



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHELDON

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Parish Administrator - Maxine Winspear
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Parish Priest
Fr Christopher Miller

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

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday 11th December 2022

Holy Mass	Intention
<i>Saturday for Sunday</i>	
5:30pm Vigil Mass	Pro Populo
SUNDAY	
9:00am Holy Mass	Ray Hughes RIP Anniv
11:00am Solemn Mass	Ann & Des O'Rourke RIP
12noon Holy Baptism	

Weekday Masses

Monday 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

---- NO Mass

Tuesday 13th Saint Lucy

5:30pm Rosary & Novena

6:00pm Holy Mass Ann, Bill & Frank Rafferty

6:30pm Advent Penitential Service

Wednesday 14th Saint John of the Cross

9:30am Holy Mass Donna Griffin & Family`
Saint Thomas More School End of Term Mass

11:00am Requiem Mass Rose Farrugia

1:45pm Saint Thomas More School

Advent Carol Service (in Church)

Thursday 15th

8:50am Holy Mass at Saint Peter's (School only)

10:00am Holy Mass at Saint Andrew's School –
All welcome

---- NO Mass in Church

Friday 16th

11:00am Requiem Mass Gloria Freitas

Saturday 17th O Sapientia

7:00am Rorate Caeli Mass Private Intention

---- NO Mass at 10:00am

Next Sunday 18th THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday for Sunday

5:30pm Vigil Mass Mary McLoughlin RIP

SUNDAY

9:00am Holy Mass Catherine Ready RIP Anniv

11:00am Solemn Mass Jimmy Gaffney

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

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

Divine Mercy - During Adoration on Fridays



RORATE CAELI MASS – THIS SATURDAY AT 7:00AM

“Rorate, caeli, desuper, et nubes pluant justum, aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem.”

“Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the just: let the earth be opened and bud forth a Saviour.”

The Rorate Mass is lit only by candlelight. Because it is a votive Mass in Mary's honour, white vestments are worn instead of Advent violet. In the dimly lit setting, priests and faithful prepare to honour the Light of the world, Who is soon to be born, and offer praise to God for the gift of Our Lady. As the Mass proceeds and sunrise approaches, the church becomes progressively brighter, illuminated by the sun as our Faith is illumined by Christ.

The readings and prayers of the Mass foretell the prophecy of the Virgin who would bear a Son called Emmanuel, and call on all to raise the gates of their hearts and their societies to let Christ the King enter; asking for the grace to receive eternal life by the merits of the Incarnation and saving Resurrection of Our Lord.

THE 'O' ANTIPHONS

If asked to name an Advent hymn, most people would reply, "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." In fact, that may be the only Advent hymn they know by name, and small wonder: It is the most popular of all Advent hymns, and most parishes start singing it on the First Sunday in Advent. But do you know where the hymn comes from?

Its origins go back almost 1,500 years, to medieval Europe, where an unknown author wrote seven antiphons—short lines to be sung before and after the Magnificat. Those seven antiphons all begin with the "O," and thus became known as "The O Antiphons." They begin this Saturday with the first of them, O Sapientia. O Wisdom, Who didst come out of the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end and ordering all things mightily and sweetly: come and teach us the way of prudence. You will hear them at the Gospel Alleluia at Holy Mass.



ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Tuesday 13th 6:30pm

Advent is an opportunity to reawaken within ourselves the true meaning of Christmas, returning to the heart of our faith which is the mystery of Christ, the Messiah. By Going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation we truly prepare ourselves for this great Solemnity.

ADVENT "WALK WITH ME"

The booklets are available at the back of church. Please talk one.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organisations

We pray that volunteer non-profit organizations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.

Recently Deceased – May they rest in peace

Raymond Fullard, John Salt, Rita Mottram

Rosanna Lynch, Helena Harnett,

Rosa Farrugia –

Requiem Mass Wednesday 14th Dec. 11:00am

Gloria Freitas –

Requiem Mass Friday 16th Dec. 11:00am

Paul Fitzgerald –

Requiem Mass Friday 30th Dec. 11:00am

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS This week are sponsored in memory of Sonia Beronio.

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

WEEKLY GIVING TO THE CHURCH

04.12.22 – Gift Aid £159.00. Non-Gift Aid: £391.80
Total £491.64

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Poor Parishes Fund - £222.44

This Weekend – Church Christmas Decoration

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

Wednesday 14th Saint Thomas More School Advent Carol Service (in Church)

Saturday 17th Rorate Caeli Mass 7:00am.

CHRISTMAS

Saturday 24th **Christmas Eve**

5:30pm Vigil Mass

8:00pm Solemn Mass of Christmas Night

SUNDAY 25th

Christmas Day

9:00am Dawn Mass

11:00am Solemn Mass

JANUARY 2023

Saturday 31st **The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God**

5:30pm Vigil Mass - After Mass until 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration for the New Year

Sunday 1st

Masses 9:00am & 11:00am

STEWARDS FOR THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

We need help with all the Christmas Masses to make sure all runs very smoothly. Please can you sign the list in the Sacristy or in the Porch so we know everything is in place. This Ministry of welcome is so important. Also it will be especially important to make sure Holy Communion is organised and therefore the Blessed Sacrament is guarded and protected at all times. Thank you in anticipation.

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.

POINSETTIA

If anyone wishes to donate Poinsettia to decorate the Sanctuary please bring in on the weekend of 17th/18th December – 4th Sunday of Advent.

CHURCH CLEANING – FOR CHRISTMAS

Monday 19th after Mass (10:00am). Thank you for all your help.

ST. THOMAS MORE'S PARISH TOTE
JACKPOT £600
 Result for 7th December 2022
Winning Numbers 0207-04-20
No Jackpot Winner – 1 Winner with 3 Numbers
Next Draw Wednesday 14th December after Mass
 1 play = £1.00 for 4 numbers - 5 plays = 1 FREE GO
 Match 4 numbers = Share Jackpot £250+
 Match 3 numbers = share £75+