



SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH SHELDON

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www.stthomasmorerccchurch.com

Parish Administrator - Maxine Winspear
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Parish Priest
Fr Christopher Miller

Safeguarding - Sue Nightingale
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The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: registered charity no. 234216

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Sunday 21st January 2024

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

Holy Mass

Intention

Saturday for Sunday

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Martin Byrne

SUNDAY

9:00am Holy Mass

Theresa Sheehan

11:00am Solemn Mass

Katie Ford RIP

12noon Holy Baptism

Weekday Masses

Monday 22nd

9:30am Holy Mass

Joe & Mary Macklin

Tuesday 23rd

5:30pm Rosary & Novena

6:00pm Holy Mass

Phyllis Nolan

Wednesday 24th Saint Francis de Sales

9:30am Holy Mass

Thanksgiving MJ



Thursday 25th The Conversion of Saint Paul

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

5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration

6:00pm Holy Mass

For the Intentions of Anne

Friday 26th

9:30am Holy Mass

Selina Smith & Family

10:00am – 11:00am

Eucharistic Adoration

Saturday 27th

10:00am Holy Mass

For the Jewish People

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

5:30pm Vigil Mass

William Buckley RIP

SUNDAY 28th

9:00am Holy Mass

Gerard O'Malley RIP

11:00am Solemn Mass

Timmy Miller RIP

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

Rosary Monday – Friday before the morning Mass

Divine Mercy - During Adoration on Fridays

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time is the 'Sunday of the Word of God' - a day, instituted by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saint Jerome in 2019, devoted to the celebration and study of Sacred Scripture.

Sacred Scripture and the Sacraments

The Pope uses the scene of the Risen Lord appearing to the disciples at Emmaus to demonstrate what he calls “the unbreakable bond between Sacred Scripture and the Eucharist”. Since the Scriptures everywhere speak of Christ, he writes, “they enable us to believe that His death and resurrection are not myth but history, and are central to the faith of His disciples”.

When the sacraments are introduced and illumined by God’s Word, explains the Pope, “they become ever more clearly the goal of a process whereby Christ opens our minds and hearts to acknowledge His saving work”.

The role of the Holy Spirit

“The role of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures is primordial”, writes Pope Francis. “Without the work of the Spirit, there would always be a risk of remaining limited to the written text alone”. The Pope continues: “This would open the way to a fundamentalist reading, which needs to be avoided, lest we betray the inspired, dynamic and spiritual character of the sacred text”. It is the Holy Spirit who “makes Sacred Scripture the living word of God, experienced and handed down in the faith of His holy people”.

Pope Francis invites us never to take God’s Word for granted, “but instead to let ourselves be nourished by it, in order to acknowledge and live fully our relationship with Him and with our brothers and sisters”.

Holocaust Memorial Day – Saturday 27th January

Auschwitz is without parallel as a symbol of dehumanisation and cruelty, and yet it was in this place that Saint Maximilian Kolbe, through an extraordinary act of love, made a statement about the dignity and worth of the human person that has inspired people all over the world. Clergy were among the first groups of people taken prisoner in the early days of the Nazi occupation of Poland and so the Franciscan Maximilian Kolbe found himself in Auschwitz. He was standing in the line-up when the SS selected ten prisoners for a mass punishment of death by starvation in retaliation for an escape. One of the inmates being dragged off to the punishment block cried out for his wife and children and Saint Maximilian Kolbe was moved to volunteer to take his place. Inexplicably, the otherwise merciless SS permitted this act of mercy. It was a life-giving sacrifice on many levels; not only did the man he saved, Franciszek Gajowniczek, survive to return to his family, but he became a lay missionary, working to make Kolbe’s sacrifice an enduring light in the darkness of Auschwitz. Kolbe’s warning about the danger of indifference is today echoed by survivors of the Holocaust, who remind us that the roots of this horror can be traced back to the indifference of people to the othering, isolation and humiliation of their neighbours, which quickly escalated during the war into discrimination, persecution and murder. Auschwitz survivor Marian Turski says ‘as you listen to me speak as a witness to this past, ask yourself where you are called to be a witness today’.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Pray for us!



POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JANUARY

For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and to discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Recently Deceased – May they rest in peace

- Albert Houghton, Fr Christopher Greaney, Maura Dowling, Angela Martyn
- James Queenan Reception 5th February 5:00pm
Requiem 6th February 11:30am
- Cornelius McKay - Reception 14th February 7:00pm
Requiem 15th February 11:00am

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS This week are sponsored for the intentions of Tom & Teresa McCann and Margaret O'Looney.

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

WEEKLY GIVING TO THE CHURCH

14.01.24 - Gift Aid: £148.15 Non-Gift Aid: £412.07
Total: £560.22.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

- Pax Christi - £249.80**
- This Weekend – White Flower**
- Next Weekend – World Leprosy Day**

NEW ROTAS

Are available for collection from the sacristy. Please note the changes. A copy is also posted in the porch and on the website under More...

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

JANUARY 2024

Sunday 28th Saint Thomas More School Confirmation Commitment Mass 11:00am

FEBRUARY

Friday 2nd **The Presentation of the Lord – Candlemas**
Mass 9:30am

Sunday 4th Saint Andrew's School Confirmation Commitment Mass 11:00am

Wednesday 14th **Ash Wednesday**
Masses 9:30am & 6:00pm

Wednesday 21st Saint Thomas More School First Confessions 10:30am

Saturday 24th Saint Andrew's School First Confessions 10:30am

SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD – 21st January

Please can all Readers renew their commitment to this ministry at any of the Sunday Masses over this weekend, the Sunday of the Word of God. Thank you.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – Children not in Catholic Schools

The next meeting is on **Tuesday 6th February** at 4:00pm in Church for all those who wish to make their First Holy Communion next summer. If you are not able to be at this meeting please let us know.

SAINT PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Strategic ICT Network Manager

Full Time - £42,403

The Governors are looking to appoint a Strategic ICT Network Manager, to design and implement the schools IT vision and digital strategy. The role involves leading the ICT support Team, being responsible for supporting, developing and maintaining a safe, secure and efficient environment for use of ICT in teaching, learning, administration, leadership and governance of the school, while maximising the value delivered from the IT investment. The post holder will promote the highest standards of customer service ensuring the most effective use of resources are employed in supporting the school's objectives.

For further details either telephone or go to our website to download an application form www.stpaulgl.bham.sch.uk

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

Result for 17th January 2024 - **Winning Numbers 11-17-19-21**

Next Draw Wednesday 24th 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