



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHELDON

130 Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, B26 3HU

Telephone 0121 743 2367

www.stthomasmorerccchurch.com

Parish Administrator - Maxine Winspear
stthomasmore.bham@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Priest
Fr Christopher Miller

Safeguarding - Sue Nightingale
sg.stthomasmore.bham@rcaob.org.uk

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: registered charity no. 234216

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 24th December 2023

Holy Mass

Intention

Saturday for Sunday

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Alice Simon &
Santhamma Abraham

SUNDAY

Christmas Eve

---- NO Mass at 9:00am

11:00am Solemn Mass Private Intention

THE SOLEMNITY OF

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

3:30pm Vigil Mass

Mae McLoughlin RIP

8:00pm Solemn Mass of Christmas Night

George Cassidy RIP

Monday 25th

Christmas Day

9:00am Dawn Mass

Brendan McCartney RIP

11:00am Solemn Mass

Thomas & Catherine Larkin
RIP

Weekday Masses

Tuesday 26th Saint Stephen, Martyr

11:00am Holy Mass

Private Intention

Wednesday 27th Saint John the Evangelist, Apostle

11:00am Holy Mass

Noreen Donohoe RIP

Thursday 28th Holy Innocents, Martyrs

10:00am Eucharistic Adoration

11:00am Holy Mass

Celebrants Intention

Friday 29th Saint Thomas Becket, Martyr

10:00am Eucharistic Adoration

11:00am Holy Mass

Fr Anthony Dykes

Saturday 30th

---- NO Morning Mass

THE HOLY FAMILY

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Margaret & Cathal McGrory

SUNDAY 31st

9:00am Holy Mass

Conway Family

11:00am Solemn Mass

Steve Simon

3:30pm Solemn Vespers & Solemn Benediction

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday NO Morning Confessions 4:45pm – 5:15pm

Rosary Monday – Friday before the morning Mass

Divine Mercy - During Adoration on Fridays



A VERY HAPPY & BLESSED CHRISTMAS

TO YOU ALL - IN OUR LORD

Fr Christopher

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - Jesus, the decisive reality

He is the decisive reality of our existence. In the Lord Jesus who drew near to us, we learn how to become *brothers and sisters all* to share an interior solidarity and proximity that is the most precious thing, allowing us to praise God together with the angels, and say: *“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests”*.

POPE FRANCIS

“Christmas is the feast of love incarnate and born for us in Jesus Christ. He is the light of mankind shining in the darkness, giving meaning to human existence and to the whole of history. Christmas invites us to reflect, on the one hand, on the drama of history, in which men and women, wounded by sin, ceaselessly search for truth, search for mercy and search for redemption; and, on the other hand, on the goodness of God, who has come towards us to communicate to us the truth that saves and to make us sharers in His friendship and His life.”

O COME LET US ADORE HIM

“In the Eucharist, the Son of God comes to meet us and desires to become one with us; eucharistic adoration is simply the natural consequence of the eucharistic celebration, which is itself the Church’s supreme act of adoration. Receiving the Eucharist means adoring him whom we receive. Only in this way do we become one with him, and are given, as it were, a foretaste of the beauty of the heavenly liturgy. *The act of adoration outside Mass prolongs and intensifies all that takes place during the liturgical celebration itself*”

Eucharistic Adoration this week on Thursday and Friday at 10:00am before Holy Mass.



POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

For persons with disabilities

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

Recently Deceased – May they rest in peace

Kevin Alwright, Ann Naughton, Winifred Tyler
Seamus McGrory, Albert Houghton

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS This week are sponsored in memory of Matty & May Burgoyne

Please use envelopes provided for Mass Intentions and Sanctuary Lamp sponsorship.

WEEKLY GIVING TO THE CHURCH

17.12.23 - Gift Aid: £151.90. Non-Gift Aid: £436.97
Total: £588.87.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM DIRECTORY 2024

These are available from the Piety Shop - £4

PIETY SHOP

There is a large collection of Christmas Cards, Calendars, Diaries and Gifts available. Please come and have a browse. We are open before and after all weekend Masses, 5:30pm Saturday, 9:00am & 11:00am Sunday. The Piety Shop helps to support the work of our parish so everything you purchase helps.

SAFEGUARDING

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Sue Nightingale. They can be contacted at:

sg.stthomasmore.bham@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Office Hours: The Parish Office is open between 10:30am and 2:30pm Mon, Tue & Wed. Any requests for Baptism Appointments, certificates, parish centre enquiries etc; should be made during these times. Tel. 0121 743 2367 or Email: stthomasmore.bham@rcaob.org.uk

PARISH DIARY

DECEMBER

CHRISTMAS

SUNDAY 24th *Christmas Eve*

3:30pm

Vigil Mass

8:00pm

Solemn Mass of Christmas Night

MONDAY 25th *Christmas Day*

9:00am

Dawn Mass

11:00am

Solemn Mass

JANUARY 2024

Sunday 31st

3:30pm Solemn Vespers & Benediction

Monday 1st

The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God

10:00am Eucharistic Adoration

11:00am Holy Mass

FEBRUARY

FRIDAY 2nd

The Presentation of the Lord in the Temple

Candlemas

9:30am Holy Mass

10:00am – 11:00am Eucharistic Adoration

CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR PRIESTS

Christmas Offering Envelopes are available at the back of church. Do please use them – especially if you are away at Christmas and wish to make a donation towards the support of your priests.

THE LADY CHAPEL WINDOW

After the vandalism and break in the restoration and repair will cost over £1700. We are looking at ways of having greater protection of the church with new CCTV and having the building alarmed.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Thank you to everyone who bought tickets for the Hamper Raffle, we raised a fantastic £413.70. Added to the proceeds from the Christmas Bazaar makes a grand total of £2,655.90.

THANK YOU

To the cleaning team who helped prepare the church for Christmas, to Teresa and Family for putting up the crib and to Agnes for decorating the Christmas Trees the beautiful flower arrangements.



ST. THOMAS MORE’S PARISH TOTE - JACKPOT £250

Result for 18th December 2023 - **Winning Numbers 24-09-12-03**

No Draw next week, 2 draws will take place on

Wednesday 3rd January after 9:30am Mass.

1 play = £1.00 for 4 numbers - 5 plays = £5 + 1 FREE GO

Match 4 = Share Jackpot £250+. Match 3 = share £75+

JACKPOT £250