

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

1 De Montfort Way, Cannon Park, CV4 7DU 024 7641 9111 stjoseph.covty@rcaob.org.uk
 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 FACEBOOK: @StThosMore



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

19th DECEMBER 2021 FOURTH 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.	Gordon Aspell (RIP) / Mary Porter (Anniv)
SUNDAY 19th 4th of ADVENT	Mass STM Mass SJW <i>No Mass Univ Chapl</i>	9.00 a.m. 10.45 a.m.	Bridie Lawlor (RIP) John Wise RIP
Monday 20th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM	9.00 a.m.	Mary Baimbridge RIP
Tuesday 21st <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass SJW	10.00 a.m.	Gerard & Maureen Connolly & families
Wednesday 22nd <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Rose Green RIP Martha & Frank Perry & Family
Thursday 23rd <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Miss Honora O'Brien Paula & George Black & Family
Friday 24th <i>Advent Feria</i>	Mass STM Mass SJW	9.00 a.m. 10.00 a.m.	Catherine Etheridge RIP Alice Murphy RIP (2nd Anniv)
	Family Vigil Mass STM Vigil Mass SJW 'Midnight' Mass STM	5.00 p.m. 6.30 p.m. 8.00 p.m.	The People of the Parish Dolores Connolly Mgr Thomas Gavin RIP
SATURDAY 25th Christmas Day	Mass STM Mass SJW Mass Univ Chaplaincy	9.00 a.m. 10.45 a.m. 12.30 p.m.	Frank Roberts RIP Charles & Martha Connolly RIP
SUNDAY 26th The Holy Family	Mass STM Mass SJW <i>No Mass Univ Chapl</i>	9.00 a.m. 10.45 a.m.	Rena Blackwell RIP Phylis, Gerard Deegan RIP & Fam

PARISH PRIEST STM & SJW Rev Fr Stephen Day 024 7641 1900 stm.covty@rcaob.org.uk
ASSISTANT PRIEST SJW Rev Fr Peter Conley (Assistant 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: THE VIRGIN IS WITH CHILD...

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

Bookings are NOT being taken.

FACE COVERINGS ARE NOW COMPULSORY IN CHURCHES.

COVID SAFETY & THEOMICRON VARIANT

The news about the infectiousness of the omicron variant is not good. Please consider your own actions and decisions about **what keeps you AND others safe.**

- **Face coverings are now compulsory by law.** You must not enter church without one
- **Sanitise hands** on entry and exit
- **Keep a 1m distance** if you can
- **Ventilation** is important and will be kept up
- **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 at 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 therefore to neglect our neighbour. We are all in this together.

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO OUR ROUTINES..?

We have not yet been asked to change anything (except to remember that face coverings are now compulsory) but please be aware that we *might* suddenly have to restrict our activities in churches, such as singing, tea and coffee, or other use of the halls. It might well be the case that nothing else is forbidden by law, but just because we *can* do something does not always mean that we *should*. Please take part in anything in church only if you feel happy to do so. The Sunday obligation is still suspended.

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. Because of the pandemic the priests and ministers need to know that you are happy to be visited.*

THIS WEEKEND

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT We hear how Mary, the expectant mother of the Lord, shares her joy with her cousin and the two women rejoice in the coming of the Saviour, along

with the unborn John the Baptist. Today is a day of prayer for expectant mothers.

READERS THIS WEEK AT STM...

Sat John Burns **Sun** Clive Robinson
Next Week (No Sat 5pm Mass) **Sun** Kris Pears
CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT STM

Today is the last session of children's liturgy before Christmas. Thank you to everyone involved for making this happen again. All being well, it will return after Christmas for the new school term. Pandemic permitting of course.

NEXT WEEKEND

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
Singing will **depend on COVID guidance** applying at the time.

Collection: Christmas Offering

NEXT SUNDAY: FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

We celebrate Jesus, born into the family of Mary and Joseph. We pray for our own families and those without a family's love.

NO TEA AND COFFEE NEXT WEEK

There will be **no tea and coffee after Masses next weekend.** We hope to resume this on the weekend of 8-9 January, but we must keep this under review given the Covid news.

STM SVP – THANK YOU!

The SVP team wants to say a very big **thank you to parishioners**, and Caroline says 'We were able to provide 10 hampers filled to the brim with goods to some families at STM school where there were tears of joy and very much appreciated by all. We were also able to provide a Tesco £15 voucher to a further 10 families all down to the generosity of STM parishioners as always'. *Thank you!*

TEA & COFFEE AFTER SUNDAY MASSES

This remains available in both parishes after the weekend Masses. We shall let you know if changing rules mean we have to stop, or, of course, if demand shrinks in the weeks ahead.

PIETY STALLS

There is a *limited* selection of stock available at SJW in the hall after Mass. The stall at STM remains shut.

NEWS THIS WEEK

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

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

CHURCH ROOM HIRING

The halls are now open to use by parish groups (but still are **NOT** for hire by outside

FINANCE: STM Collection: Not known at time of printing **SJW Collection** £210

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

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.
- Any group must complete and submit a risk **assessment** before using the room.
- The room must be cleaned before & after use, **including toilets**
- **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.

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](#).

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 Keira Brooks

STUDENTS AT WARWICK UNIVERSITY

WELCOME! There is **no Sunday Mass** at the **Chaplaincy** until **9 January**. Please make yourself known to Deacon David, the Catholic Chaplain—you can be kept informed of Chaplaincy events.

NEXT WEEK'S SHEET

Next week the sheet will cover two weeks

A MERRY & A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

Thank you for your best wishes, cards and Christmas offering for the priests

Fr Stephen, Fr Peter

Deacon Leo, Deacon David



THE READINGS THIS WEEK

The time draws near. The prophet Micah reveals that Bethlehem - which means 'place of bread' - is where the saviour will be born. And Mary, Luke tells us, is His mother. Our Lady has been greeted by the Archangel and told of God's will for her. She joyfully accepts, for even though she is greatly disturbed her faith helps her to and is told further that her cousin Elizabeth is also pregnant. Mary sets off to visit, and immediately Elizabeth and John, her unborn son, bear witness to the coming of Christ among them. The pregnancies of both women have been announced by angelic signs and wonders, and already their children begin to fulfil God's plan—Jesus, the Saviour and John the herald. God the Father calls us to be like Mary, loving, obedient to his will and bearing witness to the wonders he does in Jesus His Son. May the coming of Christ fill all of us with the joy and love of Mary and Elizabeth, and like Our Lady may we too present Jesus to the world by the holiness of our words and actions, 'leaping for joy' like John, unborn though he is.

FR PETER REFLECTS

Pope Francis called every Christmas Tree and Crib the "icons of Christmas". The tree, he says, "reaches upwards and spurs us to reach for "the higher gifts" (cf. 1 Cor 12:13)". The nativity scene, which often accompanies it, in its simplicity, he adds, helps us to "encounter and contemplate God's tenderness, manifested in that of the Baby Jesus." Our life stays 'evergreen' if we stay close to Christ, as St Paul tells us, because: "all creation was through Him and for Him" (Col 1:16). I think the shining colours of the bauble decorations can express the manger's message too. Blue is the symbol of Mary, who longed for Our Saviour's birth. Her 'let it be' is a constant invitation to offer ourselves in God's service. Gold is the fruit of Christ's love to be shared with others. Red is his passion and death. While White is the sign of the risen Lord, made visible in the gift of the mass and through our own lives as 'living' Gospels. May we take time, during the festive period, whenever we see a Christmas Tree, or look upon a Crib at home, in the Church, around the City Centre or elsewhere, to pause and rediscover the many blessings, big or small, we have received in 2021. Especially those we have overlooked. With hopeful anticipation of more being given (often unexpectedly) when we need them most. For Jesus, "the Word made flesh", has 'pitched his tent' amongst us and travels with us, as our constant companion, on the Emmaus roads of each day.

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** Tom Knowles, Philomena Irwin, Jennifer Shaw, Lacy Kyle, Tony Mulvey, Heather Mountford, Eleanor Collins, Derek Gardiner

ANNIVERSARIES STM: Frederick McGivern, Gordon Aspell, Bridget Lawlor, Bridie Lawlor, Karol Kokosz, Karen Walton, Mary Byrne, James Jenkins, Bernard Smits, Dorothy Apedaile, Grace McIvor, Margaret Williamson, Theresa Costello, Patricia Fowler, Joe King, Barbara Boffin, Richard Green, Patrick McClean, Michael Malone, Mary Hynes, Monsignor Canon Thomas Gavin, Pauline Ledwidge **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

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.



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

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!**