

ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

112 Knoll Drive, Stivichall, CV3 5DE 024 7641 1900 stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
 Livestream webcam www.mcnmedia.tv/Camera/st-thomas-more-church-coventry

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH

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 Livestream webcam www.youtube.com/watch?v=APw4-ldWAmc

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP & WITH THE CATHOLIC CHAPLAINCY, UNIV OF WARWICK

The parishes are part of the Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham Registered Charity No. 234216

WEB: www.stmcov.org www.sjtwcoventry.org.uk/

TWITTER: [@StThosMore](https://twitter.com/StThosMore) FACEBOOK: [@StThosMore](https://www.facebook.com/StThosMore)

Parishes of the Coventry Catholic Deanery: www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk

12th DECEMBER 2021 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings Year C Both churches have a hearing loop system



MASS TIMES & INTENTIONS

	Confession STM Vigil Mass STM	4.30 p.m. 5.00 p.m.	Mandy Crilly (Thanksgiving)
SUNDAY 12th 3rd of ADVENT	Mass STM Mass SJW Mass Univ Chaplaincy	9.00 a.m. 10.45 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Dec'd daughter of the Holy Spirit Carmel Silver RIP
Monday 13th <i>St Lucy</i>	Mass STM	9.00 a.m.	David & Patricia Rodger (Anniv)
Tuesday 14th <i>St John of the Cross</i>	Mass SJW	10.00 a.m.	The Jenkins Family
Wednesday 15th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW Mass for STM School Penitential Service & Confessions at STM	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m. 2.00 p.m. 6-7 p.m.	Kitty Norris (RIP) Margaret Clancy RIP Thanksgiving for Retiring Staff and for the past School Term
Thursday 16th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Michael Joseph Swift (RIP) Carmel Silva RIP
Friday 17th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM & Exposition Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Sandra & Maria Kavella Mary Harrington RIP
Saturday 18th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Stella Robinson (Birthday) Anastasia Whale
	Confession STM Vigil Mass STM	4.35 p.m. 5.00 p.m.	Gordon Aspell (RIP) / Mary Porter (Anniv)
SUNDAY 19th 4th of ADVENT	Mass STM Mass SJW Mass Univ Chaplaincy	9.00 a.m. 10.45 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Bridie Lawlor (RIP) The People of the Parish

PARISH PRIEST STM & SJW Rev Fr Stephen Day 024 7641 1900 stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk

ASSISTANT PRIEST SJW Rev Fr Peter Conley (Asst Univ Chaplain) 07908 817344

stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH DEACON STM Rev Mr Leo Poole 024 7641 9731 dcn.leo.poole@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH DEACON SJW Rev Mr David Palmer (Univ Chaplain) 07831 726731

david.a.palmer@warwick.ac.uk

ADVENT: COME LORD JESUS!

THERE IS NO NEED TO BOOK FOR ANY MASS IN THE TWO PARISHES AT PRESENT.

Bookings are NOT being taken.

COVID SAFETY LATEST

The Government's revised Covid guidelines mean that in churches we must carry on as have been, sticking carefully to the precautions and remembering that no-one should be doing anything in church or for church that they consider too risky for them. The news is not encouraging but things can change very quickly.

- **Face coverings** are now mandatory
- **Sanitise hands** on entry and exit
- **Keep a 1m distance** if you can
- **Ventilation** is important
- **Lateral flow testing** : please test yourself each week so that if you know you have the virus you stay at home
- **Feeling ill**: if you feel unwell please stay and home and do not risk passing on the virus to others
- **Vaccination: HAVE YOUR JABS!** This keeps others safe too and is *not* just about the individual who is vaccinated.

We Christians have a duty to take care of others and to neglect any of these ways of reducing infections is to neglect our neighbour. We are all in this together.

HOUSEBOUND COMMUNION

Communion may now be brought to the housebound routinely as before. **Please contact** Fr Stephen or Fr Peter by phone, email, in writing or by friend or family member if you are ready to resume this. *Please be in touch.*

THIS WEEKEND

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT –

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT STM

This is now back at 9:00am Mass. Children aged 3+ to 11 (Nursery to Yr 6) inclusive. Volunteers to be Children Liturgists are very welcome, please contact Deacon Leo. It can't **yet** be the same as it was as the JPII room remains a store room. So, with one room and a limit of 25 people in total (children, helpers and parents) it's set to go. **We thank** our leaders, supportive parents and of course, children.

STM WALKING GROUP

The next walk will be around the city centre **TODAY (12th)** Meet at 2pm at **Spon Gate School on Upper Spon Street.**

'YARN BOMBING' AT STM

You will have seen the amazing creations for Advent now adorning the building, bollards and bushes at STM. There are links to photos on the **What's On** page of the STM website. **Thank you!**

STM SVP

The SVP are planning to support needy families, working in partnership with STM parish school. If you can spare items listed on the sheet handed out that would be great—socks, colouring pencils, toiletries, tinned foods...

READERS THIS WEEK AT STM...

Sat Janet Ward **Sun** Blaise Hughes-O'Sullivan
Next Week...

Sat John Burns **Sun** Clive Robinson
TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASSES STM
Please see Janet Ward if you can help after 5pm. Sat. or Claire Rutter if you can help after 9am Sun. To be at our safest, we **can accommodate no more than 25 people in the MRR** at socially distanced tables. You are welcome to go outside if dry. We shall be keeping the way in which we queue and serve under review according to demand and Covid circumstances, but Diocesan rules concerning halls continue to be very strict.

TEA & COFFEE SJW

Tea and coffee is available in the hall after Sunday Mass. To be at our safest, we **can accommodate no more than 20 people in the hall.** You are welcome to go outside if dry.

PIETY STALLS

There is a **limited** selection of stock available at SJW in the hall after Mass. The stall at STM remains shut. Is there anyone at STM who would like to take responsibility for this?

NEWS THIS WEEK

PENITENTIAL SERVICE & CONFESSIONS

At STM for both parishes this Wednesday at **6pm till 7pm.** Fr Peter and Fr Stephen will be available: This is for **both** parishes

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Give something literally life-changing for Christmas. Catalogues are available or click [here](#) to be taken to the CAFOD site.

CHRISTMAS CARDS TO VICTIMS OF UNJUST DETENTION AND TORTURE

Please send a card to those suffering simply because of their beliefs. ACAT (Action by Christians Against Torture) organises a campaign, see [here](#) or the What's on page of the STM website. The STM J&P group are actively engaged and **encourage everyone to take part.**

CHURCH ROOM HIRING

The halls are now open to use by parish groups (but still are not for hire by outside organisations). Please contact Amanda for STM (as on the back page) to arrange use or at SJW see Fr Stephen or Fr Peter.

BUT please be aware of these points—

- The full guidelines outlined in the *Hirer's Pack* must be agreed to.

FINANCE: STM Collection: £730.00 Poor Parishes: £182.00 SJW Collection £95.00

Thank you for all that you give in time, money or effort, especially in these difficult times

- Any group must complete and submit a risk assessment before using the room.
- The room must be cleaned before & after use.
- Windows must be open, rooms ventilated.
- No more than 25 people may be in the room at STM and no more than 20 at SJW.

PLEASE NOTE Guidance for the use of halls remains, for some reason not explained to us, far stricter than for the use of churches.

NEXT WEEKEND

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SJW MUSIC GROUP

The 'sing for fun' on Monday evenings has restarted. It is an informal session, for anyone who wants to join in. We normally meet twice a month, at 7pm, for about an hour. The next session will be on Mon 13 Dec 7pm. Please contact Peter O'Brien on 07930 632153 if you have any questions

HONOURING SUNDAY

The Bishops issued a statement last week you may find [here](#) called *Honouring Sunday*. While it does not re-instate the Sunday obligation yet, it does ask us to honour Sundays, which, as Christians, we must.

THE SYNODAL PROCESS IN THE PARISHES

First, this sheet will continue to direct you to information and online events, most of which will be on the Diocesan website [here](#) This is a prime source of information which is still being given out. This will provide background so that in due course as we organise things in the parish, everyone may be well informed. After Christmas, we shall be meeting to engage with this process but there will be other ways too so that not being able to attend meetings is no barrier. Click [here](#).

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

5pm STM with *Soul Reason* music group
6.30pm SJW, 8.00pm STM

Christmas Day

9am STM, 10.45am SJW, 12.30pm Univ Ch
There will NOT be 5pm Mass Christmas Day
We hope to sing carols at all Masses **dependent on COVID guidance** applying at the time.

CARRIERS OF HOPE

Carriers of Hope are responding to the needs of refugees and others in Coventry. Needs are constantly changing so please visit their website or Facebook page to see the latest news. You may donate by clicking [here](#)

COVENTRY FOOD BANK

If you need help from the Foodbank or can support its work, see coventry.foodbank.org.uk

If you view this sheet on the web all links in blue are live—simply click them
SJW: OUR LADY'S CANDLE

Lit this week for Carmel Silva RIP

THE READINGS THIS WEEK

The presence of God in the midst of Israel means that there is no more evil to fear and that it is time to shout for joy. The prophet Zephaniah gives us a truly joyful picture of God living amongst his people. Centuries later, John the Baptist shouts this time, proclaiming the presence of Christ, the Word made flesh, among his people. His hearers are seized with enthusiasm. "What must we do?". So John, directly and plainly tells them—give up sin. Being in the presence of God demands of us a response, rejoicing and repentance. We rejoice that God loves us so much that He is among us, with us, one of us but we repent of having failed Him. We are unworthy to draw close to Him without His saving forgiveness. We shall not receive this forgiveness if we first do not realise we need it, and secondly we do not ask for it. But then what joy awaits those whose know his loving, forgiving presence with them now. For many, going to confession has lost any sense of joy or of the presence of God. Yet it is truly an opportunity to know our sins, to know our need of God's mercy and then—joy of joys—to know his forgiveness in an intimate and personal way. Then we may rejoice in his presence with sins forgiven and our relationship with him restored.

His coming is as sure as the dawn...

FR PETER REFLECTS

On this Gaudate Sunday, Pope Francis's words inspire us: "Everything changes when we give first place to the Lord. This is what conversion is! As far as Christ is concerned, we need only open the door and let him enter in and work his wonders. Just as the desert and the preaching of John the Baptist were all it took for Christ to come into the world. The Lord asks for nothing more. Let us ask for the grace to believe that with God things really do change, that he will banish our fears, heal our wounds, turn our arid places into springs of water. Let us ask for the grace of hope, since hope revives our faith and rekindles our charity. It is this hope that the deserts (existential and environmental) of today's world are thirsting...Let us now ask Holy Mary our Mother to help us become, like her, witnesses of hope and sowers of joy all around us, for hope, dear brothers and sisters, never disappoints" (Apostolic Journey to Cyprus and Greece, 2021).

STUDENTS AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY WELCOME! Please make yourself known to Deacon David, the Catholic Chaplain—you can be kept informed of Chaplaincy events.

For Your Prayers...

THE SICK & SUFFERING: STM Angela Prior, John & George Dalby, Elaine Fossett, Steve Fowler, Suzanne Hammond, Maura Bibby, Martin Smith, Ian Rogers, Peter Carvell, Lynsey Moore, Joan Theaker, Veronica Hammond, June Phee, Sabrina O'Connor, Sarah Chaplin, Moira Steeley, Elene Gunn, Pauline Cullinane, Margaret Young, Helen Chadwick, Baby Theo, Catherine Brookes, David Warr, Maureen Pearson, Anne, Hilary Hanson, Maisie Reddan, Hayden Gilks, Mya, Phil Sheridan, Israel Mcleod, Rev Patrick Jeary, Anne Kenny, John Walker, Liam Mee, Helen McDonnell, Teresa Mellon, Carl Smith, Roy Haslam, Beatrice Upham, Felix Rooney, John Gould. **SJW:** George Morton, Josie Dekkers, Kevon Perry, Bridget Cherry, Peter Kennedy, Danny Harrington, Peter Nottingham, Edith Whatling, Margaret Dunne, Anna Mallar
Our Lady of Lourdes, health of the sick, Pray for us!

RECENTLY DEPARTED: STM Margaret Shaw, Andrew Chustecki, James Murphy, Edward McCann, Catherine Etheridge, Rose Green, **SJW** Jennifer Shaw, Lacy Kyle, Tony Mulvey, Heather Mountford, Eleanor Collins, Derek Gardiner
ANNIVERSARIES STM: George Newbold, Joseph Kelly, William Griffiths, Michael Nolan, Jane Mather-Lees, James Goollogly, Dennis Cox, Patricia Rodger, John Martin, John O'Malley, Lilian Compton, Josephine Edwards, James McCormick, Gwendoline Molloy, Aileen Horrell, Mary Porter, Arthur Mahon, Maureen Archer, Sydney McSorley **SJW** William Grant, Alice Temple, Jane Owen, John White, Terence Brooks, Stephen McHale, James Synott, Mary McKinney, Thomas Fanning, Josephine Mooney, Thomas Fox, Patrick McMahon, Hugh Gallagher, Margaret Bremner, Margaret Clancey, Eugene Vincent, Hannah Cullinane, Eugene Turley
Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them

PARISH CONTACTS

AT ST THOMAS MORE

Parish Administrator & Room Bookings

Amanda Kelly 024 7641 4473

admin.stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk

Safeguarding Rep

Claire Rutter 024 7641 2535

Giving & Gift Aid

Tony Curristan 024 7641 1280

Primary School Head

Mrs Sarah Collins 024 7684 9910

AT ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

Safeguarding Rep

Henry Whitney 024 7667 5668

henrywhitney111@gmail.com,

Giving & Gift Aid

June Palmer

pt.stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS & CURRENT GUIDELINES

Everything that happens in church should still be done carefully to minimise risk. Everyone who enters is asked **sanitise hands, wear a face covering** and **respect distance**.

BAPTISMS

Baptism may be celebrated, please with precautions above. Please see one of the clergy after a weekend Mass.

WEDDINGS

Weddings may be celebrated with the conditions described above. Please make an appointment with Fr Stephen: six months notice best.

CONFESSION at STM

It is available before 5pm Mass in the well ventilated confessional and also by appointment.

CONFESSION at SJW

Please ask one of the priests: the confessional at SJW is not ventilated and so cannot be used.

FUNERALS

Funerals may be celebrated, but please with the precautions above.

MASS

The Bishops, in line with guidance from the Government and scientists ask that we continue to -

Ventilate the church well

Sanitise hands

Cover mouth AND nose

Keep a distance—at least 1 metre

We have a Christian duty of care to one another and to wider society. Please make sure you **have your Covid jabs**: if we don't catch Covid we can't pass it on. Test yourself too.

Pray for the end of the Pandemic

GET THE MASS READINGS ON YOUR SMART PHONE

Simply scan this QR code on your phone with a bar code reader and go straight to the day's readings.



GIVING TO THE PARISHES

1. **There are collecting boxes by the church doors for use instead of offertory bags**
 2. **Give online via the Diocesan Website** Go to www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work Enter personal details on the first box, click next, then select 'Coventry Styvechale' for STM OR 'Coventry, Canley' for SJW from the drop down list of parishes, the third box is for your card details.
 3. **Use a standing order.** You can donate by **standing order**, there is a link to a form on the STM website, on the [Parish & Coronavirus](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work) page. Complete the top part, post to the Presbytery. At SJW please see June Palmer
 4. **Put your offering in the Presbytery letterbox**
- THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR GIVING!***