

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

112 Knoll Drive, Stivichall, Coventry CV3 5DE

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

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/



2nd December 2018
First Sunday of Advent

Mass p7, readings p 80 in Parish Mass Book

The church has a hearing loop system

THE
LORD
IS
COMING
GO OUT
TO MEET
HIM!



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 2nd <i>1st of Advent</i>	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30—5.50 6.00 p.m.	Mgr T J Gavin RIP Charlie Addison (RIP)
Monday 3rd <i>St Francis Xavier</i>	Mass Holy Hour	9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Pat Kenny (RIP)
Tuesday 4th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass	7.00 p.m.	John Paul Cassidy RIP
Wednesday 5th <i>St Birinus</i>	Mass Reception into Church	8.00 a.m. 6.00 p.m.	Catherine McClean (Anniv)
Thursday 6th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Requiem Mass	1.00 p.m.	John McDonnell RIP
Friday 7th <i>St Ambrose</i>	Requiem Mass	12.45 p.m.	Patrick O'Donaghue RIP
Saturday 8th <i>The Immaculate Conception of BVM</i>	Mass Holy Hour & Benediction Confession	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 9.40—10.20	People of the Parish
SUNDAY 9th <i>2nd of ADVENT</i>	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30—5.50 6.00 p.m.	Tommy Duignan (RIP) Tom Dickson (RIP)

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 & ROOM BOOKINGS:	Amanda Kelly	Tel: 024 7641 4473	
PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:	email: amandafriswells@btconnect.com		
SAFEGUARDING REPS:	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	
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

- **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT:** the Church's year begins anew as we look forward to the coming of Christ at the end of time, completing the work begun in His first coming at Christmas
- **CAFOD WORLD GIFTS** retiring collection will be held by the parish Justice & Peace group
- **CHRISTMAS RAFFLE TICKETS available.** Please take: buy them yourself, sell to others too. Drawn at this week's **Christmas Bazaar**
- **REFRESHMENTS are offered to all after both Sunday Masses** in the Margaret Roper Room. Please stay if you can.
- **COPIES OF THE PARISH ACCOUNTS**, as presented two weeks ago, are available on blue sheets at the back of church.

This Week

- **Tuesday:**
TUESDAY SOCIETY 2p.m. MRR. Christmas Carols. *All welcome.*
FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING for children in Yr3 **at St Thomas More School. 6.00pm in the MRR**
THE GIFT: LIFE IN THE SPIRIT 6.45 p.m. Praise & Thanksgiving **7.00 p.m.** Mass **7.30 p.m.** Learning more about the Gifts of the Spirit in MRR—teaching & discussion—all welcome.
- **Wednesday:**
MASS AT 8.00AM TODAY
PRAYER GROUP 1.30 p.m. in the chapel
- **Thursday:**
EXTEND Gentle Exercise 10 a.m. MRR.
DEANERY LIFE IN SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP at Christ the King on Thurs 6th Dec at 7.30
- **Friday:**
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR in the school hall. **6-9pm** Always a lovely evening. Don't miss out! Please support this parish fundraiser.
- **Saturday:**
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF OUR LADY As we prepare for the celebration of her Son's first coming, let us thank God for the gift that is Immaculate Mary, conceived without sin so that she might be the first earthly dwelling place of the Word made Flesh. Mass at 9a.m.

Next Weekend

- **The Second Sunday of Advent**
- **Second Collection:** for the Poor Parishes of the diocese
- **SUPPORTING VICTIMS OF INJUSTICE & TORTURE** Greeting Cards signing with the **Justice & Peace Group**—we invite parishioners to sign cards for victims of torture and unjust imprisonment. Sessions will be after both Masses **next Sunday 9th December.** Cards

will be provided and donations towards postage are welcome. **Action by Christians Against Torture** is a great charity facilitating address lists and the support of victims.
www.acatuk.org.uk

- **RETIRING COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS FLOWERS** There will be a retiring collection for Christmas flowers **next Sunday 9 Dec** after both Masses

Sunday Readers' Rota

This week...

9.00 a.m. Mary Wilson & Debbie Middleton

6.00 p.m. Caitlin McBride & John Burns

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Kris Pears & Pat Jenkins

6.00 p.m. Geraldine Clarkson & Andrew Colby

Coming Soon

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Please consider choosing Christmas gifts that help people in developing countries to help themselves. Catalogues in church, shop online at **world-gifts.cafod.org.uk** or donate to the retiring collection on **2nd & 16th Dec.** 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.

CARUMBA THEATRE: THE NATIVITY

On Wednesday 12 Dec 7pm Carumba Theatre will present **The Nativity**. All welcome. You may remember that this theatre group presented an excellent Passion play here three years ago.

JUBILEE YEAR FILM NIGHT SAT 15th DEC

There will be a screening of the film **A Man for all Seasons** on **Saturday 15th December** in MRR with a fish and chip supper available for the interval. The only charge is the cost of food. **Sign up on the lists in the porch.**

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.

PARISH PIETY SHOP

Now in stock: Advent candles, calendars, Christmas cards, Nativity sets, miniature nativities, diaries and art calendars. **Many Christmas gifts!**

ADVENT MEANS COMING...

Come Lord Jesus, do not delay!



'See the days are coming when I am going to fulfil the promise I made...'

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

Last week - Main Collection: £987.13 Youth Service: £451.89

In 2017 it cost £1,503 a week to run the parish. (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 yet 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 be unaware of the second coming—may we not fail to be *prepared*

HOUSE TO LET: 38 WATERCALL AVE

The old caretaker's house by the church is available to rent. Anyone interested should contact the letting agents, Payne Associates, 20 New Union St, Coventry CV1 2HN. 024 7622 2022

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.

Thank you all for the support you give.

1943 2018 JUBILEE YEAR 2018 FORTHCOMING EVENT

- **A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS: PARISH FILM NIGHT.** Sat 15th December in MRR. Film free, fish & chip supper at cost. Tickets available £4

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

CHRISTMAS
BAZZAR

THIS FRIDAY

6-9pm

in the school hall

Please support this parish fundraiser! There are many ways:

Buy from the parish craft stall—donate a bottle, chocolate, pickles and jam, plants, tombola prizes — give a nearly new item—cakes on the day—come along—buy some raffle tickets...

There are boxes in the porch for any items you kindly donate.

PARISH NEWS

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

DEANERY NEWS

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

ARCHDIOCESE NEWS

Website: birminghamdiocese.org.uk/

Twitter: @RCBirmingham

It is possible to sign up for an email newsletter from the diocese website and a **new diocesan magazine** is shortly to arrive in parishes.

**NOW THAT THE COLD WEATHER
HAS COME...**

**PLEASE SHUT ALL THE CHURCH
DOORS BEHIND YOU!**

EVA  **AVE**

For Your Prayers...

THE SICK & SUFFERING: 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: Mary Townsend, Marion O'Kane, Patricia Waltho, Fr Petroc Howell, Patrick O'Donoghue, John McDonnell

ANNIVERSARIES: Mark Jarrett, Joseph Loughran, Mary Blackwell, Vincent Duff, Agnes Murray, Joseph Browne, Joe Flis, Guy Aston, Patrick Lamb, Edna Duggan, Julia Kelly, Patricia Kerr, Ruth Higgins, Mary Ullah, Frances Winfield, Declan Loughnane, Richard O'Callaghan, Edgar Bevan, Sabina Monaghan, Kathleen Sullivan, Rozalia Koltun, Josephine Harrison, Tony Mulrooney, Peter Doyle, Catherine Gallacher, Michael Jordan, Michael Kapusta, Elsie Wynne, Madge Markey, John Fallon, Constance Shuttleworth, Hugh McQuade, John Lynch, Julia Byrne, James Burnett, Margaret Fletcher, Michael Horwood ***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
- Peace in the world, our homes and hearts
- The victims of abuse and the Church's response

NEW ALTAR SERVERS 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 stmcov.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