

# 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  
 112 Knoll Drive, Stivichall, Coventry CV3 5DE  
 PHONE: 024 7641 1900 E-MAIL: stmcov@gmail.com



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.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/](http://www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/)

27th DECEMBER 2020

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (Readings Year B)

The church has a hearing loop system



### MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

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

<b>SUNDAY 27th HOLY FAMILY</b>	NO Vigil Mass Public Mass	9.00 a.m.	Tom McDermott (RIP)
Monday 28th <i>Holy Innocents</i>	~	~	~
Tuesday 29th <i>St Thomas Becket</i>	Mass (Livestream)	10.00 a.m.	Barbara McPhartland (RIP)
Wednesday 30th <i>6th day of Christmas Octave</i>	Mass (Livestream)	10.00 a.m.	Charles Berry (RIP)
Thursday 31st <i>7th day of Christmas Octave</i>	Mass (Livestream from SJW: click <a href="#">here</a> )	10.00 a.m.	~
Friday 1st <i>Mary, Mother of God</i>	Public Mass	10.00 a.m.	Oliver Muldoon (RIP)
Saturday 2nd <i>St Basil &amp; St Gregory, B</i>	Mass (Livestream)	10.00 a.m.	Mrs G Lynch (RIP)
<b>SUNDAY 3rd 2nd of CHRISTMAS</b>	Public Vigil Mass Public Mass	5.00 p.m. 9.00 a.m.	People of the Parish Kit Roberts (RIP)

**PARISH PRIEST:**

Rev Fr Stephen Day

Tel: 024 7641 1900 stmcov@gmail.com

**PARISH DEACONS:**

Rev Mr Leo Poole

Tel: 024 7641 9731 leo.poole@talk21.com

Rev Mr Pat Jeary

*Retired*

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR &  
ROOM BOOKINGS:**

Amanda Kelly

Tel: 024 7641 4473

email: [amandastmparish@outlook.com](mailto:amandastmparish@outlook.com)

**PRIMARY SCHOOL HEAD:**

Sarah Collins

Tel: 024 7684 9910

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



...was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man.

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

## **THIS WEEKEND**

- **FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** Pray for all families, that the love shown in the Holy Family may bring peace and joy to family life today. A pastoral letter from the Archbishop.
- **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER STEWARDS AND CLEANERS** We are here only because they have given up their time.
- **THANK YOU** for your kind Christmas greetings, card and Christmas offering. Some of you are really extraordinarily generous! God bless you all. Fr Stephen
- **THANK YOU** to all who have contributed in whatever way to the parish's celebration of a rather different Christmas this year. As well as our **volunteer stewards and cleaners**, there have been great efforts made with our **star banner, flower arrangements, polishing, crib and cleaning**. A special mention must be made of our **musicians** who after much careful preparation, help provide our first Sung Mass since February at the Christmas Vigil, and to Benedict for the organ music on Christmas morning. **THANK YOU all very much!**
- **FR STEPHEN IS AVAILABLE** after Sunday Masses at the Margaret Roper Room side door to church, under the canopy. Masses can be booked, confessions arranged, and of course much else...
- **THE NEWS ABOUT THE PANDEMIC** is not very encouraging. Things may change rapidly of course, but please take great care in public gatherings and in church. Remember that there is currently no obligation to be at Mass and each of us must consider the potential risk to ourselves and to others of our attendance. **Emergency pastoral care remains available** but the usual distribution of Communion at home remains suspended, alas. We know this is painful for all concerned.
- **PRAYING AT 6PM EACH DAY: PANDEMIC** Choose any method, such as an Angelus, or use something provided by our **Life in the Spirit** prayer group. Sign of the Cross, silence, a psalm of praise, pray in your own words guided by the Spirit, end with the prayer to St Michael.
- **THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH** Pope Francis has designated, from the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a year of St Joseph marking 150 years since he was declared patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX. As someone so uniquely close to Jesus and His Mother we have in him a powerful advocate. See the Pope's letter *Patris Corde* ('With a Father's Heart') on the Vatican [http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap\\_20201208\\_patris-](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-)

[corde.html](http://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_letters/documents/papa-francesco-lettera-ap_20201208_patris-corde.html)

## ● **GIVING TO THE PARISH**

Please do one of these four things as you can:

1. **Use a standing order.** You can donate by **standing order**, there is a link to a form on the website, on the [Parish & Coronavirus](#) page. Complete the top part, post to the Presbytery.
  2. **Give online via 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.
  3. **Put your offering in Presbytery letterbox**
  4. **Keep your offering until you can return**
- THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIVING!**

- **IF YOU HAVE THE INTERNET, we are on - WEBSITE:** <https://stmcov.org/>  
**TWITTER:** @StThosMore  
**FACEBOOK:** @StThosMore

This newsletter is posted on the website every week. Print a copy 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.

## **THIS WEEK**

**All weekday Masses are at 10am**

**MONDAY**

**There is no Mass on Monday**

**TUESDAY**

## **THE FEAST OF ST THOMAS BECKET**

It was **850 years ago to this day** that St Thomas Becket was martyred in his cathedral at Canterbury. He was a staunch defender of the freedom of the Church from secular control. Our St Thomas More was named after him, somewhat prophetically, as he too was martyred defying the secular power taking over the English Church

**THURSDAY**

## **THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD. Public Mass 10am.**

Although we cannot enjoy the usual mulled wine social event after this Mass, please come along to ask Our Lady's prayers for and God's blessing on 2021. May it be the year that sees Covid-19 no longer a threat, but overcome. We need to pray that life may return to normal, and when it does that we may all be open to the changes and opportunities that will be bring. So many things are likely not to be quite the same



## **NEXT WEEKEND**

## **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS**

The Christmas season continues: like Easter, Christmas is not confined to a single day but has an octave and a season in which we continue celebrating God's love and mercy. What we celebrate for a season is God's gift to us eternally.

**FINANCE... Main Collection:** Not known at time of printing.

**Thank you for all that you give in time, money or effort, especially in these difficult times**  
**In 2019 it cost £1571 a week to run the parish '18 £1669 '17 £1503 '16 £1589 '15 £1510 '14 £1966**



## The Sunday Readings

Jesus's childhood was certainly not without its problems. He was born a long way from home and then He had to flee to Egypt as Joseph kept his Immaculate wife and Divine foster-child safe from murderous Herod. Today, Luke, describing Jesus's disappearance in Jerusalem at age 12 and a worried Mary and Joseph, suggests how bringing up a child who is also God himself presented other challenges too. So a good Christian family is not one that does not have problems, it is one that meets its problems in a spirit of faith, hope and love. Mary and Joseph raised Jesus out of love, with faith in the Father's promises. May all families face their problems in faith, using them as opportunities to grow in love, patience and unselfishness. And may those who feel overwhelmed by their problems be given new courage and energy to rediscover the love that bound them in the first place.

### COMING SOON

#### THE SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY

**Wednesday 6 January.** There will at least be a livestream Mass at 9am, which will be recorded for viewing at anytime.

#### HELPING CARRIERS OF HOPE

Please visit <http://www.carriersofhope.org.uk/help-us/> to see the ways in which we may help in this time of pandemic. The Carriers are still working hard to support refugees and others in great need

#### DO YOU KNOW ANYONE STRUGGLING TO AFFORD FOOD?

Find out how to **receive** help from a foodbank **and** how to **support** one by visiting—  
[coventry.foodbank.org.uk](http://coventry.foodbank.org.uk)

#### WHY IS THE CHURCH DRAUGHTY?

Ventilation is a proven way to reduce spreading the virus—so the windows are open to be safe.

#### JUSTICE & PEACE GROUP

Thank you to all who have supported CAFOD World Gifts and have written to prisoners of conscience. Next year we shall most likely be able to do these things together, as normal.

#### CONGRATULATIONS!

Luke and Maryanne Dowle (nee Coughlan) celebrate the safe arrival of baby Harriet, just before Christmas. Mother and baby are fine. May God bless this new family. Mary, Joseph pray for them

#### LEAVING CHURCH AFTER MASS

Please move at the direction of the stewards and keep **ONE METRE distance** at all times from those not in your household. Please maintain distance at the time of Holy Communion too

## PUBLIC MASS: IMPORTANT PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU KEEP TO THESE GUIDELINES NOW THAT WE ARE FACING NEW CHALLENGES IN FIGHTING THE VIRUS.

### The Congregation MUST—

- ◆ Wear a **FACE COVERING** over **nose AND mouth** and stay **1m apart** unless you are in the same household. **Face coverings** are now compulsory in many places including church. Please keep your distance at Communion. **Without a face covering** we must stay **2m (6 feet)** distant from those not in our household
- ◆ **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. 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 nor votive candles lit
- ◆ Parish Missals, hymn books, news sheets given out, pamphlets, prayer cards or any other papers left about for rummaging through, nor singing

### 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
- ◆ Move to side, remove mask, consume, mask on. Keep 1 metre back from the person ahead of you

### 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. **One metre social distance.**
- ◆ Sanitise your hands as you leave
- ◆ The church has to be cleaned by our volunteers cleaning the floor and sanitising the pews

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS WITHOUT WHOM WE COULD NOT BE OPEN FOR MASS.**

### For Your Prayers...

**THE SICK & SUFFERING:** Veronica Hammond, June Phee, Sabrina O'Connor, Sarah Chaplin, Moira Steeley, Elene Gunn, Pauline Cullinane, Margaret Young, Helen Chadwick, Baby Theo, Catherine Brookes, David Warr, Maureen Pearson, Anne, Hilary Hanson, Maria Vaz, Maisie Reddon, Rose Green, Hayden Gilks, Mya, Phil Sheridan, Israel Mcleod, Rev Patrick Jeary, Eileen Connolly, Anne Kenny, 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:** Jack Green, Oscar Owen, Mary D'Arcy, John Curristan, James Conroy, Stephen Cole, Angela Cook, Gerry Higginbotham

**ANNIVERSARIES:** James Clarkson, Kathleen Cowming, George Walsh, Jean Davenport, Margaret Muldoon, Veronica Gaughan, Kenneth Lee, Joan Harbourne, Christine Selfe, Dorothy Leaver, Frank Lewis, Agnes Keith, Marcella Vallis, Annie Higgins, Marie Ainsworth, Bill McGivern **Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them**

- The victims of Coronavirus, for medical staff, for research into a vaccine and for the end of the pandemic, for our leaders and the scientists who advise them
- A reverence for God's voice in Holy Scripture
- Those who suffer because of lockdown
- All families, especially those knowing hardship, division and suffering.
- Families not able to meet as usual this year
- For the victims of domestic abuse

**HOLY FAMILY, BRING LOVE AND PEACE TO FAMILIES TODAY. JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH, BLESS US, INTERCEDE FOR US!**



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

**Knock, knock! Who's there?  
Olive. Olive who?**

**Olive the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names. . .**



**HO! HO! HO!**

## THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS & CORONA VIRUS RESTRICTIONS

**Everything** that happens in church now has to be stewarded and after it, the church has to be cleaned. There can be no congregational singing.

**Everyone** who enters should sanitise hands, wear a face covering and stay at least 1.5m apart unless from the same household. Track & Trace details should be given or the NHS smartphone app used

### BAPTISMS

As well as the conditions given above, currently **no more than 6 people** may be present, including the child.

### WEDDINGS

As well as the conditions given above, currently **no more than 15 people** may be present for a wedding. It is possible to make arrangements for weddings that are planned for 2021 or later, but it is **not known** when the limit of 15 might be relaxed.

### CONFESSION

Confession is *perfectly possible* if socially distanced. Please contact Fr Stephen to arrange it. Confessionals cannot be used without thorough cleaning between every penitent: that level of cleaning is simply not practical.

### FUNERALS

As well as the conditions given above, currently **no more than 30 people** may be present. The coffin cannot be brought into church the night before.

### EMERGENCIES

Pastoral care in emergencies **remains available** : the dying may still be anointed, babies in danger of death may still be baptised. In such cases, the room should be ventilated and social distancing should be observed if at all possible. PPE should be worn by the priest and face coverings by all.

*Contact Fr Stephen.*

**DON'T ASSUME HE ALREADY KNOWS ABOUT A PROBLEM**

**BETTER TO BE TOLD TWICE THAN NOT AT ALL!**