

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

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

112 Knoll Drive, Stivichall, Coventry CV3 5DE

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WEB: www.stmcov.org and on TWITTER [@StThosMore](https://twitter.com/StThosMore)

A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery

WEB: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

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



1st December 2019 1st Sunday of Advent

Mass on p7, readings p82 in Parish Mass Book
The church has a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 1st Dec 1st of ADVENT	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Charlie Cullinane (Anniv) People of the Parish
Monday 2nd <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass Holy Hour	9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Anne Lovelock (RIP)
Tuesday 3rd <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	Mass	9.00am.	Kevin Bennett (RIP)
Wednesday 4th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Eileen Gill (RIP)
Thursday 5th St Birinus, Bp	Eucharistic Service	9.00 a.m.	~
Friday 6th <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Catherine McClean (Anniv)
Saturday 7th <i>St Nicholas, Bp</i>	Mass Holy Hour & Benediction Confession	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 9.40-10.20	Michael Kapusta (Mem Mass)
SUNDAY 8th Dec 2nd of ADVENT	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Nora Addison (RIP) Gordon Aspell (5th Anniv)

PARISH CONTACTS

PARISH PRIEST:	Rev Fr Stephen Day	Tel: 024 7641 1900	stmcov@gmail.com
PARISH DEACONS:	Rev Mr Leo Poole	Tel: 024 7641 9731	
	Rev Mr Pat Jeary	Retired	
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & ROOM BOOKINGS:	Amanda Kelly	Tel: 024 7641 4473	
	email: amandastmparish@outlook.com		
PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:	Sarah Collins	Tel: 024 7684 9910	
	www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk		
SAFEGUARDING REPS:	Claire Rutter	Tel: 024 7641 2535	
	Alison Cullinane	Tel: 07951 039941	
GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:	Tony Curristan	Tel: 024 7641 1280	



Lo He comes with clouds descending, once for favoured sinners slain,
Thousand thousand saints attending, swell the triumph of His train.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! God appears on earth to reign.

ADVENT 2019



THIS SUNDAY

- **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT.** A new Church Year begins and so the **YEAR OF THE WORD: THE GOD WHO SPEAKS** begins. 2020 is the 10th anniversary of Pope Benedict's teaching in *Verbum Domini* and the 1600th anniversary of St Jerome, the first great Biblical scholar. How might we respond to Holy Scripture more fully? As part of keeping this year, a copy of Holy Scripture will be kept near the place where it is proclaimed from—the lectern. The ministry of the deacon is partly about the proclamation of the word of course, as shown by his carrying of the Gospel book, itself decorated to give honour to its contents. **A prayer for the year is:** Living God, you walk alongside us and speak to us throughout the Scriptures. Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears and shows us how to live for one another. Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world. Amen See www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/
- **THE ANGELUS** will be recited immediately before every Mass beginning today. Parishes are asked to do this in preparation for the re-dedication of England to its ancient title of the Dowry of Mary next March. See below. There are Angelus cards at the back of church.
- **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** today at 9am Mass
- **Retiring Collection: CAFOD WORLD GIFTS CAFOD WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUES** are available this weekend. There will be a collection today and on 15 December to support the parish's 'virtual village' comprised of world gifts bought through this collection. Please consider giving a World Gift or two to friends or family this Christmas on your own behalf. Parishioners have donated more than £10,000 over 10 years to buy CAFOD World Gifts for our virtual village. *Livesimply* in solidarity with people in poverty. **Refreshments available after both Masses.**

- **COVENTRY CITY CENTRE CRIB BLESSING** In Broadgate by the Christmas tree, 4pm today.
- **WELCOME MINISTRY WILL TIDY UP!** Please leave your hymn and Mass books on the ends of the pews at the end of 9.00 a.m. Mass. Our greeters will gather them up for you. **Thank you** to all our greeters for their work

THIS WEEK TUESDAY

- **Move It or Lose It** in the MRR at 10.00 a.m. All welcome. Contact Mary: 07736 770453
- **Tuesday Society** 2p.m. in MRR. All welcome.
- **Life in the Spirit Prayer Group** 7.15pm MRR.
WEDNESDAY
- **Prayer Group** Chapel at 1.30 p.m.

THURSDAY

- **Move It or Lose It** Gentle Exercise in the MRR at 10.00 a.m. All welcome.

NEXT WEEKEND

- **SECOND COLLECTION:** Poor Parishes Fund
- **PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE:** There will be the annual opportunity to support those unjustly imprisoned or under threat of execution for their beliefs by signing cards for them after both the Masses next Sunday. **All materials are provided but donations for postage are gratefully received.** Please support this and the work of **Action by Christians Against Torture (ACAT)**. See www.acatuk.org.uk/ Amnesty International shockingly promotes abortion as 'a human right' and so, from a Catholic standpoint, is impossible to support. ACAT works only for prisoners of conscience and victims of torture.
- **GIFT TEAM** Children from school will receive their certificates

Sunday Readers' Rota

This week...

9.00 a.m. Noreen Thornhill & Kris Pears

6.00 p.m. Geraldine Clarkson & Andrew Colby

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Jim Etheridge & Mary Wilson

6.00 p.m. Hannah McBride & Afi Selormey

COMING SOON

PARISH FILM NIGHT 14 DEC 7pm

Something for Christmas—there won't be a dry eye in the house as we share the delights of **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (1946) with James Stewart and Donna Reed. And Clarence the angel!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT 21 DEC

Making Sprits Bright with Rock Choir Coventry & Warwickshire 3-5pm. With refreshments in the interval. Free, but donations please for **Warwickshire Search & Rescue**. Come along and let your Christmas sleigh bells ring!

NOW IN THE PARISH SHOP...

Advent calendars, advent candles, nativity sets, miniature nativity sets, Christmas cards, diaries and calendars. **Come in and browse!**

THE REDEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS

THE DOWRY OF MARY

Around the feast of the Annunciation next year England will be rededicated to its ancient title of **The Dowry of Mary** at events across the country. This initiative of the Church comes from the national **Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham**. There will be much preparation. We shall begin by saying, as many parishes do, the Angelus before every Mass beginning this week very suitably with Advent. See <http://dowrytour.org.uk/> and <http://www.walsingham.org.uk/home> 'When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England'
Pope Leo XIII

FINANCE...

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

Last week- Main Collection: £945.83 Youth Services: £436.96 Christmas Flowers £416.62

In 2018 it cost £1,669 a week to run the parish. (2017 £1,503 2016 £1,589 2015 £1,510 2014 £1,966)



The Sunday Readings

Advent is not just four weeks of pretending it's already Christmas nor is it the time for shepherds and Wise Men. Advent is a season given to us by the Church and has a character all its own. The Church calls us to reflect on the comings—in the plural—of Christ: as the Word made flesh at Bethlehem, as the Saviour at the end of time, and in the meanwhile as the One who comes to us on our altars, in His Word, in each other and in the needy. Having come among us that first time, Christ is able to come to us again and again. Are we prepared for His coming on the altar, let alone for His coming at the end of time? Consequently, the scriptures for Advent remind us of all those who waited and prepared for the first coming of Christ—the patriarchs, prophets, John the Baptist and Our Lady. For the likes of Jeremiah and his hearers, the coming of the Saviour would have seemed a remotely distant but wonderful event—much like the second coming might seem to us today. But God keeps His promises, and generations who believed His word revealed through the prophets lived in faith and hope: the Saviour indeed came. And just as Jesus came as the infant Christ, so He will come again. Until that day comes, we in turn are called to wait in faith and hope, so that like the patriarchs, prophets, John the Baptist and Our Lady we too shall be ready. Many would have passed the stable at Bethlehem unaware of the great event within, and unprepared for Christ's ministry among them. No one will fail to see the second coming—may we not fail to *be prepared* for it!



FROM TODAY AT 9AM MASS...

The response to the psalm will be sung together instead of being said together. Our musicians will briefly rehearse this before Mass. Please do join in with the simple melody and help make a 'joyful noise unto the Lord'. The psalms were originally written to be sung and often still are.

** HELP NEEDED WITH GUIDES **

Help needed with the Guides (girls 10—15yo) on Tuesday evenings 7.30—9.00 p.m. No previous experience needed. For more details contact Claire Rutter
Tel: 0247641 2535

DIOCESAN FREE MAGAZINE: THE SOWER

Copies are now available at the back of church. It is also available on line from the diocesan web site at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/diocesan-magazine>

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

*** Thank You! ***

Thank you for supporting this and for all the hard work that went into this happy and well organised event. RAFFLE PRIZE winners on list on porch.

Our profit is about £3,000, similar to last year.

Final total to follow: bits still to come in

MRR KITCHEN REPLACEMENT

Work on the MRR kitchen is complete.

We hope that you will agree that the inconvenience has been worth it. The finer details are still to be worked out about the best place for everything... A wish list has been placed on the counter for any suggestions of things we might need but we can't guarantee to provide everything you might wish for..!

THANK YOU to everyone for putting up with the inconvenience and to **all those who have helped make this possible**. We thank the organisations who made us such generous grants that the net cost to the parish of it all was £10,000—less than half!

NEW ACCESS CODE FOR KEYS

Please note there is a new access code for the MRR & JP11 keys. If you run a group or require access, please speak to Amanda Kelly or one of the Clergy. **PLEASE DO NOT SPREAD THE CODE ANY MORE WIDELY THAN IS NECESSARY!** There is a real security issue: Fr Stephen has caught an unknown man letting himself in at 11pm on a Friday night. The code will in future be changed at least every year.

Thank you .

CHRISTMAS MORNING MASS TIMES

The parish kept a 9 and an 11 am Mass on Christmas Day despite the stopping of the 11am on Sundays. This provision of four Masses, double our usual two, is actually impossible for the parish to continue. All the servers have served and all the musicians played by the end of 9am. 11am has lacked these joyful ingredients for several years. The comments last week were mostly in favour of one Mass at 10am. That way, we are not expecting anyone to come out in the dark or very early, nor are we concentrating the change on one group alone. (5pm and Midnight continue)

MORE MUSICIANS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Please don't keep your piano lid locked or your violin in its case! Bring your harp to the party! If you are a musician and are interested in playing at 9am or 6pm Mass, please speak to one of the current musicians after Mass. **At 9am it's usually Debbie and Steve of Soul Reason and at 6pm it's usually Sharon and Anthony.**

For Your Prayers...

THE SICK & SUFFERING: Evelyn Ward, Baby Simon, Anne, Bill Molloy, Hilary Hanson, Maria Vaz, Maisie Reddon, Linda McKenna, Rose Green, Fr George Bennett, Hayden Gilks, Mya, Phil Sheridan, Israel Mcleod, Rev Patrick Jeary, Eileen Connolly, Mark Pearson, Anne Kenny, Cynthia Welton, John Walker, Liam Mee, Helen McDonnell, Teresa Mellon, Margaret Dowson, Carl Smith, Roy Haslam, Beatrice Upham, Felix Rooney, John & Jeanne Gould, Joanne Bazen, William Begley, Kitty Budkiewicz, Pam Brown and all those who are ill. **Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick, Pray for us!**

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Maria Maura Lawlor, Maureen Price, Archbishop Michael Bowen, Fr Jerome Bertram Cong Orat, Nora Donovan, Mary Kelly, Katie Aubrey

ANNIVERSARIES: Philomena Cerone, Edward Olverson, Joseph Loughran, Mary Blackwell, Vincent Duff, Agnes Murray, Joseph Browne, Joseph Flis, Guy Aston, Patrick Lamb, Ruth Higgins, Mary Ullah, Richard O'Callaghan, Kathleen Sullivan, Rozalia Koltun, Josephine Harrison, Tony Mulrooney, Peter Doyle, Michael Jordan, Michael Kapusta, Elsie Wynne, Madge Markey, Constance Shuttleworth, Hugh McQuade

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them

- Our nation as the General Election draws near
- Peace in the world and the victims of war
- Vocations to the priesthood and diaconate
- For readiness to meet the Lord whenever and however He comes to us

Come Thou long-expected Jesus!

LIVESIMPLY TIP OF THE MONTH...

Please buy a gift from the **CAFOD World Gifts** catalogue and stand in solidarity with the poor. Make a donation to the parish collection or additionally take a catalogue home and select gifts for friends or family. **Thank you.**

PARISH NEWS

This news sheet! On paper and on the website
Website: stmcov.org **Twitter:** @StThosMore

DEANERY NEWS

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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Website: birminghamdiocese.org.uk/

Twitter: @RCBirmingham

Sign up for an email newsletter from the diocese website and the diocesan magazine **The Sower** is available in print and online

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 at 7.00 p.m.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT

The parish bereavement group exists to support anyone who is grieving and would like someone to talk to. Please take a leaflet with contact details from the praying for the departed notice board near the door through to the Margaret Roper Room (Knoll Drive side of church), or contact one of the clergy.

If you need to ask anything that can wait until Sunday (or have anything to be signed or collected) we absolutely guarantee you can catch the clergy in church after Sunday Mass!

Otherwise, contact details are on the front of this sheet