



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

6th SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME [A]



15 February 2026

Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.

Parish Priest

Fr. Alessandro Renó,

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✉ fralessandro.reno@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Office:

Open Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10am to 12noon

S.V.P. (Charity/Support):

Michael J. Emery

✉ michaeljemery@hotmail.co.uk

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Safeguarding Parish Rep.:

Mary McAllister

✉ safeguarding.towcester@northamptondiocese.org

Health and Safety:

Anthony McAllister

✉ mcallister18@hotmail.com

🌐 www.stthomasmorerc.org

Children Liturgy:

Rose Darwin

✉ rosiedarwin@aol.com

Music/Choir Group:

Chris Nickel

✉ chris@nikel.net

Welcome

Jason Colin

Michelle Collins

✉ jmauricecolin@gmail.com

Finance Team:

Michael J. Emery: Chairman

Hugh Moran: Treasurer

Repository:

Pat Griffin

✉ prg.74sc@gmail.com

TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 14 February –

5.30pm – Vigil Mass – People of the Parish

Sunday 15 February – Sixth Ordinary Time [A]

11am – Mass – Patrick and Jane Griffin Rip

Monday 16 February –

9.00am – Rosary and Adoration

9.30am – Mass

Wednesday 18 February

9.30am Ash Wednesday Mass

6.30pm Ash Wednesday Mass

Friday 20 February

9.00am – Rosary and Adoration

9.30am Mass

Saturday 21 February

5.30pm - Vigil Mass – People of the Parish

Sunday 22 February – First of Lent [A]

11am – Mass – Kathleen and Stephen McAllister Rip

Mass Readings:

Ecclesiasticus 15:16-21; Psalm 118(119):1-2,4-5,17-18,33-34; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

Psalm response:

Blessed are those who walk in the law of the LORD!

Gospel Acclamation

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Eucharistic Acclamation:

Save us, Saviour of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free.

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 14 February from 4.45pm to 5.20pm

EXPOSITION & ADORATION:

Mon, Wed and Fri, from 9.00am to 9.30am and Saturday from 4.45pm to 5.15pm

ROSARY:

Mon, and Fri at 9.00am

STATION OF THE CROSS:

Every Friday after morning mass starting the 27th of February

CHILDREN'S LITURGY BREAK: The Children's Liturgy will take a break on Sunday the 15th of February, due to the school half term. It will be back Sunday the 22nd of February. We still need your help: if you want to volunteer, please contact Rose Darwin at 07894.670438.

TEA AND COFFEE after the 11 Sunday Mass and Wednesday after 9.30am Mass in the LOMBARD ROOM



If you want to help to prepare, serve and tidy. Please, speaks with Chris Nash.

LAST SUNDAY COLLECTION:

Weekly collection: £ 504.60

LET'S GET PART OF THE WELCOME TEAM:

A church welcome is a warm, inclusive greeting for everyone, especially visitors, making them feel they belong by breaking down barriers, offering genuine connection, and providing practical info, rooted in Christian principles of welcoming outsiders as Christ did. If you want to be part of the team please speaks or contact Jason Colin and Michelle Collins after the Sunday Mass.(or contact on the front page)

REPOSITORY IS AVAILABLE

Our parish repository is available, selling religious items like books, rosaries, statues, and cards. It will always open after Sunday Mass to support parish activities. Please ask Mrs Pat Griffin if you need to buy or to order something!

CELEBRATING ASH WEDNESDAY:

Ash Wednesday, marking the start of Lent, is a day of fast and abstinence. The masses where all the faithful will receive ashes in the sign of the cross to symbolize repentance and mortality, will be celebrated **Wednesday the 18th of February at 9.30am and 6.30pm.**

STATION OF THE CROSS:

We will begin on the 27th of February, every Friday after Mass, throughout the Lenten season. The Stations of the Cross (or Way of the Cross), is a Lenten devotion that meditates on the 14 key moments of Jesus Christ's final day, from condemnation to burial. It serves as a "mini-pilgrimage" allowing all of us to

spiritually follow in Jesus' footsteps to reflect on his suffering.

READING AT MASS and COMMISSIONING:

For all those who have performed this service in the parish in the past and would like to be reconfirmed and for new parishioners who wish to perform this service, I invite you to participate in the meeting that will be held:

Friday the 20th of February at 7pm in the church.

EUCCHARISTICH MINISTERS and

COMMISSIONING: For all those who have performed this service in the parish in the past and would like to be reconfirmed and for new parishioners who wish to perform this service, I invite you to participate in the meeting that will be held:

Friday the 27th of February at 7pm in the church.

MEETING FOR THOSE WHO WANT TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

Several meetings involving prayer, study, community involvement, and formation, to explore faith and learn Catholic teachings, Scripture, and traditions, culminating in receiving sacraments like Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist at the Easter Vigil, will start **Friday 6th March at 7pm** in Lombard Room. Please, speaks to Fr Alessandro previously to subscribe.

A CLASSICAL SPRING CONCERT:

A magical evening listening beautiful notes and works by Emilie Mayer and Beethoven performed by **Roselle String Quartet at St Thomas More Church Saturday 7th March at 7pm.** Tickets: "pay what you can" on the door or book via <https://roselletowcester.eventbrite.co.uk>

SCHOOL VISITING ST THOMAS MORE:

We are happy to welcome Saint Thomas Becket's School in our parish on Sunday the 19th of April. The students will bring to our community, joy and enthusiasm, leading the 11 o'clock Mass. To organize an unforgettable welcome to them, please speak/contact Rose Darwin at 07894.670438.

BAPTISM AND MARRIAGE: please contact Fr Alessandro to book a date and to arrange the preparation course for the sacraments at: fralessandro.reno@northamptondiocese.org

PARISH WEBSITE

Keep visiting our parish website. You can log in and click for news, newsletters, interesting facts, photos, and much more at:

www.stthomasmorerc.org

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

16 Feb: Chris Nash and Christa Darragh

2 March: Kathy Finnegan and Catherine Blackman

16 March: Edwina Woods and Janet Linehan

DIOCESAN DIRECTORY:

The Diocesan Directory 2026 are still available at £3. Ask Fr Alessandro.

DIOCESE

HEALING SERVICE AT THE CATHEDRAL:


A moment of prayer and reflection free and open to all. Maybe consider inviting a friend! They might not even be interested in Church, but often people are open to the idea of receiving healing! **28th February 2026 at Northampton Cathedral** with Fr Patrick Gonyeau and Sarah Kaczmarek, both Encounter ministries.

LENT RESOURCES FOR THE FAMILY:

We are delighted to introduce you to the new CELEBRATE Family Activity Pack for Lent which includes creative ways to help families grow close to God during this season. There are engaging ways to count down the days in Lent, reflective prayer and discussion, craft, games, books and movies to help families draw close to God. CELEBRATE has also created a Lent game this year - Journey to Easter Joy - which encourages children to focus on prayer, fasting and almsgiving, in fun and interactive ways this Lent.

Come & See Lent Course:

You are invited to sign up for the Lent 2026 Bible Studies—a FREE, 6-week

journey  presented LIVE ONLINE by Mauro Iannicelli (Come & See Catholic Formation Ministries).

REGISTER NOW: comeandsee.org/lent26

THE ASCENT Are you 16-18 and looking to grow in your faith? The ascent aims to help you to do just that, bringing young people together to learn about their faith and grow in their relationship with Jesus. The programme has three parts: 3 residential weekends providing opportunities for learning, growth and prayer while associating with other like-minded persons; Weekly 'PoD's' (Pockets of Disciples) which are small groups meeting online for friendship and formation; Monthly 1:1 mentoring giving you a space to talk, process and find support. Contact NYMO@northamptondiocese.com or visit nymo.org/the ascent-2 to find out more. There are only 6 places left for the 2026 group, so don't miss out!

OTHER



Ash Wednesday marks the start of Lent, a 40-day season of fasting, prayer, and repentance for

Christians preparing for Easter. It is a solemn day for self-reflection and recognising human mortality. The ashes, often made from burned palm branches from the previous year's Palm Sunday, symbolize sorrow for sins and a desire to turn back to God. During the mass, the priest applies the ashes with the words: "*Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return*" or "*Repent and believe in the Gospel*". It is a day of fast and abstinence that consist of one full meal or two smaller meals with no meat to be consumed. And it is a spiritual exercise in self-denial, repentance, and preparation for Easter.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT:

During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for 6 weeks beginning w.c. 16th February.

During each weekly small group session, facilitators will be using St Bruno's Outreach Prego resources, allowing you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will also be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from the readings. Sessions will be available on multiple days and at different times.

You can also find out more on the diocesan website: <https://northamptondiocese.org/lenten-journey/>

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER:

An ecumenic moment of prayer at the Methodist Church, Brackley Road, Towcester, **6th of March at 10.30am**. Refreshments afterwards. All Welcome!

COME AND SEE:

Discernment Day for Men Saturday 28 March

This day is intended for men exploring or discerning a possible call to the diocesan priesthood. It offers a relaxed opportunity for prayer, reflection, input on priestly vocation, and open questions.

Further details and a poster will be shared in due course. Full information is available on the diocesan website:

[Priestly Discernment](#)

READERS OF THE LOST ARK:

Are you interested in joining a book club? We are Readers of the Lost Ark and meet every 6 weeks in the upper room of Waitling Village Pub. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Richard Appleby on 07835 468982.

NEURODIVERSITY & FAITH RESEARCH

The Catholic Bishops Conference of England & Wales, and Birmingham Newman University are conducting research into Neurodiversity and our Faith. If you are an adult neurodivergent Catholic or a caregiver for such a person, they would like to hear from you. Your experiences will help them to become more inclusive and responsive to your needs. To find out more and to complete a short survey, please visit www.godwhospeaks.uk/neurodivergentcatholic-surveys

+Useful Websites:

<https://northamptondiocese.org>

<http://www.catholicreadings.org>

<https://cbcew.org.uk>

<http://www.heavensroadfm.com>

<http://www.walsingham.org.uk>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

<https://northamptondiocese.org/donate/>

<http://cafod.org.uk>

A PRAYER TO ST. THOMAS

MORE, counselor of law and statesman of integrity, merry martyr and most human of saints!



PRAY that, for the glory of GOD and in the pursuit of His justice, I may be trustworthy with confidences, keen in study, accurate in analysis, correct in conclusion, able in argument, loyal to clients, honest with all, courteous to adversaries, ever attentive to conscience. Sit with me at my desk and listen with me to my clients' tales. Read with me in my library and stand always beside me so that today I shall not, to win a point, lose my soul. PRAY that my family may find in me what yours found in you: friendship and courage, cheerfulness and charity, diligence in duties, counsel in adversity, patience in pain—their good servant, and God's first. AMEN.

©Center for Thomas More Studies With ecclesiastical approval Bishop Joseph A. Galante March 5, 2003 This prayer is an adaption of "An Appeal to St. Thomas More" by Henry Bender, Jr., published in The Catholic Mind, Feb. 1951.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

to be used especially by those not receiving the Eucharist.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and I unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



An Act of
Spiritual
Communion