

# 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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WEB: [www.stmcov.org](http://www.stmcov.org)

TWITTER: @StThosMore FACEBOOK: @StThosMore



A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery: [www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

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

## 20th SEPTEMBER 2020 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY



### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

**ALL MASSES ARE AVAILABLE LIVE ON THE [WEBCAM](#)**

<i>Home Mission Day</i>	<b>Vigil Mass (Public)</b>	<b>5.00 p.m.</b>	People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 20th</b> <i>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY</i>	<b>Mass (Public)</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	Sheila & Tony Colby (RIP)
Monday 21st <i>St Matthew</i>	Mass (live stream only) Adoration & Benediction	9.00 a.m. 6.30 p.m.	Marie Giles (Sick)
Tuesday 22nd <i>Feria</i>	Mass (live stream only)	9.00 a.m.	Fr Bob Wright (RIP)
Wednesday 23rd <i>St Pio of Pietrelcina</i>	Mass (live stream only)	9.00 a.m.	Dec'd of O'Reilly family
Thursday 24th <i>Our Lady of Walsingham</i>	Mass (live stream only)	9.00 a.m.	Eileen Smith (RIP)
Friday 25th <i>Feria</i>	Mass (Public) Adoration & Benediction	9.00 a.m. 9.30-10.00	Emma Forde (RIP)
Saturday 26th <i>Feria</i>	~	~	~
	<b>Vigil Mass (Public)</b>	<b>5.00 p.m.</b>	People of the Parish
<b>SUNDAY 27th</b> <i>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY</i>	<b>Mass (Public)</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	Rena Blackwell (RIP)

**PARISH PRIEST:**

**PARISH DEACONS:**

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & ROOM BOOKINGS:**

**PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:**

**SAFEGUARDING REPS:**

**GIFT AID CO-ORDINATOR:**

Rev Fr Stephen Day

Rev Mr Leo Poole

Rev Mr Pat Jeary

Amanda Kelly

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Sarah Collins

[www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk](http://www.st-thomasmore.coventry.sch.uk)

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## SEPTEMBER, MONTH OF THE HOLY CROSS

*Ave Crux, Spes Unica!*

Hail the Cross, Our Only Hope!



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

## THIS SUNDAY

- **TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY: HOME MISSION DAY. 2nd Collection:** Catholic Evangelisation
- **THE 5PM MASS** will be celebrated by Fr Peter Conley, assistant priest at St Joseph the Worker.
- **FR STEPHEN** is now also **Parish Priest of St Joseph the Worker** in Canley. He is saying the 1045 Sunday Mass there.
- **ORDINATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD** of Revs Sean Gough and Benedict Skipper will be livestreamed from the Cathedral at 3pm. Please pray for them.
- **Prayer 2020:** Pray at 20:20 hrs on the 20th of the month, praying that God will give us many opportunities to speak to Jesus.
- **IF YOU WISH TO CATCH FR STEPHEN** after Mass, he will usually be at the side door of church by the MRR under the cover of the porch, socially distanced. Mass envelopes, giving envelopes, and any queries...
- **PARKING FOR MASS** The school car park is **OPEN for Saturday and Sunday Masses** using the entrance at the side of the church *only as we are reduced in numbers*. If you choose to park on Watercall Avenue please be mindful of our neighbours' needs and our duty to park as safely as possible.
- **PLEASE USE THE PARISH WEBCAM** [here](#) to join Masses and Exposition if you are not attending Mass in person at the moment.
- **GIVING TO THE PARISH AT MASS:** There are **boxes for envelopes and other giving** in the church by the **font and the doors**. We cannot pass collecting bags round at this time.  
**ONLINE:** You can donate by **standing order**, there is a link to a form from the website, on the [Parish & Coronavirus](#) page. Complete the top part and post to the Presbytery.  
**It is also now possible to give directly via the internet**, on 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.  
Offerings can of course be put through the presbytery letter box, passed on to someone who attends or kept until you are able to return.

### THIS WEEK *Friday*

- **9.00am Mass in public**, followed by thirty minutes of public Adoration.
- ### NEXT WEEKEND
- **26th SUNDAY Public Vigil Mass Saturday 5.00 p.m. Public Mass Sunday 9.00 a.m.**

- **Second Collection:** Father Hudson's Society  
**COMING SOON**

### **MACMILLAN EVENT 25th SEPT**

The tightening of Covid-19 rules means that this event cannot happen in the same way. Socialising in groups of more than six people is no longer allowed. Cakes may be bought from the front garden of 192 Kenpas Highway **PLEASE be safe: face covering, no more than 6, 2m distance**

### **THE SEASON OF CREATION**

**1 September to 4 October** is now designated the Season of Creation.

### **BIRMINGHAM JUSTICE & PEACE ASSEMBLY**

**2020: The Climate Emergency:** *Listening To The Cry Of The Earth And The Cry Of The Poor*  
This year the Assembly will take place **ONLINE** culminating with an Evening Prayer with Archbishop Bernard on Sunday, 4th October at 7pm. For information and to book go to:  
<https://bit.ly/JPasssembly2020> or email [bham.jandp@gmail.com](mailto:bham.jandp@gmail.com)

### **CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY**

This has been put back a week to Friday 9 October with the collections on the 10 and 11. CAFOD is helping the world's poorest face the suffering inflicted by Covid-19. Full details on [CAFOD.org.uk](http://CAFOD.org.uk)

### **AS A COMMUNITY THAT CAN'T ALL MEET...**

It is of course still the case that many people should not be attending indoor gatherings. They may be particularly vulnerable or caring for someone who is. **No-one is in any way obliged to attend Mass at the moment.**

**IF YOU HAVE THE INTERNET, we are on...**

**WEBSITE:** <https://stmcov.org/>

**TWITTER:** @StThosMore

**FACEBOOK:** @StThosMore

This newsletter is posted every week. Please print copies off for any parishioners you can safely get them to who have no internet. Our dedicated [Parish & Coronavirus](#) website page is updated regularly.

The parish [webcam](#) is on and shows **every** Mass and other worship in church as it happens.

**IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE INTERNET...**

**Please unite yourself in prayer** with the worship that is still going on here and remember that you can always phone and, like all parishioners you're remembered at the altar daily.

### **THE ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

For those of you taking part in Mass via the webcam, the act of Spiritual Communion is printed in full under your view of the church. Simply scroll down to find a white box headed **Message from St Thomas More Church** and it's there. This will be led by the priest at Masses that are **not** public.

### **VOTIVE CANDLES**

We have not yet found a way of safely allowing the lighting of votive candles. It may be possible to have a box into which written intentions and the 20p cost of the candle may be put. Candles will then be lit on your behalf. *Watch this space*

**FINANCE... Main Collection: £529.00 Standing Orders Aug: £1334.29 Parish Development Fund: £46.00** *Thank you for all that you give in time, money or effort.*  
Collections cannot be taken: **there are boxes by the doors and the font for your giving.**



## The Sunday Readings

Today's gospel highlights our fussiness and God's generosity. The labourers have worked different hours, yet receive the same pay. The employer chooses to be generous, and in any case agreed the pay with them before the labourers started work! But this story is not about labour relations and pay scales: it is about God and His kingdom. He offers the same wonderful reward to **all** who would turn to Him: it is never too late to turn to God. None of us deserves heaven because of what we do ourselves, by the effort we alone have made: everyone needs God's mercy. He stands ready to give it whenever someone turns to Him. None of us has a right to it, but ask in faith and love and we can receive it.

### HOLY WATER

Although holy water cannot be available in church, if you bring your own sealed bottle of water from home, Fr Stephen can bless it for you.

### THE MARGARET ROPER ROOM

It is currently not possible to use the room due to difficulty in meeting pandemic regulations. Both the parish and groups who use the room have to meet exhaustive risk assessments and the whole place would have to be cleaned after **every** use. A strict one-way in and out system would be needed. Even if returned to use, its safe capacity would likely be about 20 people due to social distancing and having to keep space free to queue for the loos. Plus, the kitchen could not be used.

### FLOWERS FOR CHURCH

Thanks to all who have donated or arranged flowers: please continue as you are able **Thank you**

### STEWARDS & CLEANERS

**To be public, every Mass needs to be stewarded and the pews and floor area used in church need to be cleaned afterwards.** If you can help spread the load and increase the number of public Masses and adoration, email [stmcov@gmail.com](mailto:stmcov@gmail.com) to volunteer. **Thank you to all our volunteers!** *We'd be shut without them* **PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE THINGS IN CHURCH** Carriers of Hope and other charities are not taking items in the way they were. There is a health risk during the time of pandemic of leaving items in church that may be repeatedly touched.

### THE TEMPERATURE IN CHURCH

This church is a big and a cold one—it has **heaters now 52 years old and absolutely no insulation at all.** It is a **fact** that the heating **cannot** make the church anything near as cosy as a sitting room, even though the gas costs about £5 an hour! Before lockdown, the finance committee was to consider improvements, but this had of course to be left for the time being.

**PUBLIC MASS:  
WHAT WE MUST AND  
WHAT WE MUST NOT DO!**  
**TO MINIMISE THE RISK TO ONE ANOTHER  
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE AT EVERY MASS  
THESE RESTRICTIONS HAVE TO APPLY**  
**On entering, you will have been asked for  
your name and phone number so that we  
can assist the NHS Track & Trace system**

### **The Congregation MUST—**

- ◆ Wear a **FACE COVERING** over **nose AND mouth** and stay 1.5m apart unless you are in the same household. **You should bring your own mask.** They are now compulsory in many places and are mandatory in church.
- ◆ **SANITISE HANDS** on entry and exit.
- ◆ **FOLLOW SIGNS and follow the stewards' directions.** **Please do not insist on a particular seat.** We need to fill the church in sequence to see how many seats are left. We need to fill each pew to save cleaning. Our volunteers are grateful for your co-operation—it reduces their work.
- ◆ Recognise that the **sacristy** and rooms behind the sanctuary **are for clergy only**
- ◆ Be aware that the **toilets are out of use**

### **During Mass there can be NO...**

- ◆ Readers, servers, musicians nor extraordinary Eucharistic ministers
- ◆ Children's liturgy, Bidding Prayers nor Holy Water
- ◆ Collection bags nor Offertory procession
- ◆ Physical sign of peace
- ◆ Parish Missals, hymn books, news sheets given out, pamphlets or prayer cards left about, nor singing
- ◆ Votive candles lit

### **At Holy Communion, PLEASE DO...**

- ◆ Follow stewards' directions and **KEEP APART**
- ◆ Queue in single file only, move forward not back
- ◆ Receive Communion in silence, hands outstretched
- ◆ Step to the side, remove mask, consume, mask on

### **Please TAKE NO CHANCES in coming IF...**

- ◆ You have a serious health condition
- ◆ You feel ill or are convalescing
- ◆ You have a sick family member at home
- ◆ You have any cold or flu-like symptoms
- ◆ You think you have been exposed to Covid-19

### **Afterwards...**

- ◆ Please leave as stewards direct you, no grouping
- ◆ Sanitise your hands as you leave
- ◆ The church has to be cleaned by our volunteers mopping the floor and sanitising the pews

**For Your Prayers...**

**THE SICK & SUFFERING:** Sarah Chaplin, Moira Steeley, Elene Gunn, Pauline Cullinane, Margaret Young, Helen Chadwick, Mary D'Arcy, Baby Theo, Catherine Brookes, Fr Michael Stack, David Warr, Maureen Pearson, Anne, 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, Carl Smith, Roy Haslam, Beatrice Upham, Felix Rooney, John & Jeanne Gould, William Begley, Kitty Budkiewicz. **Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick, Pray for us!**

**RECENTLY DEPARTED:** Renee Kingston, Monica Jean Anderson, John Turner, Elizabeth Carr  
**ANNIVERSARIES:** Catherine Ford, Frances Pearce, Marjorie Kelly, John Harrison, Lauren Cook-Robinson, Andrew Flynn, Mary Burke, John Galloway, William Long, Mary Daly, Charles Berry, John Brian, Helen Purdie, Helen Ryan, Joseph Ijoma **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them**

- All involved in Mission work
- The victims of Coronavirus, for all medical staff, for research into a vaccine and for the end of the pandemic, for our leaders
- A reverence for God's voice in Holy Scripture
- For a safe return to public worship and for those who cannot yet return
- Those ordained on 20 Sept Revv Sean Gough and Benedict Skipper
- Respect for all creation and the preservation of its resources.
- Peace in the world, reconciliation of past enemies and for merciful hearts in us all

**THE PARISH IS ONLINE...**

**FACEBOOK:** @StThosMore

**TWITTER:** @StThosMore

**WEBSITE:** stmcov.org

**WEBCAM:** via website

*I say, I say, I say...*

Did you hear about the terrible accident in the Indian restaurant? A customer spent three months in a korma...!!



*Boom boom!*

**ARRANGING A**



**BAPTISMS**

A simple baptism, with no more than 30 present and all restrictions followed, is now possible, but only by arrangement.

**WEDDINGS**

It is possible to make arrangements for weddings that are planned for 2021 or later. At the moment no more than 30 people may attend, all following the guidelines

**CONFESSION**

Confession is possible if socially distanced. Please contact Fr Stephen

**FUNERALS**

It is now possible to hold a *small* funeral service or Mass in church, as long as all guidelines for the pandemic are complied with. No more than 30 people may be present.

**EMERGENCIES**

Pastoral care in emergencies remains available: the sick and dying may still be anointed, babies in danger of death may still be baptised.

Contact Fr Stephen.

**DON'T ASSUME HE ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT A PROBLEM BETTER TO BE TOLD TWICE THAN NOT AT ALL!**



*on the front of this sheet*