



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH NEWSLETTER

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

112 Knoll Drive, Stivichall, Coventry CV3 5DE

☎ 024 7641 1900 E-MAIL: stmcov@gmail.com

WEB: stmcov.org and on TWITTER: @StThosMore

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 Headteacher: Mr Morgan Williams Tel: 024 7684 9910
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 11th DECEMBER 2016 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR C

SUNDAY 11 th Dec 3 rd of ADVENT	9.00 a.m. 5.30 – 5.50 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Shaun Cleary (RIP) Nick Martin (10 th Anniv)
Monday 12 th Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 7.00- 8.00 p.m.	Mass Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	Denzil Griffiths (Anniv)
Tuesday 13 th Dec <i>St Lucy</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	David & Patricia Rodger (Mem Mass)
Wednesday 14 th Dec <i>St John of the Cross</i>	9.15 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Mass Advent Penitential Service & Confession with visiting priests	Kathleen Edwards (Anniv)
Thursday 15 th Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Eucharistic Service	~
Friday 16 th Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m.	Mass	Michael Hammond (RIP)
Saturday 17 th Dec <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 a.m. 9.40-10.20 a.m.	Mass Exposition, followed by Benediction Confession	Dr Margaret Gaffney & Maev Gaffney
SUNDAY 18 th Dec 4 th of ADVENT	9.00 a.m. 5.30 – 5.50 p.m.	Mass Confession Mass	Gwen Molloy (Anniv) Mary Porter (Anniv)

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 pg 7 of THE PARISH MASS BOOK and READINGS on pg 88

Sunday readings Cycle A, Psalter week 3

READERS: This Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Kris Pears & Jim Etheridge 6.00 p.m. Andrew Colby & Anthony Buckley
Next Sunday: 9.00 a.m. Eve Hibberd & Judith Doherty 6.00 p.m. Caitlin McBride & Janet Ward

LAST SUNDAY: Main Collection: £1038.85 **Poor Parishes:** £505.60

This Sunday: Second Collection: Father Hudson's Care

Next Sunday: Retiring Collection: CAFOD World Gifts

MANY THANKS for all that you give in time, money & effort

Sunday's Readings on pg 88 of the Parish Mass Book...

ISAIAH CALLS ON EVEN THE WILDERNESS TO REJOICE, since the Lord is on His way. This news should give us courage and hope, and the blind seeing, the deaf hearing, the lame leaping and the dumb speaking will all be signs of God's presence. John the Baptist, now chained and kept lonely in his prison cell has fearlessly proclaimed Christ's coming. But even he has a moment of doubt, and sends word to

ask Jesus who He is. But the blind are receiving their sight, the lame walk, the deaf hear and the dead are raised. Of course God has come in Jesus. And with words of praise and encouragement the messengers are sent back to John. This Sunday – traditionally known as "Gaudete" Sunday from the Latin opening word of the Entrance Antiphon (as in your Mass Book), "Rejoice" - calls us to remember that the Lord is very near. Amid the world's trouble and suffering, He comes close and wonderful happenings occur in His presence. Perhaps the greatest of those is happiness for those who, like John, do not lose faith in Him!



Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.

ADVENT – Come Lord Jesus!

DO STAY FOR TEA OR COFFEE AFTER MASS

RECENTLY DEPARTED: Jane Hogan (*former Head of STM Primary*), Isabel Dow, Emrys Evans, Bridie Farrell, Margaret Delargey
ANNIVERSARIES: Catherine Fitzpatrick, Kathleen Sear, Kathleen Preston, Cyril Matthews, Nancy Martin, Elizabeth Lamb, Nicholas Martin, Margaret Barlow, George Newbold, John Murray, Eileen Fallon, William Griffiths, Michael Nolan, Joseph Kelly, Teresa Armstrong, Jane Mather-Lees, Anthony Booth, James Goology, Raymond Stanley, Dennis Cox, Patricia Rodger, Arthur Taylor, Mary Gray, Patrick Cassidy, Alfred Magee, Kathleen Edwards, Harry Law, John Quinn, William Nerny, Jessie Kelly, Elsie Roberts, Michael Sugrue, Lilian Compton, Michael Ward, Martin Coulter, John O'Malley, Philip Brady, John Craig, Arthur Mahon, Gwen Molloy and all whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

SICK & SUFFERING: Caroline Fitzpatrick "Fitzs", Suzanne Martin, Diane Taylor, Liam Mee, Rev Gerry O'Reilly, Peter Brookes, Helen McDonnell, Margaret Young, James Young, Teresa Mellon, Cecil & Margaret Dowson, Madge Vowles, Carl Smith, Peter David, Mary Morris, Harry Davenport, Vera Lee, John Martin, 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, Dolores Heffernan, Jerry Casey, Maisie Taylor, William Begley, Imogen Jones, Tommy Carberry, Thomas Ryan, Rebecca Power, 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, persecuted Christians, victims of war and violence, those who have died in war, those who mourn.

Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick: Pray for us

THE SECOND COLLECTION TODAY is the postponed Fr Hudson's Care collection. Father Hudson's Care is the social care agency of the Archdiocese, reaching out to support vulnerable people young and old. Please give generously to this worthy cause.

THIS WEDNESDAY 7.00PM: ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE & CONFESSION with visiting priests



+ **CONFESSION BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN THE PARISH** +

Sunday evenings before Mass: 5.30-5.50pm

This Wednesday: Penitential Service and Confessions with visiting priests 7.00pm

Saturday mornings after Mass: 9.40-10.20am



ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL ADVENT SERVICE this **THURSDAY at 6.30pm in church.**

SOUTH COVENTRY CHURCHES CHRISTMAS CARDS Please help deliver these cards to the surrounding streets. List at the back of Church.

GREETING CARDS FOR PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE - Justice and Peace Group thank you for the card signing - all **80 cards** have been posted and all postage was covered by donations. The small surplus of donations will be sent to the ACAT Charity itself. Thank you again.

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC? The 'Footsteps in Faith Group' is on a Christmas break to return in January. See Fr Stephen

COVENTRY PIONEER REGIONAL COMMITTEE - Fr McKiernan Memorial Mass on Friday 16th December at 7.30pm at the Pioneer Hall, Broad Street, Coventry. Mass and light refreshments to follow. All welcome.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE will arrive for Christmas and in the meantime the **JESSE TREE** being decorated by the Children's Liturgy reminds us of the hope that God's faithful people had through the generations that Christ would come. Our Jesse tree was posted on Twitter...

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS - each year our parish buys practical gifts to help people in developing nations to help themselves. There will be a **retiring collection after Mass on Sunday 18th December**. Or place an order yourself from the catalogues available in church. Please see our virtual village on the display in church, on the wall on the confessional side of church. www.cafod.org.uk/worldgifts

CHRISTMAS MASSES will be as previously. 24th Dec **5pm** Family Vigil Mass, 25th Dec **12 Midnight** Mass (carols at 11.30), **9am and 11am**.
Please note that there will NOT be a 6pm Mass on Christmas Day. No 6pm Mass on Christmas Day.

MASSES BROADCAST LIVE Thanks to the generosity of a parishioner this church, like several others in Coventry, we will soon be broadcasting Sunday Mass live over the internet. We hope to have the system running by Christmas: details soon. Coincidentally, this year's BBC televised Midnight Mass is to come from our own St Chad's Cathedral in Birmingham.

WORKCARE Coventry & Warwickshire is an ecumenical Christian organisation providing workplace chaplaincy and support to those in and seeking work. It is seeking a lay or ordained person to develop its work, salary £20-30K. See www.workcare.org

THE PARISH WEBSITE has been updated and includes the weekly sheet and a lot of other information. See stmcov.org for all the latest. And the parish is on **TWITTER @StThosMore**. Please follow this to see news, reflections and information about events.

♪♪ **JAM 'N' CAKE:** a new initiative that is open to all parishioners. In the new year, we will be offering the chance to learn and practice hymns and songs that have been planned for forthcoming 9 a.m. Sunday Masses. The aim is just singing for fun, increasing confidence and learning new hymns together - there is no expectation that people will join the music group, just sing out from the pews, although new members are always welcome. This will be a social evening with refreshments, so please consider joining us - all are welcome! More details will follow ♪♪

PARISH SHOP - Advent Calendars, advent candles, Christmas cards, Nativity sets, Miniature Nativity sets, Calendars and diaries are all available

The Trussell Trust (FOOD BANK) have sent a letter of thanks for the £162.00 raised by the Harvest soup lunch. Thank you to all.

MARKING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY of the CHURCH BUILDING in 2018 A two-week Parish Mission has now been booked for **Lent 2018**, to be led by the Sion Community. Other events: Mass with the Archbishop in the summer, pilgrimage to Rome - autumn, parish meal, trip to Chelsea & the Tower in the footsteps of St Thomas More, Flower Festival and Tudor themed social event. Clearly, nothing happens without planning, we shall need a parish **Jubilee Action Group** to co-ordinate. Volunteers will be called for in due course... Meanwhile, the first artist's impression of the glass screen between font and porch can be seen in the porch. If this happens, St Thomas More will move from the porch, perhaps to where Our Lady is now and Our Lady move to the opposite side of the sanctuary where, with shortened pews, there will be much more space to pray at her shrine. What about the MRR kitchen? The heating? The exterior down pipes? The lighting? The floor? The side chapel? The curtain wall round Knoll Drive and Watercall Avenue? We can't do it all, so what shall we do? Ideas of costs for these various projects are being sought. **We have much to be thankful for: our marking of this anniversary should be joyous and lasting.**

BEING A SERVER... If you have made your first communion and can make a commitment to being at 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.

THE HEATING IS ON - PLEASE KEEP THE HEAT IN..! Please **make sure that all doors are kept shut** now the cold weather is here.
Thank you for doing this: it helps us all keep warm, helps the planet and helps our bank balance.

+ **Weekly Events in the Margaret Roper Room** +

Tuesday **TUESDAY SOCIETY:** 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m. Christmas Bring and Share Meal in the MRR.

Wednesday **ADORATION PRAYER GROUP:** 1.30 p.m. in Chapel and 2.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. in the MRR. *All welcome.*

Thursday **EXTEND gentle exercise group:** 10.00 a.m. in MRR

Friday **STEPPING STONES:** 1.30 p.m. - 3.00 p.m. Parents & Toddlers in MRR. *All welcome.*

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 from one of the clergy **after Sunday Mass**. For the baptism of children over 4 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.

