

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/



15th December 2019 3rd Sunday of Advent

Mass on p7, readings p88 in Parish Mass Book
The church has a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 15th 3rd of ADVENT	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Kathleen Edwards (Anniv) Gwen Molloy (Anniv)
Monday 16th <i>Advent feria</i>	Mass Penitential Service & Confessions	9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Maud & Gay Ryan / Peter Pithie (RIP)
Tuesday 17th <i>Advent feria</i>	Mass	12 noon	Monica Sean & family/Trevor Dixon ^{RIP}
Wednesday 18th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Mary Porter (Anniv) / Ken Gambler ^{RIP}
Thursday 19th <i>Advent feria</i>	Eucharistic Service Reception into Church	9.00 a.m. 5.00 p.m.	Evelyn Ward ~
Friday 20th <i>Advent feria</i>	School Advent Mass Requiem Mass	9.00 a.m. 11.00 a.m.	Suzanne Martin (RIP) Evelyn Ward
Saturday 21st <i>Advent feria</i>	Mass Holy Hour & Benediction Confession	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 9.40-10.20	Doreen Robinson (RIP)
SUNDAY 22nd 4th of ADVENT	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Maureen Price (RIP) People of the Parish

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	
PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:	email: amandastmparish@outlook.com		
	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	



Hear the herald's proclamation
In the desert far and near,
Calling all to true repentance,
Telling that the Lord is near.

ADVENT 2019



THIS SUNDAY

• **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

• **Retiring Collection: CAFOD WORLD GIFTS**
CAFOD WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUES are available. There will be a collection TODAY to support the parish's 'virtual village' comprised of World Gifts 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. *Livesimply* in solidarity with people in poverty.

• **YEAR OF THE WORD:** See www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/

• **THE ANGELUS** will be recited before Mass.

• **CHILDREN'S LITURGY** today at 9am Mass

• **REFRESHMENTS** available after *both* Sunday Masses.

THIS WEEK MONDAY

• **Advent Penitential Service at 7.00pm.** Visiting priests will be present to hear confessions
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.

• **St Thomas More School Carol Service** is in church at **6.00pm** and ends at 7.00pm

• **Jam 'n' Cake** in the MRR at 7.30 p.m. Last chance to practice for Christmas. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY

• **Prayer Group** Chapel at 1.30 p.m.

THURSDAY

• **Move It or Lose It** in the MRR at 10.00 a.m. All welcome.

SATURDAY

• **CHRISTMAS CONCERT 21 DEC in CHURCH**
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!

NEXT WEEKEND

• **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
Sunday Readers' Rota

This week...

9.00 a.m. Pat Jenkins & Millie MacDonald

6.00 p.m. Caitlin McBride & John Burns

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Laura Martin & Blaise H-O'Sullivan

6.00 p.m. Andrew Colby & Bronon Cunningham

COMING SOON

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Eve: 5pm Family Vigil Mass

11.30pm Carol Service
Midnight Mass (at midnight)
Christmas Day: 10am Mass

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Wednesday 1st January, Mass at 11am followed by mulled wine and refreshment in the MRR. Come and commend 2020 to God's blessing and the intercession of Our Lady.

THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Sunday 5th January, Masses at 9am and 6pm as usual

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY
Tuesday 14 January 7.30pm South Coventry Churches Prayer Service at Quinton Park Baptist.
Sunday 19 January 2.00pm a service in the Chapel of Unity at Coventry Cathedral.

NOW IN THE PARISH SHOP...

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

THANK YOU...

...to the members of the parish SVP who provided a Christmas lunch on Saturday for those they try to help. A great time was had by all.

...to all who came to the parish film night. Not a dry eye in the house as George Bailey's family was blessed by love and the town of Bedford Falls expresses its debt to him—all helped by Clarence the angel!

THE GENERAL ELECTION

Whether the result pleases us, dismays us or leaves us simply relieved, we must pray for those elected to govern the nation. There is much that all candidates, winners or losers, said they would do. Now is the time to pray that those now in power may act for the common good, for the poor and vulnerable, the stranger and the sick, the unborn and the elderly, and for peace and justice in the world. May God answer our prayers and pour His blessing upon all who sincerely seek to do what is right and good. Doing what is right and good is the duty of all MPs of whatever party, since it is in fact the duty of us all, made as we are in the image of God, the source of all good.

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 already do, the Angelus before every Mass

. 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: £11052.31 Poor Parishes £561.24 Standing Orders Nov: £547.33
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

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 opening words of the Entrance Antiphon for the day, '*Gaudete in Domino semper, iterum dico. Gaudete. Domine enim prope est*' (which is translated on p88 of the Parish Mass Book today)- 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 do not lose faith in Him. John, the forerunner of the Word now cannot hear Him. John, who brings the message of captives set free, is himself a captive. Yet he never loses faith in Jesus.



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 of course often still are.

CATHOLICS IN WALSGRAVE HOSPITAL

Fr Sunday, based at St Osburg's, is now the full time Catholic chaplain at UHCW. Staff will contact the hospital Faith Centre at request for patients who ask. Please make your needs known.

** 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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Thank you to everyone who expressed a view about Christmas Mass times. The majority felt that 10am was best, especially since the 5pm Vigil has become the popular family Mass with so many children.

**CHRISTMAS EVE:
5pm FAMILY VIGIL MASS**

**CHRISTMAS DAY:
MIDNIGHT MASS**

(at midnight, preceded by carols & readings)
10am MASS OF THE DAY

MRR KITCHEN REPLACEMENT

Work on the MRR kitchen is complete.

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!

A further £2,000 has been received towards the costs this week.

Donations to date:

£60.00 from a parishioner

£750 from William A Cadbury Charitable Trust

£10,000 National Lottery Awards for All Grant

£1,500 from All Churches Trust Ltd

£3,000 from 29th May 1961 Charitable Trust

£2,000 from Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THEM ALL!

Pope Francis on Advent... 15 Dec 2013

May the Virgin Mary help us to hasten our steps to Bethlehem, to encounter the Child who is born for us, for the salvation and joy of all people. To her the angel said: 'Hail, full of grace: the Lord is with you' (Lk 1:28). May she obtain for us the grace to live the joy of the Gospel in our families, at work, in the parish and everywhere. An intimate joy, fashioned of wonder and tenderness. The joy a mother experiences when she looks at her newborn baby and feels that he or she is a gift from God, a miracle for which she can only give thanks! *Pope Francis celebrated 50 years of priesthood yesterday.*

COVENTRY WINTER NIGHT SHELTER

This provides shelter for homeless men and women in the city, thanks to the voluntary efforts of many, including parishioners here. Among the churches providing venues are All Souls on Monday nights and St Osburg's on Wednesday nights. If you can spare cooking time or a few basic items, please do!

The shelter needs:

Coffee. Drinking Chocolate, Fruit juice (long-life), Squash, Biscuits, Sugar, Chocolates/sweets, Pot Noodles, Cup-a-soup, Snacks and individual drinks for packed lunches, Toothbrushes, Individual packs of tissues, Men's deodorant/body spray, Men's new boxers, Men's new socks, Men's thermal underwear (long johns!), Men's hats and gloves, Men's boots/strong footwear, Men's coats/jackets, Cash (See Fr Stephen). See Kris Pears or Mary Wilson for information. Items may be left in a box in the porch or taken to All Souls on Mondays and St Osburg's on Wednesdays.

Thank you.

For Your Prayers...

THE SICK & SUFFERING: 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: Evelyn Ward, Maureen Price, Maria Maura Lawlor, Maureen Price, Archbishop Michael Bowen, Fr Jerome Bertram Cong Orat, Nora Donovan

ANNIVERSARIES: John Quinn, Jessie Kelly, Lilian Compton, Michael Ward, Martin Coulter, John O'Malley, Josephine Edwards, James McCormick, Arthur Mahon, Gwen Molloy, Aileen Horrell, James McDonnell, Maureen Archer, Sydney McSorley, Richard O'Callaghan, Frederick McGovern, Emma Worley, Gordon Aspell, Patrick Higgins, Nancy Cresswell, Samuel Maxwell, Karol Kokosz, Jeremiah Lynch, Ann Goode, Mary Byrne, James Jenkins ***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them***

- Those elected as MPs on Thursday that they may do always what is right and good.
- For readiness to meet the Lord whenever and however He comes to us.
- The homeless, the jobless and those suffering in this holy season.
- For Pope Francis who celebrated 50 years of priesthood yesterday and for Cardinal Nichols who celebrates 50 years of priesthood next Sunday
- For Archbishop Bernard, who became the Archbishop of Birmingham ten years ago.

Come Thou long-expected Jesus!

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