Mass at 11am followed by mulled wine and mince pies. We commend the new year to God's blessing and Our Lady's prayers.

STEPPING STONES RELAUNCH

We hope to revive the parish stay-and-play parent and toddler group, after Christmas. ***Are there volunteers who would like to help?*** Parents stay with their children so this help is not being responsible for unattended toddlers. ***Are there parents keen to bring their children?*** Please see Annemarie Vincent Poole or one of the clergy.

WORK ON THE BUILDING

The engineer says it will cost a minimum of £50,000 to make our heating work properly again. We are exploring spending about £25,000 to replace the MRR kitchen. As explained in the accounts last month, this is more money than we have. In the new year we shall be considering and consulting with everyone on the way forward. Of course, if the work is not done our kitchen will continue to wear out and the heaters in church will continue to be less and less effective.

A TIME OF CHANGE AT SCHOOL

Morgan Williams will be leaving as our Headteacher from Easter 2019. We wish him every success in his new position as Achievement Partner for Teach First. The vacancy for Headteacher of our school will be advertised shortly. Thank you to Morgan for everything he has achieved during his time here.

THANK YOU...

...for supporting the Christmas Bazaar (see opposite)

...for supporting the parish film night

...for your support of the many and varied events that marked our Jubilee Year. What will 2019 bring?

ADVENT MEANS COMING...

Come Lord Jesus, do not delay!



'The Lord, the king of Israel is in your midst; you have no more evil to fear...'

FINANCE... Thank you for all that you give in time, money or effort.

Last week - Main Collection: £925.65 Poor Parishes: £459.70 Standing Orders Nov: £672

In 2017 it cost £1,503 a week to run the parish. (2016 £1,589 2015 £1,510 2014 £1,966)



The Sunday Readings

The presence of God in the midst of Israel means that there is no more evil to fear and that it is time to shout for joy. The prophet Zephaniah gives us a truly joyful picture of God living amongst his people. Centuries later, John the Baptist shouts this time, proclaiming the presence of Christ, the Word made flesh, among his people. His hearers are seized with enthusiasm. "What must we do?" So John, directly and plainly tells them—give up sin. Being in the presence of God demands of us a response, rejoicing and repentance. We rejoice that God loves us so much that he is among us, with us, one of us but we repent of having failed him. We are unworthy to draw close to him without his saving forgiveness. John tells us that Jesus comes to gather the wheat into his barn and to burn the chaff in a fire that will never go out. We shall not receive this forgiveness if we first do not realise we need it, and secondly we do not ask for it. But then what joy awaits those whose know his loving, forgiving presence with them now. For many, going to confession has lost any sense of joy or of the presence of God. Yet it is truly an opportunity to know our sins, to know our need of God's mercy and then –joy of joys– to know his forgiveness in an intimate and personal way. Then we may rejoice in his presence with sins forgiven and our relationship with him restored.

DEACON PAT will continue to be away over Christmas and is temporarily being looked after at the diocesan home for retired clergy, Aston Hall in Staffordshire. Do remember him in your prayers, as he will us. **His address there is—** Aston Hall, Aston-by-Stone, Staffs ST15 0BJ

SUPPORTING THE PARISH AT NO COST...

...is possible if you are a tax payer. If you sign a **GiftAid** form the tax man adds 25% to your donation. Please see clergy or Tony Curristan.

DIRECT DEBIT

We can supply direct debit forms so that you may give without the need for giving envelopes, finding cash or writing cheques.

HOUSE TO LET: 38 WATERCALL AVE

Anyone interested should contact the letting agents, Payne Associates, 20 New Union St, Coventry CV1 2HN. 024 7622 2022

1943 2018 JUBILEE YEAR 2018

Our Lady of Coventry, pray for us!

St Thomas More, pray for us!

THANK YOU to everyone who has organised and supported the wide range of events that have marked this Jubilee Year. God bless you!

MARKING THE JUBILEE IN CHURCH

Videos and photos are available on the parish website to see events again.

THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Thank you to all who supported this important fund raiser. It was a very happy evening and the total so far has gone up to about £3500. More to come and some to come out. A pleasing result reflecting real effort. **Thank you.**

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

This **Thursday at 7.00pm** with visiting priests to hear confession. The **regular confession times** are **Saturday morning 9.40-10.20am** (during exposition) and **Sunday evening 5.30-5.50** (before Sunday night Mass).

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON?

PARISH NEWS

This news sheet!

Website: stmcof.org **Twitter:** @StThosMore

DEANERY NEWS

Website: coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk/new/

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Website: birminghamdiocese.org.uk/

Twitter: @RCBirmingham

You may sign up for an email newsletter from the diocese website and a **new diocesan magazine** *The Sower* is available in print and online

NOW THAT THE COLD WEATHER HAS COME... PLEASE SHUT ALL THE CHURCH DOORS BEHIND YOU!

LOURDES MAY 2019

We shall be travelling as part of the diocesan pilgrimage next year, as we have no organiser for a separate parish pilgrimage package, but we will have a group organiser to make sure we are all the same hotel and facilitate a group booking. Details in the new year.

ADVENT'S INTENTION is to awaken the most profound and basic emotional memory within us, namely, the memory of the God who became a child. This is a healing memory; it brings hope. The purpose of the Church's year is continually to rehearse her great history of memories, to awaken the heart's memory so that it can discern the star of hope. *Pope Benedict XVI*



For Your Prayers...

THE SICK & SUFFERING: Fr George Bennett, Hayden Gilks, Judy Freeman, Stuart Coley, Mya, Marie Harrison, Phil Sheridan, Israel Mcleod, Rev Patrick Jeary, Shirley Langford, Crystal Matovu, Jo McKinnon, Andy Chustecki, Ivor Sanders, Kathleen McMenemy, Eileen Connolly, Vicky Hobbs, Mark Pearson, Anne Kenny, Cynthia Walton, John Walker, Hildegard Atherton, Suzanne Martin, Liam Mee, Helen McDonnell, Teresa Mellon, Cecil & Margaret Dowson, Carl Smith, Mary Morris, Roy Haslam, Beatrice Upham, Felix Rooney, John & Jeanne Gould, Joanne Bazen, William Begley, Kitty Budkiewicz, Pam Brown ***Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick, Pray for us!***

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Patrick Higgins, Mary Townsend, Marion O'Kane, Patricia Waltho, Fr Petroc Howell

ANNIVERSARIES: Philip Brady, John Craig, Arthur Mahon, Gwen Molloy, Aileen Horrell, Mary Porter, James McDonnell, Maureen Archer, Sydney McSorley, Elizabeth Mundy, Molly O'Donnell, Lila O'Sullivan, Richard O'Callaghan, Frederick McGovern, Emma Worley, Gordon Aspell, Cecil Gardner, Edwin Palmer, Nancy Cresswell, Thomas McAvaddy, Samuel Maxwell, Karol Kokosz, Jeremiah Lynch, Ann Goode, Mary Byrne, James Jenkins, Anne Moriarty, Annie Dillon, Emma Worley, Alice Bradley, Bernard Smits, Francis Berry, Jean Rock, Dorothy Apedaile ***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them***

- In thanksgiving for this parish
- For thankful, penitent hearts that are open to the coming of Christ and His call to us
- Peace in the world, our homes and hearts
- The victims of abuse and the Church's response
- Those without homes or companionship

NEW ALTAR SERVERS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Anyone who has made his or her first communion and can make a commitment to Sunday Mass is **welcome** to become a server.

Please see Malcolm Pollard or the clergy

THE DIGITAL AGE

This parish news sheet is on the parish website, usually from Saturday evening

PARISH WEBSITE stmco.v.org

PARISH WEBCAM www.mcnmedia.tv/

ARRANGING A WEDDING



Congratulations on your engagement! Please speak to one of the clergy in the first place to make arrangements for your wedding. 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.



ARRANGING A BAPTISM

**(CHRISTENING) for BABIES
& YOUNG CHILDREN**

Congratulations on the birth of your child! 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.

MAKING YOUR CONFESSION

Our God is a God of mercy! Confession, the sacrament of reconciliation, is available on Saturday mornings 9.40 a.m.-10.20 a.m., on Sundays before 6 p.m. Mass and by arrangement with the parish priest.

ADORING THE LORD: EXPOSITION

There are regular opportunities each week to pray before the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar. Saturdays from 9.30 a.m. (following Mass) and Mondays 7.00 p.m.

If you need to ask anything that can wait until Sunday—we 100% guarantee you can catch the clergy in church then! Otherwise contact details are on the front of this sheet