



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHELDON

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

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Sunday 5th March 2023

Holy Mass	Intention
<i>Saturday Evening for Sunday</i>	
5:30pm Vigil Mass	Kitty Gaffney 95 th Birthday Ints

SUNDAY

9:00am Holy Mass	Ian Salt RIP Anniv
11:00am Solemn Mass	Canon Garry Byrne RIP

Weekday Masses

Monday 6th
9:30am Holy Mass Margaret Kinsella

Tuesday 7th
4:00pm First Holy Communion & Confirmation Class
For those not in Catholic Schools – in Church

5:30pm Novena & Rosary

6:00pm Holy Mass Geraldine McGrory

Wednesday 8th
9:30am Holy Mass Mary Gately

10:30am Saint Thomas More School
Sacrament of Reconciliation

Thursday 9th
10:00am Holy Mass at Saint Andrew's School

10:30am Saint Andrew's School
Sacrament of Reconciliation

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Holy Mass Michael Kerrigan RIP

Friday 10th
9:30am Holy Mass Ray Golden

10:00am – 11:00am
Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Holy Mass Edel McLoughlin

6:30pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday 11th
10:00am Holy Mass Pro Populo

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

5:30pm Vigil Mass Richard Lambe & Deceased Lambe Family.

SUNDAY 12th

9:00am Holy Mass	Tony & Kevin Gately RIP
11:00am Solemn Mass	Joe O'Shea RIP Anniv

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10:30am – 11:00am & 4:45pm – 5:15pm

Rosary Monday – Friday before the morning Mass
Saturday after the morning Mass

Divine Mercy - During Adoration on Fridays



The month of March is dedicated to Saint Joseph. We don't know much about him except what is mentioned in the Gospels. Joseph was the husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. Holy Scripture proclaims him as a "just man," and the Church has turned to Joseph for his patronage and protection. Pope Leo XIII in his encyclical *Quamquam Pluries* in 1889 explains why we place so much trust in this saint:

"Thus in giving Joseph the Blessed Virgin as spouse, God appointed him to be not only her life's companion, the witness of her maidenhood, the protector of her honour, but also, by virtue of the conjugal tie, a participator in her sublime dignity. And Joseph shines among all mankind by the most august dignity, since by divine will, he was the guardian of the Son of God."

POPE FRANCIS

Dear brothers and sisters, may the Holy Spirit inspire and sustain us this Lent in our ascent with Jesus, so that we may experience his divine splendour and thus, confirmed in faith, persevere in our journey together with him, glory of his people and light of the nations.

WAYS TO PRAY DURING LENT

RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Consider going to reconciliation as a family or with youth group or youth ministry. And then do something afterwards to celebrate this beautiful gift of grace from our Lord. Go out for pizza together or something similar.

ATTEND STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross are a lovely Lenten tradition. In the devotion, we make the journey to Calvary with our Lord Jesus Christ, focusing on how he suffered for us and his interactions with those he met on the way

PRAY BY PUTTING YOURSELF IN A GOSPEL SCENE

St. Ignatius of Loyola believed that God gave us our imaginations and could use this gift to speak to us. One method of praying in the tradition called Ignatian Contemplation, by putting yourself in a gospel scene and to see...

GO TO A WEEKDAY MASS

During this holy season we are called to grow closer to our Lord by increasing and focusing our prayer life. What better way to do this than by attending a weekday Mass or a Saturday morning Mass?

PRAY FOR OUR HOLY FATHER

Lent is a time of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. One person who often requests our prayers is our Holy Father, Pope Francis. In fact, his very first Instagram post was simply captioned "Pray for me".

THE ANTHEM TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY



Welcome, O Queen of Heaven.
 Welcome, O Lady of Angels
 Hail! thou root, hail! thou gate
 From whom unto the world, a light has arisen:

Rejoice, O glorious Virgin,
 Lovely beyond all others,
 Farewell, most beautiful maiden,
 And pray for us to Christ.

POPE’S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR MARCH

For victims of abuse

We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

CARDINAL VINCENT NICHOLS

“With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential”

Recently Deceased – May they rest in peace

Canon Garry Byrne, Brendan McCartney,
 Christopher Hughes, Michael Mullen,
 Michael Kerrigan
 John Joseph McDonagh –
 Requiem Mass 20th March 12noon

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS This week are sponsored for the Intentions and Deceased Members of the Raponi Family.

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

WEEKLY GIVING TO THE CHURCH

26.02.23 – Gift Aid £106.92. Non-Gift Aid: £391.40
 Total £498.32

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Pro-Life - £274.36

This Weekend – Retiring for Priests Training Fund.

Next Weekend – Cathedral Maintenance

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

MARCH

Wednesday 8th Saint Thomas More School – First Confessions 10:30am
 Monday 20th The Solemnity of Saint Joseph – Mass 9:30am
 Saturday 25th The Solemnity of the Annunciation – Mass 10:00am

APRIL

THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Maudny Thursday 6th

Solemn Mass of the Lord’s Supper 7:00pm

Good Friday 7th

The Passion of the Lord 3:00pm

Holy Saturday 8th

Solemn Paschal Vigil Mass of the Resurrection 8:00pm

Sunday 9th

Easter Day

Sunday 16th

Divine Mercy & Solemn Benediction 3:00pm

LENT “WALK WITH ME” BOOKS

These are available in the porch, please take them to prayerfully use during Lent. They are free!

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

If you have a child in year 3 or above **not at our Catholic Schools** who wishes to make their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion there is a Instruction Class in Church on **Tuesday 7th March at 4:00pm**. Please also if you wish to have your child who is year 6 or above Confirmed please attend this meeting. Thank you.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

This is an important part of getting ready for the actual celebration of Holy Baptism. The next meeting is **Tuesday 14th March**, at 6:30pm, after the evening Mass.

AFTERNOON TEA

Afternoon Tea, organised by the Like Minded Ladies.
 Sunday 23rd April at 3:00pm in Saint Thomas More Church Hall.
 All proceeds to the Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal.
 There will be a list at the back of Church for anyone who wants to donate gifts / prizes for the raffle.
 Tickets will be on sale after all Masses from the 11th March onwards. It will be ‘First come, first served’.