

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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A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery



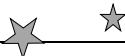




WEB: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

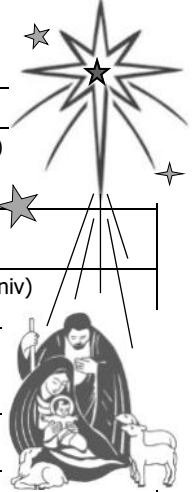
LIVESTREAM WEBCAM www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/



23rd December & 30th December 2018 4th Sunday of Advent, Christmas & Epiphany

MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 23rd <i>4th of Advent</i>	Sung Mass Confession Mass	Pg 90 Pg 90	9.00 a.m. 5.30—5.50 6.00 p.m.	Joseph O'Shea (RIP) Jim Fulton (Anniv)
Monday 24th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass		9.00 a.m.	Danny Bradley
	Family Vigil Mass Carols	Pg 94	5.00 p.m. 11.30 p.m.	Patrick McClean (Anniv)
TUESDAY 25th <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	Midnight Mass Sung Mass Mass	Pg 97 Pg 100 Pg 102	12.00 a.m. 9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	Frank Roberts, Mem Mgr T J Gavin People of the Parish
Wed 26th <i>St Stephen</i>	Mass		10.00 a.m.	Pauline Cullinane
Thursday 27th <i>St John, Ap</i>	Eucharistic Service		10.00 a.m.	~
Friday 28th <i>Holy Innocents</i>	Mass		10.00 a.m.	Jean Davenport/Liz Ferguson Anniv
Saturday 29th <i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Mass		10.00 a.m.	Ints of George & Clare Tracey
SUNDAY 30th <i>Holy Family</i>	Sung Mass Confession Mass	Pg 105	9.00 a.m. 5.30—5.50 6.00 p.m.	Marion O'Kane (RIP) Eileen McGinn
Monday 31st 7th day of Octave	Mass		10.00 a.m.	Finnuala Quirke (RIP)
Tuesday 1st Jan <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>	Mass	Pg 109 <i>Followed by Mulled wine</i>	11.00 a.m.	Maureen Price
Wednesday 2nd <i>Ss Basil & Gregory</i>	Mass		9.00 a.m.	Jack Byrne (RIP)
Thursday 3rd <i>Christmas FERIA</i>	Eucharistic Service		9.00 a.m.	~
Friday 4th <i>Christmas FERIA</i>	Mass		9.00 a.m.	Bernadette Coley (Anniv)
Saturday 5th <i>Christmas FERIA</i>	Mass Holy Hour & Benediction Confession Lantern Carol Service		9.00 a.m. 9.30—10.30 9.40—10.20 4.00 p.m.	Michael Brooks (Anniv 70th B'day)
SUNDAY 6TH EPIPHANY	Sung Mass Confession Mass		9.00 a.m. 5.30—5.50 6.00 p.m.	Charles Walter & Phyllis Smith (Anniv) / Patrick Gaughan (RIP) People of the Parish





PARISH PRIEST:
PARISH DEACONS:

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & ROOM BOOKINGS:
PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:

SAFEGUARDING REPS:

GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:



PARISH CONTACTS



Rev Fr Stephen Day Tel: 024 7641 1900 stmcov@gmail.com
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 Rev Mr Leo Poole Tel: 024 7641 9731
 Amanda Kelly Tel: 024 7641 4473
 email: amandafriswells@btconnect.com
 Mr Morgan Williams Tel: 024 7684 9910
 www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk
 Claire Rutter Tel: 024 7641 2535
 Alison Cullinane Tel: 024 7644 1436
 Tony Curristan Tel: 024 7641 1280



This Weekend



- **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
- **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 IS A TWO WEEK NEWS SHEET** The next edition will be available on 6th January, Epiphany. A happy Christmas and a happy new year to all our readers!

This Week

- **TUESDAY: Christmas Offering collection.** This annual collection in all parishes is in support of their parish priests
- **WEEKDAY MASS TIMES are different** over the next two weeks. Most morning Masses are at 10am rather than 9am. See front of sheet.

Next Week

- **THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY**
- **NEW YEAR'S EVE** There will be an **informal New Year's Eve party in the MRR**—bring your own drink and food, and a favourite game to play. **Please sign up on the list in the MRR if you're coming.** A simple get together of games, fun and food. Debbie M and Claire R are co-ordinating this—thank you to them.
- **TUESDAY: THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD** We commend the New Year to God's blessing and Mary's prayers. **Mass 11.00 a.m.** followed by Mulled wine and tea and coffee in the MRR
- **SATURDAY: Epiphany Lantern Light Carol Service 4.00 p.m.** *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.*

SUNDAY READERS' ROTA



This week...

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

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Laura Martin & Jim Etheridge
 6.00 p.m. Hannah McBride & Geraldine C
6th January Epiphany...
 9.00 a.m. Blaise H-O'S & Niamh Walsh
 6.00 p.m. Caitlin McBride & John Burns

Coming Soon

100 CLUB Winners December: HOMELESS SHELTER

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

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.

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.

PARISH PIETY SHOP

Now in stock: Copies of the new **2019 Diocesan Directory** are available at £5 each along with diaries and art calendars.

THANK YOU..

...to everyone who will be working hard to make the parish's celebration of Christmas a worthy one—readers, servers, flower arrangers, cleaners, musicians, Christmas tree putters-up, wardens and everyone who comes to give praise to Almighty God for the birth of His Son, Jesus!



Heaven cannot hold Him...

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

Last week - Main Collection: £996.18 CAFOD World Gifts: £670

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 time draws near. The prophet Micah reveals that Bethlehem - which means "place of bread" - is to be where the saviour will be born. And Mary, Luke tells us, is His mother. Our Lady has been greeted by the Archangel and told of God's will for her. She joyfully accepts, and is told further that her cousin Elizabeth is also pregnant. Mary sets off to visit, and immediately Elizabeth and John, her unborn son, bear witness to the coming of Christ among them. The pregnancies of both women have been announced by angelic signs and wonders, and already their children begin to fulfil God's plan—Jesus, the Saviour and John the herald. God the Father calls us to be like Mary, loving, obedient to his will and bearing witness to the wonders he does in Jesus his Son. May the coming of Christ fill all of us with the joy and love of Mary and Elizabeth, and like Our Lady may we too present Jesus to the world by the holiness of our words and actions. Over the coming feasts, the great mystery of God's love in His incarnate Son, Jesus, is unfolded. Simple shepherds, learned Magi and the whole world is invited to find in Christ its Saviour.



MARRIAGE CELEBRATION WEEK FEB 2019

As part of this national event, the Archbishop will celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass on Sun 3 Feb at 11am in the Cathedral. There will be regional celebrations too, and all celebrating milestone anniversaries are invited. The search is also on for the longest married couple—60 or 70 or more years of marriage..?

LANTERN LIGHT EPIPHANY CAROL SERVICE

Saturday 5 January 4pm,
the eve of Epiphany

Come to sing the story of Christmas in the light of lanterns made by the recent parish art project. From the message of Gabriel to the homage given by the Magi, we have much to celebrate!

1943 2018 JUBILEE YEAR 2018

This is almost over! THANK YOU to all who organised and all who supported the variety of events that we had. May God bless us and this parish over the next 75 years.

★ Our Lady of Coventry, pray for us!
St Thomas More, pray for us!

HOW DO I FIND OUT WHAT'S GOING ON?

- PARISH NEWS -
This news sheet!

Website: stmco.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!

AS OUR PARISH WAS BEING FOUNDED...

In his Christmas message of 1942, just months before the founding of St Thomas More parish, as the world suffered the torments of war, Pope Pius XII said in his Christmas message...
...may there shine out as a consolation and an inspiration the star that stands over the Grotto of Bethlehem, the first and the perennial star of the Christian Era. From the sign of it every faithful heart drew, draws and ever will draw strength; "If armies in camp should stand against me, my heart shall not fear." (Psalm 27:3) Where that star shines, there is Christ. With Him for leader we shall not wander; through Him let us go to Him, that with the Child that is born today we may rejoice forever.' Here in 2019 may that star and the Saviour it points to, inspire us at St Thomas More throughout the coming year.

HAPPY

CHRISTMAS

TO YOU ALL!

AND A BLESSED NEW

YEAR, 2019

From Fr Stephen & all at the presbytery,
Deacon Leo and Deacon Pat

★ Thank you for all your kind greetings,
cards and gifts. God bless you.



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: Margaret Williamson, Theresa Costello, Patricia Fowler, Grace McIver, Camelia Dimiri, Ninian King, Barbara Boffin, Delores Hefferman, Richard Green, Patrick McClean, Michael Malone, Mary Hynes, Mgr Thomas Gavin, Pauline Ledwidge, Sarah & John Lyle, Agnes McIlhone, Frances Phillips, Bridget Sheil, Douglas Sheffield, Elizabeth King, Angela Morris, James Nettleship, John Bromell, Elizabeth Keogh, Jean Harris, George Willan, Bernard Moulding, Richard Gannon, Jim Clarkson, Kathleen Tarming, George Walsh, Timothy Quirke, Jean Davenport, Margaret Muldoon, Veronica Gaughan, Kenneth Lee, Edith Montgomery, Mary Harbourne, Mary Ryan, Cecelia Buur, John O'Donnell, Christine Selfe, David Rodger, Dorothy Leaver, Thomas Armstrong, Leslie Lewis, Marcella Vallis, Agnes Hannigan, Bernard Hopkins, Ellen McAffer, Anne Higgins, Hellen Dudzik, Marie Ainsworth, Nora Dempsey, Joseph Doran, Winifred Wild, Bernadette Coley, Paul Murray, Christina Murphy, Grace Brennan, Sheila Garry ***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
- Those without homes or companionship this Christmas, for those like the Holy Family, driven from their homes by violence and persecution
- Mothers and their children, born and unborn

THE DIGITAL AGE

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

PARISH WEBSITE stmcoventry.org

PARISH WEBCAM www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-more-church-coventry/

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