

Parish Priest: **Fr John Peyton**

ST THOMAS MORE, SHELDON

In Residence: **Fr Kamil Stawiski**

Safeguarding Officer: **Sue Nightingale**

Archdiocese of Birmingham: registered charity no. 234216

Parish Secretary: **Maxine Winspear**

Email: thomas.more@btinternet.com

130 Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, B26 3HU - Tel: 0121 743 2367

Website: www.stthomasmorerchurch.com

St. Thomas More Primary Sch.

Horse Shoes Lane, B26 3HU

Tel: 0121 743 3289.

Headteacher: Mrs Kate Madia

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

– 5TH. April 2020 - A



St. Andrew's Primary & Nursery Sch

Windrush Close, B92 8QL

Tel: 0121 743 5675.

Head Teacher: Mr Kevin Kelly

Public Celebrations of Holy Mass ceased on Saturday 21st March 2020. Masses will be celebrated in our church only in private until further notice. Fr John and Fr Kamil will continue to offer Mass for the intentions of those listed on the newsheet.

Mass Intentions from Saturday 04.04.20 PM to Saturday 11.04.20 AM

Sat	04.04.20	Hal Heusner ints Baby Connor Rhodes anniv
Sun	05.04.20	Frederick John Dawson RIP anniv Catherine Reddy RIP anniv
Mon	06.04.20	Bridget O'Connor RIP Tommy McManus RIP anniv
Tue	07.04.20	Annie Mortimer RIP anniv Tony McLoughlin ints
Wed	08.04.20	Ivy Woodford RIP anniv Mary Clyne sick The Easter Triduum
Thu	09.04.20	Holy Thursday , Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper Kitty and Dan Brophy, RIP anniv
Fri	10.04.20	Good Friday , Day of Fasting and Abstinence
Sat	11.04.20	Holy Saturday

Sacrament of Reconciliation in the time of

panemic It is not possible to celebrate the Sacrament of Confession or Reconciliation in the usual way at this time. The Sacrament cannot be celebrated over the phone or any form of social media. Our Holy Father is encouraging us to make **Spiritual Confessions**- confess our sins to God, with the intention of going to the Sacrament at the first opportunity once things are back to normal. If anyone would like to phone Fr John to discuss any spiritual or pastoral issues they may have, they are welcome to do so, but this would **NOT** be the Sacrament of Confession.

Year of the Word – The God Who Speaks.

First Sunday of Advent 2019 to the First Sunday of Advent 2020.

Palm Sunday

www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk

Reflection for Married Couples

Challenged when we witness how others love
St Paul recognises the amazing humility of Jesus who accepts death on the cross out of love for God and us. We wonder and are challenged by the joy of a friend who cares for his wife who has dementia; in his great love he feeds her, puts her to bed each evening, prays with her. Could we love like this?

A Spiritual Holy Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Mass Intentions for Next Weekend

Sat	11.04.20	Easter Vigil , People of the Parish Easter Sunday
Sun	12.04.20	Andrew and David O'Gorman RIP Anniv Anne McGowan, RIP anniv

Recently Deceased: May they rest in peace

Edward Smyth, Funeral Service, Mon 6th. April, Yardley Crem, 12:15pm

Walter Hames, Funeral Service, Wed 8th. April, Yardley Crem, 10:45 am

James McGuire, Burial Service, Wed 8th. April, 12.30pm, Oscott Cemetery

Patrick Lynch, Burial Service, Tues 14th. April, 1:45pm, Widney Manor

Kevin Gateley, Funeral Service, Mon 20th. April, 9:30am at Robin Hood

Chapel followed by burial at Widney Manor Cemetery

Funerals in the time of the Coronavirus outbreak It is not possible to have a funeral Mass in church at this time. Funeral services can be conducted, with a very limited number of mourners present, at a graveside or in a crematorium chapel. A memorial Mass can be celebrated in church for the repose of the soul of the deceased person once we are able to congregate again. Please pray for those who have died and those who are being bereaved in these very difficult times.

Coronavirus Update

Following an instruction from Archbishop Bernard, the church building has to be kept closed until further notice.

It is appreciated that it might be very difficult for parishioners to continue to make donations to the parish in these uncertain economic times. For those who are still able to donate, there are standing order and Gift Aid forms available on the Archdiocesan Website.

For any further information and support regarding Parish procedures, please contact the Presbytery on 0121 743 2367.

Please visit www.stthomasmorerchurch.com for more information.

Please note:

+ The newsheet will continue to be published on the website on a weekly basis.

+ The Tote will be frozen until further notice, any advance payments will be resumed when we are back to norm

+The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales and Archbishop Bernard Longley are updating us regularly. Their statements can be accessed on the internet.

Some parishes are live-streaming Masses. More information is available at www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Prayer Sponsors for 1st Holy Communicants Please consider becoming a prayer sponsor for one of our First Holy Communicants. It is simply a matter of keeping one of the children in your daily prayers. E-mail me at thomas.more@btinternet.com. It will be some time before I will be able to inform sponsors of the name of the child for whom they are being asked to pray. In the meantime, could you please keep all our First Holy Communicants in your prayers.

Livestreaming of Services from St Thomas More's

With the help of Fr Kamil and Facebook, I am continuing to be able to livestream liturgies celebrated behind closed doors in our parish. Simply key in **St Thomas More R.C Church Sheldon** into a Facebook account. Other services and resources are available on the Archdiocese's Website- including a Holy Week retreat which could be posted to those who can't get online.

Please note: I have opened a Facebook account solely to help the live-streaming of services from our church. Please don't be offended if I don't respond to any request to become a Facebook friend.

Holy Week 2020 at St Thomas More's, Sheldon

Holy Week- the highpoint of the Church's Year- will be very different for all of us this year. With the help of God's grace, we will still be able to enter into the spirit of Our Lord's Sacred Passion, Death and Resurrection.

The following liturgies and services will be conducted behind locked doors but will all be live-streamed using our parish Facebook page: St Thomas More R.C Church Sheldon

Palm Sunday: April 5th, Mass at 10:30 am.

I am afraid it will not be possible to collect blessed palms on Palm Sunday from our church this year. Blessed palms will be available later in the year, when we are able to gather again.

Monday of Holy Week: April 6th, Rosary, 6:30pm followed by Mass

Tuesday of Holy Week: April 7th, Penitential Reflection, 6.30pm followed by Mass

Wednesday of Holy Week: April 8th, Stations of the Cross, 6.30pm, followed by Mass

The Easter Triduum

Holy Thursday, April 9th Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, 8.15pm. A rite of Commissioning for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be posted on our parish website. The rite will be prayed during this Mass. Our extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are thereby encouraged to renew their dedication to this ministry. Fr John and Fr Kamil will pray before the tabernacle until 10.30pm after this Mass- to keep Our Lord company on the night of his agony in the garden. We will renew our priestly promises, as the Chrism Mass has been postponed until later in the year.

Good Friday, April 10th, Solemn Liturgy of the Lord's Passion, 3pm

A Stations of the Cross for children, 6.30pm, followed by reflections on the **Seven Last Words of Our Lord from the Cross. Good Friday** is a day of fasting and abstinence from Meat. Fasting is binding on all who are between their 18th and 59th birthdays. One main meal plus 2 lighter meals can be taken during the course of the fast day. Abstinence from meat is binding on all Catholics from age 14 upwards.

Holy Saturday, April 11th, Easter Vigil, 8pm. The adults who were preparing for Baptism and Sacraments of Initiation through our RCIA group will be prayed for at this Mass. These Sacraments will be celebrated later this year.

It will not be possible to have the customary blessing of Easter baskets- according to Eastern European Custom- this year.

Easter Sunday, April 12th, Mass 10.30 am

Many, many thanks to all who have contacted the presbytery during the last couple of weeks, offering help and kindness. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to contact us. At least Fr Dougal is enjoying his extra walk every day! Please be assured we are keeping you all in our prayers at this time. May we stay safe and keep praying.

SICK: Hugh Murphy, Chris O'Shea, Mary Marie, Magda Skrybant, Pam Firkins, Cornelius McKay, Rosie Smith, Peter & Joseph Fahy, Joan Morris, Sally Woodcock, Ann Taylor, Montana Coughlan, Stephanie Allsop, Maria Walton, Cameron Cuddihy, Richard Coe, Etti Devine, Daniel Meadows, Darlene Tidswell, Freya Williams, James Dalton, Paul Ryan, Mary Griffiths, John O'Sullivan, Elaine & Lilian Collins, Gillian Cox, Rita Duffy, Josephine Conboy, Margaret Kelly, Joanna Jones, Michael Wallis, Val Plesser, Jean Cole, Charlotte Moriarty, Ami Mucklow, Danny Moore, Jeanette Kilmartin, Demie & Danielle Pinches, Santhamma Abraham, Mary Cusack, Kathleen Widdop, Kathleen Biddles, Aurora-Rose Hennessey, Anne O'Donnell, Justin Bull, Pdraig Mannion, Ann Heath, David Comerford, Keith Allen, Andrea Cadman, Marie Ryan, Caelan McGurk, Teresa & Des Duffy, William O'Donnell, Carol Peglar, Majella Wynne, Adam Hyde, Jacob, Kerry, Carmel & Sharna Smith, Kath Beales, Christine Lambe, Colette Hickey, Max Taylor.

ANNIVERSARIES Bishop Emery, Rev Glynn, Canon Swift, Rev Preston, Rev Clarke, Rev Collins, Canon Jones, Rev Barr, Rev McManus, Thomas Reilly, Francis Houghton, Richard O'Carroll, Albert Hughes, Allan Warren, Kenneth Dempsey, Margaret Lyons, Joseph Sutton, Annie Mortimer, James McKeown, Teresa Gollicker, Margaret O'Keefe, John Ring, Bridget Farnan, Rosa McGill, Frances Hillas, Vincent Casey, Noreen Higon, Rose Meehan, Thomas McManus, Connie Hill, Nora Critchley, James Boyce, William Davis.