

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

working in partnership with the Catholic Chaplaincy of Warwick University

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

24th November 2024

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Readings: Page 160

Psalter Week: 2

Weekday Cycle: Year 1

Sunday Year: B

Saturday 23rd	SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING	4.15pm	STM	Confessions		
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Patrick Maguire (B'day Anniv)	
		Sunday 24th	9.00am	STM	Mass	Charles Cullinane (10th Anniv)
			11.00am	SJW	Mass	Edith Whatling (RIP)
			12.45pm	SJW	Mass (University)	Pro Populo
Monday 25 th	Feria			No Mass		
Tuesday 26 th	Feria	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Dec'd Members of CTUA	
Wednesday 27 th	Feria	11.00am	STM	Mass 'n' Mingle	Ken Brown (B'day Anniv)	
		5.00pm	STM	Vigil of Reception for Elizabeth Clark (RIP)		
Thursday 28 th	Feria	1.00pm	STM	Requiem Mass for Elizabeth Clark (RIP)		
Friday 29 th	Feria	10.00am	STM	Mass	Mr and Mrs Horton (Anniv) followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
Saturday 30 th	St Andrew	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Dolores Connolly (RIP) followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament	
		4.15pm	STM	Confessions		
	Sunday 1st	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Michael and Caroline Fitzpatrick
			9.00am	STM	Mass	Dec'd of McHugh and Shortfall families
			11.00am	SJW	Mass	Sandra Davis (RIP)
12.45pm	SJW	Mass (University)	Pro Populo			

Welcome to Mass today. We extend 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.

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we celebrate and honour Christ the King. This feast is one of the newest feasts in the Church's year. It was established by Pope Pius XI in 1925, initially as a response to the rise of secularism and nationalism in Europe. The church had witnessed the First World War and the fall of several European royal families. Pope Pius therefore wished to encourage Catholics to build up their devotion to the Jesus Christ of the book of revelation, who is described as 'King of Kings and Lord of Lords.'

The Gospel shows Pilate judging Jesus by the world's standards. We often judge others the same way. We look at their clothes, status, and actions. This reveals what we think is important. Pilate saw kingship as earthly power and control. When the Israelites asked for a king, God warned them of the heavy burdens a human king would bring. Worldly kings take from their people and rule through fear and power. They demand service and take what they want. Jesus' kingship is different. He gives rather than takes. At the Last Supper, Jesus washed His disciples' feet, showing that true kingship means serving others. Jesus does not seek to be served, but to serve. He is humble and preaches truth, not manipulating through fear.

Christ the King does not need human respect. His humility is a model for us. Imagine how free we would be if we were like Him, motivated only by our relationship with God, seeking to please the Father above all else. This Solemnity calls us to see Jesus' kingship clearly. He is a king who serves and loves us. Following His example leads us to true freedom and joy. Through the readings, we see His eternal kingdom, His role as the faithful witness, and His call to humble service. By embracing Jesus as our King, we enter into a kingdom of peace, love, and eternal joy.

Lord Jesus, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, help us to follow Your example of humble service. Guide us to live at all times in Your truth and in your love. May we always seek to serve others and honour You as our eternal King. Amen.

STM and SJW Website: stmcov.org/wp/

Facebook: Catholic Parishes of St Thomas More and St Joseph the Worker

Livestream webcam: <https://www.youtube.com/@stmandsjtw-cov>

Coventry Catholic Deanery: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

OFFERTORIES STM Collection: £779.80

SJW Collection: £548.40 (2 weeks)

Thank you for your continued generosity

WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF Mgr Graham Wilkinson, Elizabeth McDonagh, Maria Meadowcroft, Elizabeth Clark, Brian Jolley and Daniel Harrington (Requiem Mass on 3rd December) 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: Angie Browne, Frank Cunningham, Carl Lightfoot, Elaine Fossett, 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, Peter Carvell, Sheila Jenkins, Lillian Chapman, Irena Bienek, Josie McElroy, Georgina Brannigan-Smith, Ann Kenny, Rose Warburton, Keelin Treharne, David O'Grady and Joan O'Leary.

THIS SUNDAY is marked as National Youth Sunday, with the theme of 'Let Your Kingdom Come.' It is a call to action, inviting the youth to be active participants in building God's Kingdom here on earth. It challenges them to reflect on how they can embody Christ's love, justice, and peace in their daily lives, and how they can be instruments of God's will in a world that is in dire need of hope and renewal. We pray for the youth of our parish, that they will be strong in faith and for those in our schools who form our young people in the Gospel and the faith of the Church. We pray also for the work of the Kenelm Youth Trust within our Archdiocese.

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR to our Masses and not a Catholic, or a Catholic unable to receive, you are very welcome to come forward to receive a blessing. As you approach, please have your arm crossed over your chest, so that the minister knows to give a blessing. If you require a celiac host, please let us know before Mass.

WE WELCOME the Rainbows of Girlguiding from within our Parish for their annual Church Parade at the Saturday Vigil Mass.

SECOND COLLECTION after all Mass for Catholic Youth Services.

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

RAFFLE TICKETS for the STM Bazaar are available after all Masses. Tickets are priced at £5 per book or £1 per ticket. Please return all counterfoils and payments by Friday 6th December. The raffle will be drawn in the MRR after the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 8th December.

STM CHRISTMAS BAZAAR will be held on Friday 6th December in the School Hall from 6.00pm – 8.00pm. Next week, if you have any boxes/packets/bars of chocolates please bring them along and leave in the box at the back of STM. Please remember that the bazaar is a cash only event.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR is back for the fourth year. Please see posters in the porch for this Foodhub initiative, gifting items each day of Advent to help those in most need this Christmas.

OUR PIETY STALLS are open after all Masses with a wide variety of Christmas Cards and other gifts available.

WARWICK UNIVERSITY MASS are celebrated at 12.45pm on a Sunday in SJW. Although primarily for the students and staff at Warwick University, parishioners are welcome to attend. Please note that Mass will be celebrated according to the University term dates.

ADVENT begins next Sunday. There will be several opportunities to ensure that this beautiful season doesn't become 'the season that never was.' The bumper newsletter next week will have the full details of the various 'extra's' happening in the parish to help us truly prepare.

THE NEW LECTIONARIES will be used at all Masses from next weekend. At next Sunday's Masses, the new Lectionaries will be blessed, and we will re-commission all those who proclaim the Word of God for us at Mass. Advent is the start of the New Liturgical Year, so it seems fitting that we hear the Word of God proclaimed in a new translation, thus we may focus our thoughts on its importance, not only in our Masses, but also in our lives, remembering that 'the Word of God is alive and active' at all times and in all places.

NEWMAN ASSOCIATION: Alan Smith will be speaking on 'Music and the Contemporary Liturgy' on Tuesday 26th November at 7.30pm in the MRR. This will be the second talk with a musical theme and by a living composer and expert, so not to be missed. Alan is unable to travel, so will be zooming in his talk.

HOUSE VISITS to the sick and housebound are an important part of the life of the church. Any parishioners who would welcome a visit, are asked to contact Fr Simon, Deacon Leo or Deacon David so a visit can then be arranged.

SUNDAY MISSALS have now arrived and are ready for collection from the Piety Stalls. Extra copies are available, priced at £20 each.

'CRAFT AND CHAT' will begin on Tuesday 3rd December from 10.30am – 12noon in the MRR. If you sew, knit, paint or have another craft hobby, you are more than welcome to come. The idea of the group is for people to be able to come together for a chat, whilst spending an hour or so on their particular craft.

'ASSIST US TO LIVE' postcards are available at the back of STM and SJW. Simply write the name of your local MP and your own details on the card, affix a standard letter stamp and then pop in the post box.

UHCW PETITION SIGNATURES: All parishes in the Deanery are asking parishioners to sign a petition which will be sent, together with a letter from the Archdiocese to the Chief Executive of UHCW. Your signature could help ensure the future of Catholic supervision at UHCW. By signing this petition, you are not committing to any further communication but helping to show the importance of spiritual and pastoral care for Catholics who are in hospital.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS: There are catalogues available at the back of both churches and you can also view online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

ASDA CASHPOT FOR STM SCHOOL now stands at £467.23. Let's try and reach £500 for the school in the remaining few days.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, will start in December and for the Sacraments of First Confessions and Holy Communion, will start in January. Any children, who are not in Catholic schools, but who would like to begin the preparation and receive these Sacraments, need to speak to Fr Simon.

RED BOXES: Would all those at SJW who support the work of the Missio Appeal (Red Boxes), please bring their boxes to the Sacristy by Sunday 8th December. For more information about supporting the work of Missio, please speak to Joyce Connolly.

BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS CRIB at Broadgate will take place on Sunday 1st December at 4.00pm. All welcome to attend.

ROCK CHOIR CONCERT on Saturday 14th December from 1.30pm – 2.30pm at STM. Donations gratefully received and will be divided by Zoe's Place and Cheylesmore Foodhub. Please see the poster for more information. All welcome to come along.

LIVESTREAM FACILITES at both STM and SJW have now changed and are available through one page on YouTube. This is to help keep us in line with Data Protection and Safeguarding requirements.

CHEYLESMORE FOODHUB: It is now possible to support the work of the Foodhub through financial donations. It allows for more flexibility for the Trust to purchase foods. The required information is Cheylesmore Food Hub CAF Bank Ltd, Sort Code: 40-52-40 and the Account no: 00034145.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL: Anyone going into hospital, needs to be sure to tell the ward staff they 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.

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 on 0121 230 6240 or email safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Parish Administrator and Room Bookings

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Safeguarding Representatives

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