



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

20th April 2025

EASTER SUNDAY



Psalter Week: 1
Weekday Cycle: Year 1
Sunday Year: C

Saturday 19 th	EASTER SUNDAY	5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Thomas and Rose Clarke (Anniv)
Sunday 20 th		9.00am	STM	Mass	Helena Shanley (12 th Anniv)
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Alan Brotherhood (RIP)
Monday 21 st	Easter Monday			No Mass	
Tuesday 22 nd	Easter Tuesday	10.00am	SJW	Mass	Patrick Kennedy (RIP)
Wednesday 23 rd	Easter Wednesday	11.00am	STM	Mass	Jim Durkan (RIP)
Thursday 25 th	Easter Thursday			No Mass	
Friday 26 th	Easter Friday			No Mass	
Saturday 27 th	Easter Saturday	5.00pm	STM	Vigil Mass	Bernadette Armstrong (RIP Anniv)
Sunday 28 th	SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00am	STM	Mass	Laura Williams (Ints)
		11.00am	SJW	Mass	Mark David Whale (Anniv)
		12.45pm	SJW	Mass	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.

Welcome to Mass on this Easter Day. For those visiting the parish today to celebrate our Lord's resurrection, it is good that you are with us. Some years ago, Pope Benedict spoke about today's feast:

'At Easter we rejoice because Christ did not remain in the tomb, his body did not see corruption; he belongs to the world of the living, not to the world of the dead; we rejoice because he is the Alpha and also the Omega, as we proclaim in the rite of the Paschal Candle; he lives not only yesterday, but today and for eternity.'

These words are so important – that Easter isn't just about looking back to something that once happened. Neither do we say Christ was risen - but that Christ is risen!

Jesus, who was crucified and buried in the tomb whilst Pontius Pilate was governor of Judaea, is alive. It is this risen Jesus whom we meet in the sacraments. It is the risen Jesus who dwells within us through the gift of the Eucharist. It is the risen Lord who is head of his mystical body – the Church.

All the apostles were witnesses to the resurrection. At various places and at various times (with the exception of St John the Evangelist who continued his apostolic ministry into old age) died a martyr's death rather than deny what they had heard and seen – that the risen Jesus showed himself to them, spoke to them, and they saw the wounds in his hands, feet and side – the wounds of divine love.



*Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!
Alleluia!*



Fr Simon, together with Deacon Leo, Deacon David, Deacon Pat and Seminararian Luke wish you and all your families a very holy, blessed and peaceful Easter

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 AND COLLECTIONS

STM: TBC | SJW: TBC

Thank you for your continued generosity

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.

ORDER OF MASS CARDS: If you require a card with the Order of Mass text, please ask one of the welcomers for a copy. The readings for Sunday Mass can be found on the back of this newsletter. Please do take them home with you for private prayer and reflection.

WE PRAY FOR THE SOULS OF **Mercy D'Souza, James McEwan, Jim Etheridge, Kevin Shakespeare and Adela Carter** 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, Judith Cunningham, Peter Cunningham, Frank Cunningham, 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, 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, Joan O'Leary, Thomas Weatherstone, Clare Oliver, Romina Mendieta, Jennifer Bell, Tony Smith and Donal Heffernan.

PRAYER AT THE EASTER GARDEN: Risen Lord Jesus, as Mary Magdalene met you in the garden on the morning of your resurrection, so may I meet you today and every day: speak to me as you spoke to her in the living word of your Gospel; reveal yourself as the living Lord in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar; renew my hope and kindle my joy, and send me to share the good news of the Gospel with others. Amen.

OUR THANKS to everyone who has helped in so many ways to make this year's Triduum and Easter liturgies such prayerful and uplifting times. To all those who have been busy – whether before, during or after, seen or unseen – a huge thank you to you all!

EASTER OCTAVE: Each day of the Easter Octave, like the Christmas Octave, is celebrated as 'Easter Day.' At each of the Masses the Gloria is recited and at the end of each Mass the double Alleluia is used. The Gospel readings that we hear during this week relate to various appearances of the Risen Jesus. Each day during the Octave, we proclaim in the Gospel Acclamation: this is the day the Lord has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

EASTER MONDAY MASS in St Osburg's on Monday 20th April at 10.00am. Celebrant and Preacher – Bishop Richard Walker.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTIONS will take place on Sunday 27th April at 2.00pm in St Mary and St Benedict's Church. For more information, please see the poster at the back of church.

LUKE THEOBALD completes his placement with us today and will be moving on to the next stage of his Pastoral Placement. He has certainly had a rich and varied time with us and has embraced the different experiences of pastoral ministry and work with enthusiasm and great pastoral zeal. We thank him for all he has done in the parish – both seen and unseen and assure him of our continued prayers and support as he continues to discern God's call.

NEXT SUNDAY we look forward to welcoming Fr Mark Odion MSP who will be making an appeal on behalf of the Missionaries of St Paul. Part of the MSP mission is involved in the active ministry of giving succour to the refugees, migrants, ethnic minority groups, care for those trafficked, helping to stop further trafficking, and several other apostolates and ministries.

HEADTEACHER VACANCY at St Thomas More Catholic Primary School in Coventry. Please see the School website, the Holy Cross MAC website or MyNewTerm for further details. The closing date for any applications is by midday on 7th May 2025.

NEXT SUNDAY the 12.45pm Mass will return as term has started at Warwick University. We continue to pray for all the students and staff at the University.

KINGDOM OF GOD PRAYER GROUP are not meeting this Monday, 21st April but will resume on 28th April at 7.00pm. All welcome.

MASS 'N' MINGLE will resume on Wednesday 30th April. This coming Wednesday it will just be Mass and no mingling!

'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 the pop in the post box.

SJW FEAST DAY falls on Thursday 1st May. As one of the patron saints in the parish, it calls for a time of celebration! After the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 4th May, there will be a bring and share lunch. More details to follow, but please make a note in your diary of the date. This occasion will also be our chance to say thank you and farewell to Deacon David and June.

COUPLES RETREAT on 6th and 7th May (7.00pm – 9.00pm) in the MRR. A chance to enrich your marriage as you understand God's purpose for your married life. A retreat led by Br Colin Calmiano. £15 per couple. Limited seats so registration is important. Please call 07438 774231 or 07405 889088. Please see poster for more information.

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 27th April.

OSCOTT COLLEGE our Diocesan Seminary in Sutton Coldfield are trying to spread the news about the work they do, by getting people to sign up to their newsletter at www.oscott.org April's newsletter includes an update from the Rector, some answers to frequently asked questions about discernment, a report on some of the 'Hidden Treasures' in Oscott museum, and details of how to book a college tour. It takes less than a minute to sign up, and those who do will receive a monthly newsletter as well as early access to the annual Oscottian Magazine and events hosted at the college.

REGINA COELI: One of the most joyous anthems of the Church is the Regina Coeli, the Easter hymn to Our Lady. In a fearful pestilence our Lady's portrait reputedly painted by St. Luke was being carried in a procession which included Pope St. Gregory the Great. As they approached St. Peter's Basilica, the air became pure and free of pestilence. At the bridge which joins Rome to the Vatican, angels were heard singing the first three verses from the Regina Coeli and St Gregory was inspired to add the fourth line 'pray for to us to God, alleluia.' This prayer reminds us, of how much we have to be thankful for, even in the midst of our daily trials. When our Lord conquered death in His resurrection, he opened the gates of Heaven for us to be able to share Eternal Life with Him.

O Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.

Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.



O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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