

# ST THOMAS MORE PARISH



WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ST JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH, CANLEY  
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)

LIVESTREAM WEBCAM [www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/)

21st FEBRUARY 2021  
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Readings Year B



## MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**ALL MASSES ARE AVAILABLE LIVE ON THE WEBCAM**

<b>SUNDAY 21st</b> FIRST of LENT	<b>Public Mass</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	The People of the Parish
Monday 22nd <i>The Chair of St Peter</i>	Mass (Livestream) Exposition & Benediction	9.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Bernadette Armstrong
Tuesday 23rd <i>St Polycarp, B&amp;M</i>	Mass (Livestream from St Joseph the W: <a href="#">click here</a> )	10.00 a.m.	~
Wednesday 24th <i>Lent Feria</i>	Mass (Livestream) Stations of the Cross (L/S)	9.00 a.m. 9.45 a.m.	Peter Smith RIP
Thursday 25th <i>Lent Feria</i>	Mass (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	Susan McNally RIP
Friday 26th <i>Lent Feria: CAFOD Lent Fast</i>	Public Mass, & 30 mins of Exposition & Benediction	9.00 a.m.	Bridie Clarke
Saturday 27th <i>Lent Feria</i>	Mass (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	Doreen Robinson RIP
<b>SUNDAY 28th</b> SECOND of LENT	<b>Public Mass</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	Dec'd Members of the Doyle Family / Bernard Swan RIP (Anniv)

### PARISH CONTACTS

<b>PARISH PRIEST:</b>	Rev Fr Stephen Day	Tel: 024 7641 1900	<a href="mailto:stmcov@gmail.com">stmcov@gmail.com</a>
<b>PARISH DEACONS:</b>	Rev Mr Leo Poole	Tel: 024 7641 9731	<a href="mailto:leo.poole@talk21.com">leo.poole@talk21.com</a>
	Rev Mr Pat Jeary	<i>Retired</i>	
<b>PARISH ADMINISTRATOR &amp; ROOM BOOKINGS:</b>	Amanda Kelly	Tel: 024 7641 4473	
<b>PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:</b>	Sarah Collins	Tel: 024 7684 9910	
	<a href="http://www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk">www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk</a>		
<b>SAFEGUARDING REPS:</b>	Claire Rutter	Tel: 024 7641 2535	
	Alison Cullinane	Tel: 07951 039941	
<b>GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:</b>	Tony Curristan	Tel: 024 7641 1280	



**LENT: spring time for the soul**  
*Prayer & Penance, Fasting & Almsgiving*

**IF YOU HAVE TOUCHED THIS SHEET IN CHURCH, PLEASE TAKE IT AWAY**

← Pray safe, stay safe... Be 2 metres (6 feet) apart! →



## **THIS WEEKEND**

**WE ARE NOW IN LOCKDOWN** The Government regulations state 'You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship... You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending a place of worship'.

We shall remain open unless told otherwise but we must at this critical time, follow all the pandemic guidelines. Please make sure that you are familiar with what to do—see opposite.

**IT IS COMPULSORY TO WEAR A FACE COVERING**

**OVER YOUR MOUTH AND NOSE. YOU ARE RISKING OTHERS PEOPLE'S HEALTH IF YOU DO NOT COVER MOUTH AND NOSE. THAT'S NOT RIGHT.**

If your glasses steam up, please pull the covering well up your nose and wear your glasses lower down your nose than usual. In any case, cloudy glasses are a small price to pay to keep someone else out of hospital!

**We ALL have a Christian duty to keep everyone in church and society as safe as we can THE LINES ON THE CHURCH FLOOR** are 2 metres (6 ft) apart. Please use them and be the right distance apart from others in the aisles. **Please remember that we are meant to be 2 metres apart at all times!**

### • **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

### • **SECOND COLLECTION:** Church Flowers

• **FR STEPHEN IS AVAILABLE after Sunday Mass** at the Margaret Roper Room side door to church. Please give him a moment to arrive at the side door. Also available by phone or email.

• **LENT WALK WITH ME** booklets and calendars are freely available. **PLEASE ASK! We cannot leave piles out so that we can help ourselves during the pandemic.** Ask at the MRR side door after Sunday Mass



• **DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES for 2021** Available for £5 after Mass at the side door.

• **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER STEWARDS AND CLEANERS** We are here only because they have given up their time.

## **THIS WEEK**

**PRAYING AT 6PM EACH DAY: PANDEMIC** Please spend a moment at 6pm or thereabouts each day and say a prayer for its end.

## **WEDNESDAY**

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS 9.45am** Offered via the webcam for sound: pictures will be available from the parish website *What's On* page. How would people feel about doing this over Zoom instead? Images could be shared that way.

## **FRIDAY**

**CAFOD LENT FAST DAY** Fast from a meal and give the cost to **CAFOD**, and sponsor Deacon Leo or Fr Stephen on the **CAFOD Walk for Water Challenge**. See the next column for full details of how to give your support.

**Public Mass 9am**, followed by Exposition

## **NEXT WEEKEND**

• **THERE WILL BE NO 5pm SATURDAY VIGIL MASS for Sunday** for the time being

• **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT:** Second Collection for: **CAFOD COMING SOON**

• **SUPPORTING CAFOD IN LENT** This Lent, **CAFOD** is running a fundraising **Walk for Water** campaign to bring water to remote communities without local, fresh supplies. Details and video here <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/about> **Fr Stephen** and **Deacon Leo** are taking up the challenge to walk 10,000 steps a day in Lent to raise money for this cause. They are walking for water as team 'STM Clergy' - **please sponsor at** <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/teams/stm-clergy>

• **FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT** from **22 February**. Buy fairly traded goods— in Lent and always!

• **LENT BOOK Holy Week Voices from the Holy Land – Poems and Reflections for Lent and Easter**. Copies of soft-back and e-book versions are available at £7.99 each through the [www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/lenten-book](http://www.friendsoftheholyland.org.uk/lenten-book), by emailing of-fice@friendsoftheholyland.org.uk or telephoning FHL 01926 512980.

• **HOLY WEEK & EASTER** The **liturgies will be modified** to reduce risk of passing on the virus and we await details of what that will mean. There will certainly be no washing of feet, for example.

• **THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH** Pope Francis has designated a year of St Joseph. See the Pope's letter *Patris Corde* on the Vatican website [here](#) **There will be a painting of St Joseph in the sanctuary** as a focus for extra devotions this year, beginning with March, Joseph's month.

**THE ETHICS OF THE COVID VACCINATION** There is **no reason why Catholics should refuse any of the vaccines currently offered**. The Church is satisfied that this is so.

## **LENT 2021:**

## **EVENTS SHARED BETWEEN THE TWO PARISHES ONLINE**

It is of course impossible to hold any sort of discussion group or prayer group face-to-face at the moment. These can be done on the internet only which we know may leave some of you out, but on the other hand makes it easy for anyone with the internet to join in, anywhere.

**FINANCE... Main Collection:** not known at time of printing.

**Thank you for all that you give in time, money or effort, especially in these difficult times**  
**In 2019 it cost £1571 a week to run the parish '18 £1669 '17 £1503 '16 £1589 '15 £1510 '14 £1966**



## The Sunday Readings

Jesus begins His ministry by going on retreat—He spends 40 days alone in the wilderness, our model for Lent.

While there He is subject to temptation as opportunities to sin are put before Him. This temptation is resisted, and Satan driven off, but he will figure again as Holy Week arrives. Now Jesus comes to the people and announces a simple but joyful message. 'The time has come and the Kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News'. In other words, God is drawing close, be sorry for your sins and believe the Gospel—Jesus comes to save all people. So, the very first thing that Jesus asks us to do is to repent, to turn our backs on sin (the Greek original that Mark wrote in means 'about face'), then free of guilt we can walk with Him into God's kingdom of love, peace and joy and live His risen life. There is an urgency in this as written by St Mark—now is the time! This Lent, seize the moment and make all our 'nows' a truly Christian moment.

- **Monday 6.30pm** Exposition & Meditation STM
- **Wednesdays 7pm** 'The Poet's Gospel' An exploration of the Gospel in blank verse. This is an online resource produced by the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland Visit <https://ctbi.org.uk/lent-study-2021/> and listen to the first part whenever suits you. We then reflect and discuss via a Zoom meeting, logging on from 6.50pm on Wednesday for the first discussion led by Fr Peter. Email [www.stmcov.org](http://www.stmcov.org) for the link to the meeting.

- **Friday 6.30pm** Exposition and meditation SJW  
The usual pattern of worship will of course continue. Additionally, there will be a reading from a spiritual classic before each Mass on weekdays. **LET LENT MAKE A DIFFERENCE**—these are strange times of course, but don't forget to do that extra bit for God and our neighbour, and to rein in our own desires by a healthy dose of fasting and penitence.

*Forty days and forty nights...*

*Then, if evil on us press,  
flesh or spirit to assail,  
Victor in the wilderness,  
help us not to swerve or fail!*

## LENT ART PROJECT NOW ON

We aim to create a colour co-ordinated banner with an Easter theme, and look forward to another wonderful joint effort. Please use white, orange, yellow, red, peach, gold colours to create an Easter Cross (think resurrection cross, not crucifixion). 10x14cm or 14x20cm best sizes. Use wool, paper, card, lollipop sticks... and crosses can be a single colour, a mixture, plain, decorated... We have until Palm Sunday to get creative. [Click \[stmcov.org/wp/?page\\\_id=115\]\(http://stmcov.org/wp/?page\_id=115\) for full details on the parish web site](http://stmcov.org/wp/?page_id=115)

## COMING TO MASS IN TIME OF PANDEMIC...

**ARE YOU A RISK TO OTHERS?  
YOU ARE, IF YOU DON'T...**

**SANITISE HANDS**  
on entry and exit

**WEAR A FACE COVERING**  
over mouth **AND** nose

**KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**  
and stay 2metres away from others  
not in your household

These rules may be a pain, cause glasses to steam up, stop us being as friendly as we'd like but in protecting others they are the right, moral and **Christian** thing to do. You may have Covid and be without symptoms; don't pass it on to someone who might develop more symptoms than they can cope with!

*Please come to Communion as the stewards direct you: we need to organise movement to keep us as safe as possible.*



## DO YOU KNOW ANYONE STRUGGLING TO AFFORD FOOD?

Find out how **to receive** help from a foodbank **and** how **to support** one by visiting—  
[coventry.foodbank.org.uk](http://coventry.foodbank.org.uk)

## HELPING CARRIERS OF HOPE

Please visit <http://www.carriersofhope.org.uk/help-us/> to see the ways in which we may help in this time of pandemic. The Carriers are still working hard to support refugees and others in need.

## IF YOU HAVE THE INTERNET...

**WEBSITE:** <https://stmcov.org/>  
**TWITTER:** @StThosMore  
**FACEBOOK:** @StThosMore  
**WEBCAM:** click here [webcam](http://webcam)

## THE REV LEO PILLEY RIP

Deacon Leo Pilley's funeral will be at Sacred Heart and St Ia Church, St Ives, on Friday 26 February at 10.00am. Please say a prayer for him, a former parishioner, and his family that morning. (There seems to be no live stream facility).

## LENT—SUGGESTIONS...

**Prayer...** Set aside a few extra minutes and bring your hopes and fears, family and friends to God  
**Fasting...** Give up that regular treat: stop eating meat on Fridays, and let the saving help others  
**Almsgiving...** Have a practical concern for those in need by supporting a charity: sponsor Deacon Leo or Fr Stephen as they raise money for CAFOD to help those without decent access to water  
**Penitence...** Identify that besetting sin, that bad habit and tackle it with a change of routine so that grace may aid will power: forgive properly, deeply.

### For Your Prayers...

**THE SICK & SUFFERING:** Fr John Kearns, Veronica Hammond, June Phee, Sabrina O'Connor, Sarah Chaplin, Moira Steeley, Elene Gunn, Pauline Cullinane, Margaret Young, Helen Chadwick, Baby Theo, Catherine Brookes, David Warr, Maureen Pearson, Anne, Hilary Hanson, Maisie Reddon, Rose Green, Hayden Gilks, Mya, Phil Sheridan, Israel Mcleod, Rev Patrick Jeary, Eileen Connolly, Anne Kenny, John Walker, Liam Mee, Helen McDonnell, Teresa Mellon, Carl Smith, Roy Haslam, Beatrice Upham, Felix Rooney, John Gould, William Begley, Kitty Budkiewicz. **Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick, Pray for us!**

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Saverio 'Franco' Berlen, Sr Isabel Herd, Rev Leo Pilley, Jeanne Gould, Canon Giles Goward

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Ellen Bradley, Arthur White, Ignatius Hynes, Marie-Therese Magee, Joseph Durkin, Monica Sargent, Mary McKenzie, Alice Murphy, Thomas O'Sullivan, Susan Kelly, Catherine Fellows, Samuel Darby, Mary Turner, Cornelius O'Callaghan, Martin Dillon, John Errington, Marie Schildauer, James Hobbins, Catherine Gill, Catherine Scott, Patrick Helme, Anthony Miller, Andrew Kelly, Joseph Glynn, Dennis Beirns, Mary Brogan, Bridget Breen, Della Glynn, Elizabeth Nash, Irene O'Brien, Agnes Stanley, Thomas McNally, Frederick Chantrill, Vincent Lane, Richard O'Connor, Charles Cullinane, Patrick O'Kane, Martin O'Halloran, Driver Jason McFadden, Victoria Perkins, Kathleen Day, Daniel Quinn, Bridget Rogers, Irene Hammond, Richard Royal, Ethel Jones, Kathleen Gault **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them**

- The victims of Coronavirus, for medical staff, and for the end of the pandemic, for our leaders and the scientists who advise them
- A reverence for God's voice in Holy Scripture
- Those who suffer because of lockdown
- Victims of violence, especially women, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

## GIVING TO THE PARISH

**There are collecting boxes by the church doors for us instead of bags at the offertory**

**1. Use a standing order.** You can donate by standing order, there is a link to a form on the website, on the [Parish & Coronavirus](#) page. Complete the top part, post to the Presbytery.

**2. Give online via the Diocesan Website** Go to [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work) Enter personal details on the first box, click next, then select 'Coventry Styvechale' from the drop down list of parishes, the third box is for card details.

**3. Put your offering in Presbytery letterbox**

**4. Keep your offering until you can return**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIVING!**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS & CORONA VIRUS LOCKDOWN

**Everything** that happens in church **MUST** be stewarded and after it, the church has to be cleaned. We owe our volunteers many thanks for doing these. There can be no congregational singing. **Everyone** who enters should sanitise hands, wear a face covering and stay at least **2 metres apart** unless from the same household. Track & Trace details should be given or the NHS smartphone app used

### BAPTISMS

Baptism may only be celebrated in danger of death

### WEDDINGS

Weddings are for the time being to be celebrated only with serious and grave need.

### CONFESSION

Confession *is* possible if socially distanced. Please contact Fr Stephen to arrange it. Confessionals cannot be used.

### FUNERALS

As well as the conditions given above, currently **no more than 30 people** may be present. The coffin cannot be brought into church the night before.

### MASS

**It is now absolutely vital** that public Masses are celebrated with **everyone** obeying the guidelines of **Sanitising hands**

**Covering mouth AND nose**

**Keeping distance—2 metres or 6 ft**

We have a Christian duty of care to one another and wider society.

### EMERGENCIES

Pastoral care in emergencies **remains available:** the dying may still be anointed, babies in danger of death may still be baptised. In such cases, the room should be ventilated and social distancing should be observed if at all possible. PPE should be worn by the priest and face coverings by all. *Contact Fr Stephen.*