

ST. THOMAS MORE NEWSLETTER

St Thomas More Parish in partnership with Corpus Christi, Ernesford Grange and St Anne's, Willenhall

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Website <http://www.stmcov.org>

Parish Priest - Fr. Timothy Menezes (7641 1900)

Deacons - Rev. Pat Jeary (7641 2564)

Rev. Tony Colby (7641 1057)



Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year A)

December 23rd 2007

Parish Child Protection Representatives –

Mrs. Beryl Gill (Tel. 7650 6220)

Mr. Malcolm Pollard (Tel. 7641 3011)

Responsorial Psalm: Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory,

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us." Alleluia!

Sunday Masses

9.00am Jim Brennan RIP

11.00am Kathleen Edwards (Anniv.)

6.00pm James Walsh RIP

Next Sunday – Feast of the Holy Family (Year A)

9.00am Tom Maher RIP

11.00am Patrick McClean (Anniv.)

6.00pm For Marriage and Family Life in our Parish

Weekday Masses

Monday (Christmas Eve) 9.00am Wilfred Bateson (Anniv.) **Midnight Mass (Carols & Readings from 11.15pm)**

Tuesday (Christmas Day) 7.30am Cian O'Driscoll **9.00am** Michael Malone RIP **11.00am** Frank Roberts **No Evening Mass.**

Wednesday (Feast of St Stephen) 11.00am Mrs King **No Evening Mass**

Thursday (Feast of St John the Evangelist) 11.00am Fr Hugh Molloy RIP **No Evening Mass**

Friday (Feast of the Holy Innocents) 11.00am Stephen Scales RIP **No Evening Mass**

Saturday (Feast of St Thomas Becket) 9.00am Dec'd of Hussey family / friends. Exposition until 10.30am. *No confessions today.*

RIP – Joe Flis, Constance Mary Wassall, Patricia Rodger, Bill Browne, Fr Hugh Molloy, Maureen McCoy.

Anniversaries Bp. Francis Thomas, Fr. Patrick O'Mahoney, Ann Higgins, Anna Fernandez, Margaret Williamson, Charles Digman, James Lamb, John Grace, Albert Traynor, Bridget Maughan, Grace McIver, Camelia Dimitri, Ninian King, Lilian Costello,

Charles Wilson, John Canning, Ann Moriarty, William Teppet, Francis Roberts, Michael Murphy, Patrick McClean, Michael Malone, Mary Hynes, Agnes McShane, John Clayton, Patrick Gillan, Sarah Lyle, John Lyle, Ronald Pearson, Agnes McIlhone, Dennis Moran, Frances Phillips, Bridget Shiel, Douglas Sheffield, Elizabeth King, Angela Morris, Bernard Moran, Bernard Moulding, George Walsh,

Richard Gannon, Jim Clarkson, Kathleen Tarming, Sidney Barlow, Timothy Quirke, Eleanor Elphick, Veronica Gaughan.

Sick List – Please pray for Charles MacKinnon, Hannah McBride, Ian Crawley, Penny Valentine, Leo Keenan, Joan Simmons, Molly O'Connor, Sinead Heffernan, Marie Ainsworth, Fr John Bentley, Ann Brown, Ruby Wilson, Rose Green, Anne Donoghue, Babies Emily and Jessica Burbury, Baby Matt Lynch, William Grant, Hughie McNaboe, Jack Holloway, John Leach, Anne Thomson, Philomena O'Connor, Angela Moses, Jonjo Rooney, Mary Doran, Madeleine Philips, Teresa Johnson, Kitty Ryan, Dennis Kelly,

Patrick Linthwaite, Francis Andrews, Sr Angela Black SND, Paul Bainbridge, Mary Reilly, Sonia Carvell, Kitty Budkiewicz, Angela Poole-Chivers, Sr Sheila Phillips, Alice Hopkins, Bill Middleton, Helen Freeman, Dolores Hackett, Mary Jones, Joe Anderson, Luke Blacklaw, Coleman Joyce, Sheila Jenkins, Cath Gallacher, Marlene Hubbard, James Tenn-Lyn, Rachel Hankin, Barbara Mattock, John O' Toole, Joan Harbourne, the present needs of the Barnes-Heath family and housebound parishioners.

Last Sunday's Collection: Main £1344-69 Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Offerings – You are invited to take a Christmas Offerings envelope today. The only collection at Masses on Christmas Day is your traditional offerings to the clergy of the parish.

Tea and coffee – After the 9am and 11am Masses in the Margaret Roper Room.

LiveSimply Prayer: *Compassionate and loving God, you created the world for us all to share, a world of beauty and plenty.*

Create in us a desire to live simply, so that our lives may reflect your generosity.

Creator God, You gave us responsibility for the earth, a world of riches and delight.

Create in us a desire to live sustainably, so that those who follow after us may enjoy the fruits of your creation.

God of peace and justice, You give us the capacity to change, to bring about a world that mirrors your wisdom.

Create in us a desire to act in solidarity, so that the pillars of injustice crumble and those now crushed are set free. Amen.

Christmas Dinner – If you will be on your own this Christmas – an individual or a couple, no matter in what circumstances - Fr David Keniry is hosting a Christmas lunch at the Ark of the Covenant, 110 Potters Green Road, Coventry, and invites you to join

him. He will celebrate Mass at 11am, and lunch will be at 1pm. If you would like to go, just let him know on 76 604144, or speak to Fr Timothy or one of the deacons, and they will let him know you wish to go. Please take up this invitation. It is open to everybody.

The Feast of Christmas in St Thomas More Parish

'For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given'.

Sunday 23rd December (Normal times: 9am, 11am, 6pm); **Monday 24th December** 9.00am only;

Christmas Day First Mass of Christmas begins at MIDNIGHT (with carols and readings from 11.15pm);

Masses on Christmas morning are at 7.30am, 9.00am and 11.00am. **Please note there is no Evening Mass on Christmas Day.**

Wednesday 26th December (Feast of St Stephen, Patron of Altar Servers) Mass at 11.00am only;

Thursday 27th (Feast of St John the Evangelist) & **Friday 28th December** (Feast of the Holy Innocents): Mass at 11.00am only.

Saturday 29th (Feast of St Thomas Becket) & **Sunday 30th December** (Feast of the Holy Family): Normal Mass times resume.

Altar Servers – Any servers who are available are most welcome to come to Sunday Evening Prayer, today at 5pm.

Also, please note the special parish Mass to celebrate the ministry of altar servers on St Stephen's Day (26th December) at 11.00am in Church. All altar servers, their families and parishioners are welcome. Refreshments will follow in the Margaret Roper Room.

Coming Home for Christmas – Who can you think of TODAY that you could invite to come with you to Mass on Christmas Day? A member of your family, a relative, a friend or colleague who might have expressed an interesting what you get out of coming to church. Please invite them, and assure them that they will be welcomed on this special day. www.comehomeforchristmas.co.uk.

Walk With Me Podcast to support the current programme of prayer is available at www.cjmmusic.com. Do download it!

Catholic Today – The new edition of the Diocesan Newspaper is available today, priced 50pence. Please take a copy home.

Giving Something Back – Thank you to all those who brought greenery, and those who spent many hours last weekend putting the greenery and lights up in preparation for our Christmas celebrations. Thank you to all those who clean our church and our parish rooms regularly. This work is often quietly fulfilled, but we should never take for granted the commitment and dedication shown.

Christmas Stamps – Please collect stamps at this time of year. They can be processed for charity, by being placed in the box under the statue of St Thomas More in the main church porch. Thank you to those who have deposited stamps there in the past.

Parish Shop – Parish Christmas cards are still available – do consider spreading the Gospel by sending religious cards this year. **Gospel of St Matthew** – As we have entered Year A, the Year of Matthew, why not buy a copy of this Gospel for the year ahead?

Archdiocese of Birmingham Directory 2008 – Now available in the Parish Shop.

Congratulations to Emily Coulson and John Noonan who were married in our church last Friday.

Thank you – Irene and Liam Minehane wish to thank all parishioners who have shown them great kindness and concern during Irene's recent time in hospital. A Mass of thanksgiving will be offered for your intentions.

100 Club Winners for December 2007 - Ho! Ho! Ho! 1st £20 Sally Finch; 2nd £10 Mrs M James; 3rd £8 Mr and Mrs Leary; 4th £7 Mrs Drage; 5th £5 Marie Ainsworth; 6th £4 Mrs Harrison. Better luck next year, everybody else!

Partnership Masses – Thank you to all who came to support the Advent Masses: servers, musicians, readers and all parishioners. Although we mark the partnership of parishes more obviously during Advent and Lent, it is important for us to look beyond our own needs, and to see the parishes around us as places that – in the not too distant future – we shall be asked to work with closely.

The Emperor's New Clothes – based on the story by Hans Christian Andersen. Friday 4th January, 7.30pm at West Orchard United Reformed Church, the Chesils. Presented by the Saltmine and Slingshot Theatre companies. Tickets £5 from 76 419466.

Parish Youth Group – The first meeting of 2008 will be on Sunday 13th January, attending the ice hockey match between Coventry Blaze and Hull, at the Sky Dome. Full details can be found on the Youth Group noticeboard in the main porch. Anybody who wishes to go on this trip **must** complete a consent form (available at the back of church today) by 6th January.

World Youth Day 2008 – The 10 young people of the parish planning to travel to Sydney, Australia for this event in July thank all parishioners, family and friends for your support in many ways towards this venture in recent months.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2008 – 23rd Sept – 2nd Oct 2008, under the leadership of Bishop William Kenney. For

further details, see the notice on the board outside the Side Chapel. Early booking is recommended to guarantee a place.

Home Is a Holy Place.org.uk

Livesimply.org.uk

Hope08coventry.com

This parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No. 234216