

# THE CATHOLIC PARISHES OF *St Thomas More* and *St Joseph the Worker*

*working in partnership with the Catholic Chaplaincy of Warwick University*

## St Thomas More

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*both parishes are part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg Charity No 234216*

4<sup>th</sup> August 2024

## EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass: Page 7

Readings: Page 114

Psalter Week: 1

Weekday Cycle: Year 1

Sunday Year: B

Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	4.15pm	STM	Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Peter Fahy (1 <sup>st</sup> Anniv)
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup>		9.00am	STM	Mass	Peggy Connors (20 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Pro Populo
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of the Snows			No Mass	
		6.00pm	STM	Vigil of Reception for Tim and Irma Connolly (RIP)	
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Transfiguration of the Lord	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Charles Connolly (B'day Anniv)
		12.30pm	STM	Requiem Mass for Tim and Irma Connolly (RIP)	
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	11.00am	STM	Mass 'n' Mingle	Stephen Whelan (RIP)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	St Dominic	10.00am	STM	Mass	Nora Addison (RIP)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	St Teresa Benedicta	10.00am	STM	Mass	Bernadette Armstrong (B'day Anniv)
				followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup>	St Lawrence	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Frank Brogan (RIP)
				followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup>	NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	4.15pm	STM	Confessions	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	James Clayton (Anniv)
9.00am		STM	Mass	Trevor Dixon (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniv)	
11.00am		SJW	Mass	Patrick Whelan (Anniv)	

In John's Gospel, Jesus tells the crowd to seek food that endures to eternal life. He identifies Himself as the bread of life, offering spiritual nourishment that never fades. Those who come to Him will never hunger or thirst. Jesus' words invite us to seek Him above all else. While physical food sustains our bodies, Jesus provides what our souls truly need. By coming to Jesus and believing in Him, we find true fulfilment and purpose. This reading challenges us to reflect on what we are seeking in life. Are we focused on temporary, earthly things or on the eternal, spiritual nourishment that Jesus offers? By turning to Jesus, we can find lasting peace and satisfaction.

Lord, we thank You for Your constant care and love for us. Help us to renew our minds and hearts, seeking Your righteousness. May we always turn to Jesus, who is the bread of life, for true nourishment in our lives. Amen.

**STM Website:** [www.stmcov.org.uk](http://www.stmcov.org.uk)

**SJW Website:** [www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk](http://www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk)

**Twitter:** @StThosMore **Facebook:** @StThosMore

**Coventry Catholic Deanery:** [www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

**STM Livestream webcam:** <https://www.youtube.com/@StThomasMoreCov>

**SJW Livestream webcam:** [www.youtube.com/watch?v=APw4-lDW](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=APw4-lDW)

## OFFERTORIES

**STM Collection:** £744.50

**SJW Collection:** £270.50

*Thank you for your continued generosity*

**WELCOME** to Mass today. A special welcome to anybody joining us for the first time. Please introduce yourself, and if you are able, stay for refreshments after the Mass.

**WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF Patrick Henry** (Requiem Mass 20<sup>th</sup> August), **Shelia Ottley, Gregory Deeley, Tim and Irma Connolly, João Jerônimo rego das Neves, Fr Brendan Carrick, Daniel McAlinden, Baby Adufe, Jane Goodyear and Isabella Waugh**, together with all who have died recently. We pray for them and their families at this time. May they rest in peace.

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE SICK AND UNWELL:** Nigel Woollorton, Darrel Cemm, Carol Ann Little, Edith Whatling, Margaret Eason, Madge Ward, Heather Walton, Jay Veeman, Pat Farr, Phil Sands, Margaret Kelly, Joanna MacKinnon, Hilary Hanson, Debbie Colby, Monika Tokarska-Hosoi, Joan Theaker, Veronica Hammond, Peter Kennedy, Alice Rowland, John Walker, Pauline Cullinane, Beatrice Upham, Maureen Pearson, Peter Carvell, Sheila Jenkins, Lillian Chapman, Irena Bienek, Georgina Brannigan-Smith, Ann Kenny, Rose Warburton, Keelin Treharne, Josie McElroy, David O'Grady and Joan O'Leary.

**THE MONTH OF AUGUST** Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of August is traditionally dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The physical heart of Mary is venerated (and not adored as the Sacred Heart of Jesus is) because it is united to her person and is the seat of her love virtue, and inner life. Christ's Heart flows with the Blood which He assumed from his mother. Mary gave her blood to Him. He gives His Blood, her blood, to us. Focus on Mary's Immaculate Heart rose in stages during the Middle Ages with Ss Anselm and Bernard, and through the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries and the efforts of saints such as Ss Francis de Sales and John Eudes. The 1830 apparition of Our Lady to St Catherine Labouré in Paris, which led to the creation of the Miraculous Medal, helped to spread the devotion. This devotion has received new emphasis from the visions given to Lucy Dos Santos, oldest of the visionaries of Fatima, in her convent in Tuy, in Spain, in 1925 and 1926. In the visions Our Lady asked for the practice of the Five First Saturdays to help make amends for the offenses committed against her heart by the blasphemies and ingratitude of men. The practice parallels the devotion of the Nine First Fridays in honour of the Sacred Heart. On October 31<sup>st</sup> 1942, Pope Pius XII made a solemn Act of Consecration of the Church and the whole world to the Immaculate Heart. During August we have lovely feasts in honour of Our Lady including Our Lady of the Snows on August 5<sup>th</sup>, the Assumption on the 15<sup>th</sup> and on 22<sup>nd</sup> August the Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**OUR PIETY STALLS** are open after all Masses with a variety of cards and gifts available.

**NEWSLETTER ITEMS:** Over the next couple of weeks as we head into the summer holidays, if you have any items for the newsletter, could we ask that they please be submitted by Wednesday of each week.

**RETREAT AFTERNOON** will take place this Sunday from 2.00pm – 5.30pm. The afternoon will include Prayer and Praise, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Adoration and Benediction and two talks given by Brother Colin. Refreshments will also be available during the afternoon. All are welcome to come to this event.

**MASS 'N' MINGLE** will continue during August, but there will be a more 'waistline friendly' gathering afterwards. Our thanks to our dedicated team of bakers who provide the wonderful cakes each week.

**JOINT FACEBOOK PAGE:** The STM Facebook page now has a new name and can be found by searching 'Catholic Parishes of St Thomas More and St Joseph the Worker.' If you are a user of Facebook and haven't already, please do like our page and share with family and friends.

**ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY** is celebrated on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August and is a Holy Day of Obligation for us as Catholics, therefore our duty to attend Mass. Masses at STM will be at 6.45am, 10.00am and 7.00pm; and Mass at SJW will be at 12noon.

Although this Solemnity marks the end of Our Lady's life on earth it is nevertheless a day of rejoicing – for it marks her entrance fully into the life of God when she received the reward of her absolute faithfulness and trust in God her saviour. Whilst in this world she was limited in her motherly care to the early church gathered around the apostles, now, from her place in heaven, she intercedes for the whole Church, in all time. She is our mother too, so let us come on this day to ask her prayers, so that the glory she now enjoys may, one day, be ours.

**PIMMS, PROCESSO AND PUNNETS** will take place on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August from 3.00pm – 5.00pm in the Presbytery Garden at STM. An afternoon of strawberries and cream with a little tippie (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) of your choice. Tickets priced at £5 and available after all Masses.

**KINGDOM OF GOD PRAYER GROUP** will not be meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> August and will resume weekly gatherings on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September. As always, everyone is welcome to come along for this time of prayer and praise.

**RED MISSION BOXES:** Please could all Mission boxes for SJW be returned by Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August for counting. For more information, please speak to Joyce Connolly.

**GOING INTO HOSPITAL** If you or a relative are going into hospital, please be sure to tell the ward staff you are a Catholic and would like to see the Catholic Chaplain. Please also notify the Parish Clergy, so a visit, either by them or the Chaplain can be arranged.

**LARGE PRINT NEWSLETTERS** are available by request. If you would like one printing, please speak to Fr Simon.

**BOOKING MASSES:** There will be one diary for booking Masses at both church's and we ask people to use the envelopes available at the back of both STM and SJW. Please fill in all the required information and hand it to Fr Simon or push through the STM Presbytery letterbox. We ask that Masses be requested three months in advance of your required date. Please remember that preferred dates cannot be guaranteed as someone else might have asked for a particular day before you, but the nearest date will be offered.

**STM CHURCH OPENING:** The side door – known as Our Lady's door – at STM will be unlocked (except on Monday's) so access to the Side Chapel can be gained during the day for private prayer and reflection. Please note that the door will be locked at around 4.00pm every night.

**OUR PRAYER CONGRATULATIONS** to Ricardo Alexander and Leila Araujo who were baptised at STM last Sunday.

**'RING AND RIDE'** From time to time, we come across parishioners who are unable to get to Mass for a few weeks following surgery or other reasons. It would be good to have a handful of drivers who we can call upon to pick these parishioners up and bring them to Sunday Mass, if they are able and would like to attend. If you would be happy to be part of such a team, please email or speak with Fr Simon.

**ARYPT FUND RAISER:** The sponsored walk concluding with 'Mass in the Malverns' will be taking place on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September. For more information about the event, please see the details at the back of both STM and SJW or email Richard Robinson at [arypt2022@gmail.com](mailto:arypt2022@gmail.com)

**THE SEASON OF CREATION** is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: our ecumenical family around the world unites to listen and care for our common home. Beginning on September 1<sup>st</sup> and ending on October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, our parishes, families and schools are all encouraged to help mark the season. This year the theme "Hope and act with Creation" and the symbol 'the first fruits of hope', inspired by Romans 8:19-25, will be the guiding inspiration. More details of how you can be involved are available on the website [www.birminghamarchdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamarchdiocese.org.uk)

**FIRST SATURDAY DEVOTIONS** will take place during the 10.00am Mass at SJW on the first Saturday of each month, starting in September. During her apparition at Fatima in July 1917, Our Lady said to Lucia, "I shall come to ask that on the First Saturday of every month, Communions of reparation be made in atonement for the sins of the world." The First devotions will begin with the Rosary at 9.40am, Mass at 10.00am and Exposition and Confessions until 11.00am.

**COVENTRY CATHEDRAL FUN DAY** on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> August from 10.00am – 3.30pm. Entrance is free but donations welcome. There will be a variety of charity stalls and traders, as well as activities for the children to partake in.

**BIRMINGHAM CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL CONFERENCE** will take place from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August in Coventry, Bishop David Oakley, Bishop of the Diocese of Northampton, will be the keynote speaker at this year's conference which has as its theme 'be ready, with zeal for the wedding of the lamb has come.' (Revelation 19:7). The programme will include times for praise and worship, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, the daily celebration of Holy Mass, workshops and opportunities for fellowship. For more information and to book a place on the conference, please visit the website [www.bccrc.org.uk](http://www.bccrc.org.uk))

**NOVENA TO BLESSED DOMINIC BARBERI** begins on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> and ends on 26<sup>th</sup> August, his Feast Day. Blessed Dominic arrived in the Archdiocese in February 1842. He spent the next seven years based at Aston Hall in Staffordshire, from where he celebrated Mass, preached Missions, heard confessions, and received many people into the Catholic Church, the most famous being St John Henry Newman in October 1845. Blessed Dominic had a well-known reputation for sanctity and holiness of life. He is also remembered for his love for the poor, and those in need of prayer and help. Novena prayer cards will be available at the back of both STM and SJW.

**2024 CENSUS FORMS** are still available at the back of both STM and SJW for anyone who is new to the parish or who hasn't yet updated their details. Thank you to all those who have returned forms.

**SEVEN DAY CANDLES:** To sponsor a candle, please bring your £5 donation to the sacristy for booking. Please note that only one intention per candle can be booked. At STM the candles can be sponsored for St Thomas More, Our Lady, St Joseph and the Sacred Heart and at SJW they can be sponsored for St Joseph, Our Lady, St Anthony and the Sacred Heart.

**ALL NIGHT ADORATION** is held at Christ the King on the first Friday of every month from 7.30pm until 7.00am on Saturday morning. Confessions are available from 7.30pm until 9.00pm on the Friday evening. This will be held next on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September.

**OLD POSTAGE STAMPS:** We are collecting stamps for RNIB in the boxes at the back of the churches. Please ensure that stamps are trimmed with 1cm of paper around the edge. Please separate British and Overseas stamps. Please do not include pre-printed postage marks.

**DEANERY ENEWSLETTER:** We have a new Deanery ENewsletter for Coventry and Nuneaton. To sign up for it, please visit [www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk).

**MARCH FOR LIFE** will be taking place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September in London. A coach is being organised leaving from All Souls Church at 9.45am, seats priced at £20. For more information, please see the poster at the back of church or contact All Souls on 024 7667 4161 for more information.

**LET'S GROW SERIES** at Coventry Cathedral, a series of free weekly Thursday family sessions thinking about how to best care for our environment, with art, poetry, crafts and more. For more information, please visit the Cathedral website.

**HARVINGTON HALL PILGRIMAGE** is taking place on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> September. This year the Mass will be celebrated by Abbot Paul Gunter OSB. A coach would cost between £16 - £20 if we have 53 people interested. This has been advertised in the local parishes, asking for numbers by Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> August. There is a sign-up sheet in both STM and SJW for anyone who would be interested in attending this event. Please tick if you would be willing to drive and take a few passengers with you so we have a back up plan if numbers aren't feasible for the coach.

**HOUSE VISITS** to the sick and housebound are an important part of the life of the church. Sometimes people who have faithfully attended Mass and been part of the parish stop coming because they are frail or unwell. Some of these become lost and no longer receive the Sacraments. If you know of any parishioners who would welcome a visit, please let Fr Simon or Deacons Leo and David know. A visit, by either them or one of the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, can then be arranged.

**KNITTED BABY CARDIGANS** are required by the University Hospital in Coventry and Warwickshire for premature babies in Neonatal. If you, or any friends can knit any, they can be given in at church, so that the Knights of St Columba can then pass them on to the Coventry Clothing Charity.

**LIVE SIMPLY TIP FOR AUGUST:** Live sustainably with creation by changing your diet to reduce animal protein and decrease your carbon footprint.

**JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP** are planning a few events in the coming weeks including an afternoon walk on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September along Coventry Canal to Hawksbury Junction. More details will be available in the coming weeks.

**COULD YOU BE A SEED OF HOPE?** The Archdiocese of Birmingham is inviting enthusiastic individuals to create a network of Environment Champions to be a channel of communication between the Archdiocese and your parish, cluster or deanery. Promoting Care of Creation and enthusing others to help in responding to Pope Francis' call in Laudato Si to a spirituality which supports an ecological conversion. You will receive the full support of the Care for Creation Committee as part of the diocesan effort to act as stewards of creation. <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/seedofhope>

**'SEEKING THE LIGHT'** is an exhibition of textile art by Alexandra Kingswell, which takes its inspiration from the Bible and Christian spirituality. The exhibition will be held in Coventry Cathedral from 1<sup>st</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> August. Admission free.

**COVENTRY BOOK BANK:** Many children in schools and in the care system do not have any reading books of their own, yet there can be others who have books they no longer need. If you have any books that would be suitable, please leave them in the box at the back of both STM and SJW. For further information please email [maeve@thereadingdoctors.com](mailto:maeve@thereadingdoctors.com) or call: 07813809213

**AN EXHIBITION OF THE SHROUD OF TURIN** will be taking place in St Patrick's Church (CV2 2AA) from 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September. More details to follow.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION COURSES** are held on the first Saturday of every month in the MRR. For more information and to book a place, families are asked to contact Deacon Leo by emailing [dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk)

**SAFEGUARDING:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies and procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Claire Rutter and Amanda Kelly at STM and Henry Whitney at SJW. They can be contacted using the emails below or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding Team can be contacted by calling 0121 230 6240 or by emailing [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

#### DATES FOR YOUR AUGUST DIARY:

1 <sup>st</sup> to 31 <sup>st</sup> August	'Seeking the Light' Exhibition
3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Baptism Preparation Course
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Retreat Afternoon at STM
8 <sup>th</sup> August	Coventry Cathedral Fun Day
12 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> August	Birmingham Charismatic Conference
15 <sup>th</sup> August	Assumption of Our Blessed Virgin Mary
18 <sup>th</sup> August	Pimm's, Prosecco and Punnets event
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Bank Holiday
1 <sup>st</sup> September	Harvington Hall Pilgrimage

#### SECOND COLLECTIONS IN AUGUST

18 <sup>th</sup> August	Parish Development Fund (STM)
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#### READERS FOR AUGUST

<b>STM</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	5.00 pm	Mandy Crilly
	4 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Ann Fernandes
	10 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Mary Wilson
	11 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Blaise H-O'Sullivan
	17 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Mary Wilson
	18 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Catherine Smith
	24 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Janet Ward
	25 <sup>th</sup>	9.00 am	Noreen Thornhill
	31 <sup>st</sup>	5.00 pm	Ashford and Quintita
	Sept	1 <sup>st</sup>	9.00 am
7 <sup>th</sup>		5.00 pm	Clare Staines
8 <sup>th</sup>		9.00 am	Clive Robinson
<b>SJW</b>	4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Jacqueline
	11 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Alanna
	18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Val
	24 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Peter
Sept	1 <sup>st</sup>	11.00 am	Joan
	8 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Lorraine

*If you are unable to read on your allocated date, please ensure that cover has been found.*

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES** Hilda Waters, John Parsons, Anthony McCabe, Joseph Meehan, Beryl Gill, Maria Watson, John Reddan, David Gormal, Thomas Clinton, Evelyn Cassidy, Joseph Doherty, Paul Wright, Kathleen McSweeney, Katherine Tabram, Sydney Beaufoy, Donald Rushworth, Paul Fahy, Brigid Goollogly, James McCarron, Donald Holyland, Rita Bloxham, Agnes Davies, Maurice O'Donoghue, Roger Murray, Georgina Taylor, James Walsh, John O'Kane, Gerald Clark, Michael Hammond, John Turner, James Jackson, Arthur Thornhill, Norah Addison, Philip Fitzpatrick, Catherine Hawthorne, Patricia Daines, Helen Wright, Peter Travers, John Waters, Valerie Johnson, Douglas Moore, Mary Zaparaniuk, Margaret Rooney, Elizabeth Storey, Michael O'Sullivan, Nancy Clifford, Monica Anderson, Winifred Macdonald, Isabella Boyle, Teresa Niro, Trevor Dixon, Rosalind Stretton, Henry Cavanagh, Ida Meier, Elizabeth Commins, Jack Gaught, Cynthia Phillips, Trevor Gregory, Vincent Swords, James Clayton, Janet McGawley, Thomas Ward, Molly Needham, Joseph Kendall, Tina Lague, Mary Canning, Anthony Dodd, Michael O'Sullivan, Pauline Twigger, Margaret James, Bernie deCoursey, Anne Whitters, Mabel Fulham, Eugene Twomey, Michael Kelly, Louise Moran, Anthony Gill, Frank Craven, Joseph Richards, Robert Harvey, Colin Bridgewater, John Griffin, Bridget Connelly, Edward Power, Gwen Rees, Emily Poacher, Mary Murray, Mary King, Ellen Lynch, Thomas Kennedy, Michael Gilmartin, Jean Stafford, Elizabeth Moloney, Edith Carroll, Mary Greenwood, Mary O'Brien, Elizabeth Richards, James Holden, Thomas McGarry, John Kelly, David Bowen, Bridget Snow.

#### ST THOMAS MORE

##### Parish Administrator and Room Bookings

Amanda Kelly [admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk)

#### Safeguarding Reps

Claire Rutter and Amanda Kelly [sg.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk)

#### Giving and Gift Aid

Tony Curristan [ga.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ga.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk)

#### ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

#### Safeguarding Rep

Henry Whitney [sg.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk)

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