

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

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

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/



5th January 2020 Epiphany of the Lord

Mass on p7, readings p115 in Parish Mass Book

The church has a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

SUNDAY 5th EPIPHANY	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Baby Emmie Rose McGrane (Sick) People of the Parish
Monday 6th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Mass Holy Hour	9.00 a.m. 7.00 p.m.	Mary Baimbridge (RIP)
Tuesday 7th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Eucharistic Service	9.00 a.m.	~
Wednesday 8th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	John Boner (RIP)
Thursday 9th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	John Paul Cassidy (RIP)
Friday 10th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Mass	9.00 a.m.	Paddy Duming, Tom Farrell & Robert Dempsey (RIP) / Ints of Cassidy fam.
Saturday 11th <i>Christmas feria</i>	Mass Holy Hour & Benediction Confession	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.30 9.40-10.20	Sean Kennedy (RIP) / Maud Maher (RIP)
SUNDAY 12th BAPTISM OF LORD	Sung Mass Confession Mass	9.00 a.m. 5.30-5.50 6.00 p.m.	Ron & Margaret Rutter (Anniv) 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:	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	



The Word was Made Flesh
and Dwelt Among Us!

Blessed be Jesus Christ, True God and True Man!



THIS SUNDAY

- **EPIPHANY of the LORD** We celebrate the arrival of the Magi who have come to pay homage to Jesus, His nature revealed by the star.
- **YEAR OF THE WORD: THE GOD WHO SPEAKS** 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.** Do stay for conversation, coffee and tea if you can.

THIS WEEK TUESDAY

- **Move It or Lose It** Restarts 14th Jan.
- **Tuesday Society** Restarts 7th Jan.
- **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT** 7.15 p.m. in MRR. All welcome.

WEDNESDAY

- **Prayer Group** Chapel at 1.30 p.m.
- **Move It or Lose It** in the MRR at 10.00 a.m. All welcome. Contact Mary: 07736 770453

THURSDAY NEXT WEEKEND

- **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** We celebrate the beginning of Christ's public ministry when signs and wonders at the Jordan River bear witness to who Jesus truly is, John the Baptist's testimony is vindicated and Christ goes forth to make known the Gospel. This marks the final day of the liturgical season of Christmas

Sunday Readers' Rota

This week...

9.00 a.m. Laura Martin & Maureen Porter
6.00 p.m. Janet Ward & Louise Poole

Next Week...

9.00 a.m. Millie MacDonald & Clive Robinson
6.00 p.m. Afi Selormey & Geraldine Clarkson

COMING SOON

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Tuesday 14 January 7.30pm South Coventry Churches Prayer Service at Quinton Park Baptist Church. This is our local time of prayer shared among the Christians of south Coventry for Christian Unity.

Sunday 19 January 2.00pm a service in the Chapel of Unity at Coventry Cathedral. An opportunity to pray as Christ did while at supper with His disciples that all His followers might be one.

PEACE SUNDAY 19 JANUARY

A speaker from *Pax Christi* will be at both Masses

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Sunday February 2. The celebration of Christ's presentation in the Temple where, Mary and Joseph presenting Him in accordance with Jewish Law meet Simeon who declares Christ to be the light for the nations.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent begins on **Wednesday 26 February.**

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

THANK YOU

First, to the army of people who worked over the Christmas season to make the church look so good and our worship go so smoothly. Thank you. **Secondly**, to you all for so many kind words, cards and gifts, and for the Christmas Offering. There are many kind and generous people in the parish!

RECENT DEATHS

Over the Christmas period, the diocese has lost four of its priests. **Fr John Ellis** and **Fr John Dewis** who enjoyed long retirements from active ministry. **Fr Brian Doolan**, more recently retired and a former Cathedral Dean, and **Canon Gerry Breen**, another former Dean of the Cathedral, who has been organising the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes with great success for more than twenty years. Please pray for these priests. May they rest in peace. Pray also for **Sr Sabina** whose achievements in education and the service of the needy are immense.

BRIDIE LAWLOR RIP

Bridie, who died suddenly before Christmas, will be received into church on Tue 14 January at 5.30pm and her Funeral Mass is at 10.00 a.m. on Wed 15th. May she rest in peace.

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION & MOVEABLE FEASTS IN 2020

EVERY SUNDAY

Which this year include the **Epiphany, St Peter & St Paul, the Assumption of Our Lady and All Saints** (all transferred from the Saturday or Monday), as well as **Corpus Christi**

EASTER DAY: Sun 12 April

THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD: Thu 21 May
CHRISTMAS DAY: Fri 25 December

Not of obligation—

ASH WEDNESDAY: Wed 26 February

a Day of fasting and abstinence

Every Friday is a fast day when we are encouraged to abstain from meat

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

Last week- Main Collection: £862.98

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

JESUS'S BIRTH, unsurprisingly since

He is God the Son, is accompanied by many signs and wonders. Today,

we celebrate the arrival of the mysterious Magi who come to offer Him symbolic gifts of gold (for a king), frankincense (for God) and myrrh (for death). They set out to worship Him for they know by the shining of a particular star that a new king is born. But reflect for a moment: these may have been wise and rich men but what are they doing? They set out on a long and therefore hazardous journey because of a *star*. Nothing else: they have faith in its power to lead. They do not know where that journey will end nor quite who they will find. They seek help from the local king, Herod, who—consumed with jealousy—gives them bad advice. They arrive, present the gifts and worship, and then—believing their dreams—have to deceive Herod and go the long way home. The journey of these men is not recorded for us just so we hear a pretty story.

They *are* us. Every Christian is a traveller, a follower of Jesus. We follow by faith. Some would discourage us or give us misleading advice. God speaks to us by signs and wonders. And, if we persevere, at the end of journey is Jesus who will expect not gold, frankincense or myrrh but, as the carol has it, our hearts. None of us needs to arrive empty handed therefore, and none of us needs worry that our best gift, that is ourselves, will ever be refused.

LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2020

We now travel as part of the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. A great deal of planning work goes on for that all through the year. Booking forms are not sent out until the new year: as soon as details are known they will be publicised, so be assured that no one is missing out on any information.

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

2020 BILL OF THE YEAR?

The diocesan levy placed on every parish is changing.

From the beginning of this year the diocese has changed the way it levies the parishes. Every parish is levied to support the central work of the diocese and those it employs, and to support the work of Catholic schools. In 2019 our levy was £4,400 a quarter or £17,600 for the year, calculated as 24% of first collections. In 2020 our levy will be £6,400 a quarter or £25,600 a year, calculated at 28% of almost all our income. An increase of £8,000 over the year, or £160 a week.

This is not something we can alter. At the moment we run on a surplus of roughly £16,000 a year. This is not a great deal if we are to maintain a large church, its hall, a presbytery and the old caretaker's house. This surplus will now decrease to about £8,000, even less to squirrel away against maintenance costs, let alone improvements.

All we can do about this is raise extra income. Our fundraisers become more important. Reviewing our personal giving becomes more important (in other words, consider if you give what you did ten years ago: if yes, then of course with inflation, you are giving less than you once did). Do you pay tax but haven't yet joined GiftAid?

All parishes are in the same situation. Many will find this a challenge. The diocesan financial year is the calendar year. Over the next few months our 2019 accounts will be finalised, submitted to the diocese and gone over by our Finance Committee. They will be presented to the parish as usual, later in the year.

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.

MORE MUSICIANS ALWAYS WELCOME!

Please don't keep your piano lid locked or your violin in its case! Bring your harp to the party, for unlike Gracie Fields, you'll be asked to play! 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: 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: Sr Sabina, Bridie Lawlor, Canon Gerry Breen, Fr Brian Doolan, Fr John Dewis, Fr John Ellis, Evelyn Ward, Maureen Price

ANNIVERSARIES: Paul Murray, Christina Murphy, Grace Brennan, Sheila Garry, Philip Keen, Tim O'Keefe, Mary O'Kane, Catherine Bland, May Meaney, Peter Barwell, James McPhillips, Christopher Sloane, Margaret McCormack, Bridget Ferguson, Anne Bowman, Charles Kenney, Denise Hannigan, Charles Dowson, Gertrude Dowson, Nora Malley, Pauline Wood, Colm Gleeson, Thomas Wright, Elizabeth Byrne, Ann Smith ***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them***

- That those who seek God with a sincere heart, may find Him
- Peace in the world, and especially the Middle East
- The suffering people of Australia affected by the bush fires

TO KEEP WHAT HEAT WE HAVE IN, AND TO KEEP THE COLD OUT...

PLEASE SHUT ALL THE CHURCH DOORS BEHIND YOU
Thank you!

PIETY SHOP, DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES

The piety shop will reopen next week after a well deserved break. Diocesan Directories for 2020 will be available at £5 each, wire bound.

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