

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
 TWITTER: @StThosMore FACEBOOK: @StThosMore

A Parish of the Coventry Catholic Deanery: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk
 LIVESTREAM WEBCAM www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-thomas-morecoventry/

10th JANUARY 2021
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (*Readings Year B*)
The church has a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

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

SUNDAY 10th THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	Public Vigil Mass	5.00 p.m.	James Brennan & Frank Baynes (Anniv)
	Public Mass	9.00 a.m.	Charles Walter & Phyllis Smith (Anniv)
Monday 11th <i>Feria, Week 1 of Ord Time</i>	Mass: (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	Jim Kelly RIP
Tuesday 12th <i>St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot</i>	Mass (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	Sean McLaughlin RIP / Pat Ruddy RIP
Wednesday 13th <i>St Hilary, Bp & Doc</i>	Mass (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	The People of the Parish
Thursday 14th <i>Feria</i>	Mass (Livestream from St Joseph the W: click here)	10.00 a.m.	~
Friday 15th <i>Feria</i>	Public Mass, 30 mins of Exposition & Benediction	9.00 a.m.	Dec'd members of the Conboy Family
Saturday 16th <i>Of Our Lady</i>	Mass (Livestream)	9.00 a.m.	Elsie Finn RIP
SUNDAY 17th Second Sunday	Public Mass	9.00 a.m.	Ron & Margaret Rutter RIP

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 leo.poole@talk21.com
 Rev Mr Pat Jeary *Retired*
PARISH ADMINISTRATOR & ROOM BOOKINGS: Amanda Kelly Tel: 024 7641 4473
 email: amandastmparish@outlook.com
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



January, Month of the
 Holy Name of Jesus



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

THIS WEEKEND **WE ARE NOW IN LOCKDOWN**

The Government regulations state 'You can leave home to attend or visit a place of worship for communal worship... You should follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship and must not mingle with anyone outside of your household or support bubble when attending a place of worship'. We shall remain open unless told otherwise but we must at this critical time, follow all the pandemic guidelines. Please make sure that you are familiar with what to do—see opposite page. These measures, if properly followed, help prevent the transmission of the virus.

Restrictions can be changed by the government at short notice: please be aware that all our arrangements *might* therefore have to **change quickly too**. Equally the availability of volunteers and clergy might suddenly change through illness or the need to isolate. The website, news sheet and notices on the church doors will carry news.

Please remember that the obligation to be at Mass remains suspended. **No one should be doing anything that makes them feel unsafe or uncomfortable**. Please consider carefully any risk you may be taking in coming to Mass. Is your own health good? Are you responsible for caring for someone else? Do have a job that places you at risk or needs you to stay away from risk? What do your family think? Have you been exposed to Covid-19? When you do come always remember -

- HANDS - FACE - SPACE -
We ALL have a Christian duty to keep everyone in church and in wider society as safe as possible.

• **THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD** the hidden years are over as Jesus begins His public ministry by His baptism at the hands of John. Confirmed as God the Son by the Father and the Holy Spirit, Jesus now goes on to preach and heal, to suffer and die, and to rise from the dead.

• **THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEER STEWARDS AND CLEANERS** We are here only because they have given up their time.

• **THANK YOU** for your Christmas offering, cards, best wishes and gifts. This has been much appreciated and especially in the current situation.

• **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... Please give him a few minutes to change and get to the side door. He is also available **by phone or by email**—you might get an answering machine but he will get back to you if you leave your details.

THIS WEEK

• **PRAYING AT 6PM EACH DAY: PANDEMIC**

Please spend a moment at 6pm or thereabouts each day and say a prayer for the end of the pandemic—an Angelus would be great but any prayer for that intention is of course suitable, including the prayer to St Michael.

FRIDAY

Public Mass 9am, followed by Exposition

NEXT WEEKEND

• **THERE WILL BE NO 5pm SATURDAY VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY**. This Mass is suspended for the time being due to low demand. This is under constant review and will return in due course.

• **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME, year B**

• **PEACE SUNDAY**, an annual day of prayer for peace throughout the world and to pray for the work of *Pax Christi*, the international Catholic body that works for peace and a non-violent resolution to disputes. See paxchristi.org.uk/

COMING SOON

• **May 2021** be the year we finally beat the virus. Pray for those working to vaccinate us all.

• **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** 18-25 January. There are no plans for local public shared worship at this time.

• **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 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.

• **THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH** Pope Francis has designated a year of St Joseph marking 150 years since he was declared patron of the Universal Church by Pope Pius IX. See the Pope's letter *Patris Corde* ('With a Father's Heart') on the Vatican website [here](#)

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

Christ is baptised and at that a public demonstration of just who He is occurs. All through Advent and Christmas a gradual revealing of Jesus goes on. At first there is simply the hope that God will

send the Christ, then Mary knows He's coming, then Elizabeth and Joseph. Next the shepherds have the news of Jesus revealed to them and after them the Wise Men have the truth about Jesus shown to them. Today's feast marks the first great public manifestation of who Jesus is when at His baptism the Father and the Holy Spirit bear witness to Him. The baptism of Jesus is not quite like our own: we have our original sin washed away, He had none to be washed away: we join the Church, He is already its Head: we become children of the Father, He is God's only begotten Son. Jesus's baptism is done more for us than for Him. By it, Christ hallows the waters of Christian baptism, He is revealed for what He is, and His public ministry begins. Gone are the hidden years at home in Nazareth and just beginning are the public years of teaching, miracle working, suffering, dying and rising again which, taken together, reveal the fullness of the love, mercy and power of God.



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

WHY IS THE CHURCH DRAUGHTY?

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

JOB OPPORTUNITY: FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND.

This Christian Charity is seeking an Office Administrator. The salaried position is important for our future growth and directly supports the Office Manager. Duties include maintaining the database, responding to enquiries, managing post/emails and sending out materials. The successful candidate will have good verbal and written communication skills, a strong ability to multi-task and be comfortable with using IT (particularly MS Office). The hours of work are negotiable – minimum 20 hours per week, between Mon-Fri. In the current pandemic, some work can be done at home. Normally, the work is conducted from our Kenilworth office. Please contact Jen Hill with your CV, office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

PANDEMIC LOCKDOWN 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 **2m apart** unless you are in the same household. **Face coverings** are now compulsory in many places including church. Please keep your distance at Communion. **With or 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. Two metres 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**

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: Elizabeth Byrne, Ann Smith, William Molloy, Elsie Flinn, Benjamin Thomason, Ron Rutter, Patrick Galvin, Margaret Gallagher, Sylvester Budkiewicz, Mary Vineall, Phyllis Smith, Christina Kelly, Kathleen Molloy, Mary Vowles, Catherine Mullen

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
- Schools—staff and pupils and students—as a new term begins under difficult conditions

'RADICAL PRESENCE': POST COVID

The Chapel of Unity, Coventry is promoting a 7-session online course *Radical Presence* via Zoom commencing on Monday 11 January 2021, 7.30-9.00pm. The course is being run by Mark Bratton, Anglican Rector of St. John Baptist, Berkswell and the Bishop of Coventry's Adviser on Medical Ethics.

The course is an ecumenical one designed to help churches build a more just, sustainable, and compassionate world after the pandemic. The online initiative will foster ambition to tackle the crises of environmental breakdown, inequality and polarisation and help build support for a 'just recovery'. Those wishing to join should contact Mark direct at mark.bratton@warwick.ac.uk See <https://radicalpresence.org.uk/>

I say, I say, I say...

New curate: What shall I preach about?

The parish priest: About God and about ten minutes!



Boom, boom!!

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS & CORONA VIRUS LOCKDOWN

Everything that happens in church **MUST** be stewarded and after it, the church has to be cleaned. We owe our volunteers many thanks for doing these. There can be no congregational singing. **Everyone** who enters should sanitise hands, wear a face covering and stay at least 2m apart unless from the same household. Track & Trace details should be given or the NHS smartphone app used

BAPTISMS

No arrangements can be made for baptism currently. Baptism may only be celebrated in danger of death

WEDDINGS

Weddings are for the time being to be celebrated only with serious and grave need.

CONFESSION

Confession is *possible* if socially distanced. Please contact Fr Stephen to arrange it. Confessionals cannot be used.

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.

MASS

It is now absolutely vital that public Masses are celebrated with **everyone** obeying the guidelines of

Sanitising hands

Covering mouth AND nose

Keeping distance—2 metres or 6 ft

We have a Christian duty of care to one another and wider society.

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.*