

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.stmcof.org>

Parish Priest - Fr. Timothy Menezes (7641 1900)

Deacons - Rev. Pat Jeary (7641 2564)

Rev. Tony Colby (7641 1057)



Palm Sunday (Year A)

March 16th 2008

Parish Child Protection Representatives –

Mrs. Beryl Gill (Tel. 7650 6220)

Mr. Malcolm Pollard (Tel. 7641 3011)

Responsorial Psalm: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Acclamation: Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross.

But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all names.

Sunday Masses

9.00am Bernard & Mollie Swinden RIP

11.00am Gordon Alan Howell (Anniv.)

6.00pm Malcolm Shanley RIP.

Next Sunday (Easter Sunday, Year A)

9.00am John Mills RIP

11.00am Margaret & Edward McGinn

6.00pm Martin & Margaret Geraghty

Masses and Liturgical Celebrations for the Week Ahead

Monday 9.00am Ints of Mary O'Mahoney **6.45pm** Dennis Kelly RIP **7.30pm** *Parish Penance Service, with visiting priests*

Tuesday 9.15am Peter Gill RIP

7.00pm For the deceased members of the O'Brien family

Wednesday 9.00am Nora McHale RIP **5.00pm** *Reception of the Body of Lillian Brennan* followed by Mass for Violet Evans RIP

Thursday 9.30am – *Funeral Mass for Lillian Brennan*

THE SACRED TRIDUUM – THE THREE DAYS OF THE PASSION AND DEATH OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST.

Holy Thursday 7.30pm *Mass of the Lord's Supper* Marie Ainsworth RIP *with watching at the Altar of Repose until Midnight.*

Good Friday 3.00pm Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord

7.00pm Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday (no morning Mass or Confessions)

9.00pm *Easter Vigil of the Resurrection of the Lord* - For the Intentions of our Catechumen and Candidates

RIP – Bishop Kevin Dunn, Fr Sean Farrell, John Mills, Betty Nash, Lillian Brennan, Esther Brooks, James Hargreaves, Theresa Duignan.

Anniversaries – Fr. William Madden, Fr. Andrew Brennan, Abp William Ullathorne, Abp Francis Grimshaw, Edward O'Grady, Michael Ryan, Mollie Swinden, Lawrence Murphy, John Quirke, Patrick Stapleton, Leo McSorley, George Hall, Catherine Nolan, Thomas Keogh, Thomas Lawlor, Patrick Hannigan, George Lycett, Barbara Killingrey, Joseph Parkinson, Peter Doyle, John O'Brien, Bridget Burke, Gerry Carney, Christine Broderick, Catherine English, Maria Diuk, Elma Errington, Donald Meacham, Hugh Kellar, Mary Brogan, William Kenny, Frank Hargreaves, Eleanor Graham, Michael Carroll, Sheila Glass, John Kelly, Ian Aston, John Robinson.

Sick List – Please pray for Archbishop Kevin McDonald, Rev. Tony Colby, Charles MacKinnon, Hannah McBride, Ian Crawley, John Leach, Penny Valentine, Leo Keenan, Joan Simmons, Molly O'Connor, Sinead Heffernan, Fr John Bentley, Ann Brown, Ruby Wilson, Rose Green, Jack Holloway, Babies Emily and Jessica Burbury, Baby Matt Lynch, William Grant, Hughie McNaboe, Mary Doran, Anne Donoghue, Anne Thomson, Philomena O'Connor, Angela Moses, Jonjo Rooney, Madeleine Philips, Teresa Johnson, Kitty Ryan, Kevin Bills, 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, Sheila Jenkins, Cath Gallacher, Marlene Hubbard, Rachel Hankin, Barbara Mattock, Sean Sullivan, Roger Moulding, Tony Armstrong, Vincent Rutter, Warren Luyt, Matthew Plant, Jeff Blackwell, Geraldine Batley, Laura Smallwood, P J Barrett, Teresa Mellon, Arthur Thornhill and housebound parishioners.

Last Sunday's Collections: Main £1322-14

Cathedral Maintenance £ 745-97 Thank you for your generosity.

Today there will be a retiring collection at all Masses towards the cost of Church flowers throughout the year. It is also a way in which you can show your appreciation for all the hard work and dedication that goes into this important ministry in our parish.

On **Good Friday** there will be the traditional annual collection for the Holy Places in the Holy Land.

There is only one collection at Mass at the **Easter Vigil** and on **Easter Day**: Your Easter Offerings to the Clergy of the Parish.

Tea and coffee – After the 9am and 11am Masses, in the Margaret Roper Room today. All parishioners and visitors welcome.

Parish Youth Group – meets this Sunday after the 6pm Mass. The Youth Group have recently produced some faith-based artwork, which can be seen today in the Church porch. From Sunday 20th April, the youth group will welcome children from Year 6.

The Crucifixion by John Stainer – a musical meditation on the Passion and Death of Christ, to help you enter Holy Week.

This evening (Sunday) at 7.30pm at St Peter's Catholic Church, Dormer Place, Leamington Spa. Tickets £10 each. All welcome.

Holy Week in St Thomas More Parish (Please do all you can to make this week 'holy')

- There will be Stations of the Cross in Church at 5pm this evening.
- Tomorrow (**Monday**) at 7.30pm. **Parish Penance Service.** This will be the last opportunity for Confession before Easter.
- **Wednesday of Holy Week – The Mass of Chrism** will take place at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham, at 11.30am. All parishioners are welcome to attend this special Mass at which all the priests of the diocese renew their priestly promises, and the oils for Sacramental celebrations throughout the diocese in the coming year, are consecrated by Archbishop Vincent. (Please note that priority seating is given to priests on this one occasion. Please be early to get a seat!)
- On Wednesday evening this week, the children from Key Stage 2 at St Thomas More Primary School will share with parents and parishioners who wish to come, their **Easter Production**, a reflection on Holy Week, in church at 6.30pm.
- **Holy Thursday** at 7.30pm – **The Mass of the Lord's Supper** – an evening celebration of wonderful symbolism shared by school and church communities. The children preparing for First Holy Communion will have their feet washed as did the apostles at the Last Supper. We commemorate the first Eucharist, and we enter into Christ's Passion in a special way. The Mass does not 'end' on this evening, but moves to a time of prayer and watching, as the disciples did with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane – 'could you not watch one hour with me?'. Please take the opportunity to stay for some quiet time with the Lord after this Mass, or perhaps return for some time of peaceful prayer later in the evening.
- **Good Friday** – in church for adults and older children and young people; in the Margaret Roper Room for children up to and including Year 3. *Any child wishing to be part of the separate liturgy in the MRR will need a consent form.*
- Good Friday evening at 7.00pm – **Stations of the Cross** – a traditional Catholic devotion, which we shall share with brothers and sisters from the South Coventry Christian Churches. All welcome.
- Because of the significance of what happened on Good Friday, it is a day of Fasting and Abstinence.
- **Holy Saturday** is marked by one ceremony only. The Church does not allow any sacraments to be celebrated on Good Friday or Holy Saturday, as the source of all life in the Sacraments – Jesus – is in the tomb. So there are no confessions or Mass during the day on Saturday.
- **The Easter Vigil** takes place on Holy Saturday night at 9.00pm. This is the first Mass of Easter.
- These days give shape and meaning to our whole life of faith. If you can, please look to make Holy Week special in any way you can, here in church or in your home, with your family, in your school, your place of work etc.

Readers Rota – The new rota is available from the sacristy today. Please collect one.

SVP – meets tomorrow (Monday) after the 9am Mass, in the Guild Room. Everybody is most welcome.

Tuesday Society – 2pm – 4pm Margaret Roper Room. This week, the Stations of the Cross, with slides from Lourdes.

Extend – meets this Thursday at 10.00am in the Margaret Roper Room.

Good Friday Walk of Witness – From Central Hall / Dresden Place at 10.45am; Shelton Square 11am. Speaker: Bishop Kenney

Hope 2008 Cheylesmore Festival – this Saturday from 11am to 3pm at Quinton Park opposite Daventry Rd shops. – South Coventry Churches (of which we are a member church) have organised an event on Quinton Park this Holy Saturday (22nd March), to include music, prayer and evangelisation, face painting, hair braiding, Bouncy Castle, Kids Crafts refreshments and other ways of showing the vitality of the Christian community to the people of our area. Please tell your friends that it will be happening. If you or they are shopping along Daventry Road that day, please visit the event opposite. Leaflets available today.

Easter Vigil – At the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening at 9pm, we shall welcome into the family of the Catholic Church and the community of our parish: Katie Eccleston who will be baptised; Amanda Erne, Alison Stokes and Stewart Wheeler will be received into the Catholic Church and, together with Carmel Watson, will receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Easter Sunday – Masses at 9.00am, 11.00am and 6pm. Bishop William Kenney will be the Main Celebrant at the 11am Mass.

Easter Monday Coventry Deanery Mass at St Osburg's. – this annual Mass will take place at 10.00am. There will be no Mass here that day. Parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend the Deanery Mass. Bishop William Kenney will celebrate Mass.

Walk With Me for Eastertide – The Walk With Me journey of prayer continues from Easter Sunday to Pentecost. Please take a booklet and calendar today. The children in St Thomas More School will receive a calendar at school in the coming week.

Thank you to all those who shared in the Partnership Masses at Corpus Christi during the season of Lent.

Vouchers for Schools – As these schemes continue, please collect these, if you can, for St Thomas More Primary School.

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