



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 SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Sunday 25th December 2022

Holy Mass	Intention
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	
5:30pm Vigil Mass	Noreen Donohoe RIP
8:00pm Solemn Mass of Christmas Night	George Cassidy RIP

SUNDAY 25th
Christmas Day
9:00am Dawn Mass Pro Populo
11:00am Solemn Mass Private Intention

Weekday Masses

Monday 26th Saint Stephen

---- NO Mass

Tuesday 27th Saint John the Evangelist

---- NO Mass

Wednesday 28th The Holy Innocents

---- NO Mass

Thursday 29th Saint Thomas Becket

---- NO Mass

Friday 30th The Feast of the Holy Family

11:00am Requiem Mass Paul Fitzgerald

Saturday 31st The Seventh Day of Christmas

---- NO Morning Mass

DAILY MASS – MONDAY – SATURDAY

OLTON FRIARY

10:15am Mass Daily in Church

SACRED HEART & HOLY SOULS ACOCKS GREEN

10:00am Mass Daily

JANUARY 2023

**Next Sunday 1st THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY
THE MOTHER OF GOD**

5:30pm Vigil Mass Margaret & Cathal McGrory
RIP

After Mass until 7:00pm

Eucharistic Adoration for the New Year

SUNDAY

9:00am Holy Mass Liam & Bridie Evans RIP
11:00am Solemn Mass Brendan McCartney

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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



**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”*.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION FOR THE NEW YEAR – AFTER THE VIGIL MASS UNTIL 7:00PM

To celebrate the New Year there will be Eucharistic Adoration on New Year’s Eve with the Te Deum. On New Year’s Day we will have the Veni Creator Spiritus at Holy Mass at 11:00am.

A Plenary Indulgence can be obtained by attending both Liturgies and praying and the Veni Creator Spiritus. A prayerful and holy way to begin the New Year.



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.”

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Please take very great care as this is so sacred. As you approach the Priest remove your face covering so that you can receive the Host with great care and reverence. **Do not move while holding the Blessed Sacrament.** If you wish to receive on the tongue, please come to the communion rails last.

If you need the Most Blessed Sacrament brought to you at Holy Communion please sit at the front of the Church and in any case at the end of a bench so that the greatest amount of honour and respect can be shown to Jesus. It is not appropriate that the Priest or minister has to reach across other people.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER

Volunteer Not-for-Profit Organizations

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,
Gloria Freitas, Shayne Collins-Phillips.
Paul Fitzgerald –

Requiem Mass Friday 30th Dec. 11:00am

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS This week are sponsored for Fr Christopher and the Parish of St Thomas More.

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

WEEKLY GIVING TO THE CHURCH

18.12.22 – Gift Aid £171.75. Non-Gift Aid: £498.53
Total £670.28

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

This raised £367. Many thanks.

ARCHDIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM DIRECTORY 2023

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.

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 JANUARY 2023

The Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
Saturday 31st Vigil Mass 5:30pm - After Mass until 7:00pm
Eucharistic Adoration for the New Year
Sunday 1st Masses 9:00am & 11:00am

The Solemnity of the Epiphany
Holyday of Obligation
Thursday 5th Vigil Mass 6:00pm
Friday 6th Masses 9:30am & 7:00pm

THE ARCHBISHOP'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Traditionally Christmas is a time for the exchange of gifts – although this year some gifts may take longer to arrive because of the postal strike – and one very welcome gift for everybody affected would be a just resolution to the various disputes over pay and working conditions.

Recent strikes remind us of all the uncertainty that so many of us feel about the future because of inflation and rising fuel and food bills. It's been much more of a struggle for families to make ends meet and find gifts for each other this Christmas. Peace of mind in place of anxiety would be a welcome gift in many homes.

Choosing the right gift for a friend or loved one is less important than the friendship or love that it represents. At Christmas we celebrate the greatest gift possible – the birth of a child – and this gift comes from the God whose name is love. The birth of Jesus Christ is the greatest sign of God's love for every living being.

The season of good will is also a time when we feel our losses most keenly – especially the loss of loved ones who would have shared this festival with us. The death of Queen Elizabeth reminded us that our feelings of loss are another expression of our love.

This Christmas we remember and pray especially for the families of the four children who lost their lives so recently in Birmingham. May the child born at Bethlehem give them comfort and strength to face the coming year.

The deepest longings of our hearts find their fulfilment in the gift of Christ's birth. Christmas celebrates God's love for the world he made. May you and all those close to you be richly blessed by the gift of one another and the love of Christ this Christmas.



**ST. THOMAS MORE'S PARISH TOTE
JACKPOT £600**
Result for 21st December 2022
Winning Numbers 09-16-05-15
No Jackpot Winner – 2 Winners with 3 Numbers
**THERE WILL BE NO DRAW NEXT WEEK -
2 DRAWS WILL TAKE PLACE ON
WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023 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+