



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

21st Sunday Ordinary Time

23 August 2026



Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.

Parish Priest

Fr. Alessandro Renó,

1 Meeting Lane, Towcester NN12 6JX

✉ fralessandro.reno@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Website: www.stthomasmore.org

Parish Office:

Sara Pickering

✉ saraepick@gmail.com

Safeguarding Parish Rep.:

Mary McAllister

✉ safeguarding.towcester@northamptondiocese.org

Finance Committee:

Michael J. Emery: Chairman

☎ 07831 248199

Hugh Moran: Treasurer

Health and Safety:

Anthony McAllister

✉ mcallister18@hotmail.com

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

Michael J. Emery

✉ michaeljemery@hotmail.co.uk

☎ 07157 613487

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Welcome

Jason Colin

✉ jmauricecolin@gmail.com

Eucharistic Ministers Group:

Claudine Lavelle

✉ claudinelavelle@hotmail.com

Readers Group:

Malcolm Alphonso

✉ malcolm.alphonso@abbott.com

Altar Servers Group

Dave Brennan

✉ dave.brennan@sylviajeffery.com

Children Liturgy:

Rose Darwin

✉ rosiedarwin@aol.com

Music/Choir Group:

Chris Nikel

✉ chris@nikel.net

Garden

Zena Pryke

✉ richandzena@gmail.com

Parish Website

Marco Gonzalez/Andrew Kirkpatrick

✉ marcogpl@gmail.com/andrewk.sarap@gmail.com

TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 22 August – 21 Ordinary Time [A]

5.30pm – Vigil Mass – People of the Parish

Sunday 23 August – 21 Ordinary Time [A]

11.00am Mass – Brian Grainger

Monday 24 August

9.30am Rosary

2pm Wedding Mass Sebastian Gonzales & Sara Leite

Wednesday 26 August

9.30am Rosary

No Mass

Friday 28 August

9.30am Rosary

No Mass

Saturday 29 August

5.00pm Rosary

5.30pm Vigil Mass – 22 Ordinary Time [A]

Sunday 30 August – 22 Ordinary time [A]

11.00am Mass – Michael Vossler Rip

21 Ordinary Time Mass Readings:

Isaiah 22:15,19-23; Ps. 138(137):1-2a,2bc,3,6,8bc;

Romans 11:33-36; Matthew 16:13-20

Psalm response:

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

Gospel Acclamation

You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

The Memorial Acclamation:

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection, until you come again.

CONFESSIONS Saturday 29th of August from 4.45pm to 5.15pm

ADORATION: Saturday 29th of August from 4.45pm to 5.20pm

ROSARY

Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 9.30am, and Saturday at 5pm.

LAST SUNDAY COLLECTION:

Weekly collection: **Will be displayed next week**

Standing order: **£ 450 (estimate per Week)**

TEA AND COFFEE

**Every Sunday and Wednesday
after mass in the LOMBARD
ROOM!**



END OF SUMMER PARISH BARBECUE AND FR ALESSANDRO FAREWELL MASS

As we come to the end of the summer, we warmly invite all parishioners to join us on Sunday the **6th of September** as we gather to celebrate our parish community and look forward with hope to the new pastoral year. The day begins with **Fr Alessandro's farewell mass at 11am** offering us the opportunity to thank him for his dedicated ministry at St Thomas More, to wish him every blessing his sabbatical, and stepping in his new role as school chaplain, and to assure him of our prayers. Following mass, everyone is warmly invited to our parish BBQ in the parish garden, where we can enjoy fellowship together, celebrate all that we have shared over the past months, and extend our best wishes to Father Alessandro in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. Everyone is most welcome. We ask if you can join this special occasion and help provide a salad or pudding. A list is available in the church entrance and if you can, please indicate what you will provide.

For more practical details please contact Linda Dalziel at: hughlinda@btinternet.com

CHILDREN'S LITURGY SUMMER BREAK:

Our Children's Liturgy will be taking a summer break. We look forward to welcoming the children back on **Sunday the 6th of September**. In the meantime, if you wish to be a volunteer to help from September on, please contact Rose Darwin at: rosiedarwin@aol.com

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2027 REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

If your child wishes to prepare for First Holy Communion or Confirmation in 2027, registration forms are now available. You can collect a form from the parish board in the narthex or download it from the parish website. Please return completed forms to the Parish Office by the Feast of All Saints (1 November),

leaving it in the office after mass or posting in the letter box at the Presbytery House. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact Oliver Low, who will be happy to help: oliverlow@gmail.com
We look forward to accompanying our young people and their families on this important step in their journey of faith.

PARISH OFFICE

We are delighted to welcome Sara Pickering as our new parish admin volunteer. She will be helping in the parish office and keeping everything running smoothly. Please stop by to say hello and offer her a warm welcome when you visit the church.

PARISH WEBSITE

We are very happy to welcome Andrew Kirkpatrick to our parish website team! Both Andrew and Marco bring great skills and energy to help us share our church news online. Keep visiting our parish website. You can log in and click for news, newsletters, interesting facts, photos, and much more at: www.stthomasmore.rc.org

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

REPOSITORY

Cards, rosaries, crosses, icons, and even much more available at the back of the church after mass; please contact Pat or Janette if you wish to buy or order any religious item.

CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

31 August Edwina Wood & Janet Linehan

DIOCESE

DIOCESAN MUSIC DAY

A day of music, formation, resources and fellowship for all involved in parish music ministry on **Saturday 19th September 2026** at **Christ the King Church, Kents Hill, Milton Keynes** from 9.30am till 4pm. All are welcome! Musicians, singers, choir members, cantors, organists, directors, and clergy.

DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE

The Diocese of Northampton Safeguarding Conference brings together clergy, parish safeguarding representatives, volunteers and those involved in the life of our parishes for a day of learning, reflection and renewal.

Through expert-led presentations, lived experience and practical discussion, the conference will deepen our understanding of adult safeguarding, place the voices of victims and survivors at the heart of our conversations, and explore how our communities can become places of safety, healing and hope.

As a diocese, we are committed to maintaining the highest standards of safeguarding and to fostering a culture where every person is valued, listened to and protected. This conference is an opportunity to strengthen that commitment, learn from one another, and continue our shared mission of building communities that reflect the compassion, justice and love of Christ.

The Details

 . St Thomas Centre at Northampton Cathedral, Semilong Road, Semilong, Northampton, NN2 6DF

 . 3rd October

 . 10.00AM arrivals – 3.00PM departures

 The day is free to attend

 Lunch is provided

 There is plenty of parking in the St Thomas Centre car park off Semilong Road

 The St Thomas Centre is accessible for all.

 To secure your place email laura.lester@northamptondiocese.org

OTHER

2 JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

1. PROPERTY COORDINATOR VACANCY

We have an exciting opportunity for a Property Coordinator to join the Diocese on a permanent, full-time basis (35 hours per week, Monday to Friday).

The role will support the effective management of the Diocese's property portfolio through the coordination of maintenance, compliance, property records and project activities.

Full information for the position and an application form can be found by visiting

<https://northamptondiocese.org/jobs>

To apply, please complete a Diocesan Application Form and return it to hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org

Closing Date: Monday 31 August 2026

Interviews: Date to be confirmed

Start Date: 1 October 2026

2. DEPUTY WARDEN, ST SCHOLASTICA'S RETREAT, PRINCESS RISBOROUGH

The Trustees of St Scholastica's Retreat invite applications for the position of Deputy Warden at this long-established alms-house charity, which provides sheltered housing for Catholics aged 60 and over. This is a part-time role offering a competitive salary and on-site accommodation. The Deputy Warden provides cover for the Warden two days per week and for five weeks per year during holiday periods. Responsibilities include a range of administrative duties, supporting and wellbeing of residents and ensuring the safe running of the community building.

For a full job description and details on how to apply, please contact the Warden:

Email: stscholasticasretreat@outlook.com or website stscholasticasretreat.org.uk

SPUC NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is inviting people of all ages to its National Conference in London on **Saturday 12th September 2026**. The conference offers an opportunity to gather with others committed to defending the dignity and sanctity of human life, deepen understanding of key pro-life issues, and learn practical ways to support the most vulnerable, especially unborn babies. The event will be held at the Holiday Inn Regent's Park, Carburton Street, London. Early Bird tickets are £40 until 12 August, with standard tickets £50 thereafter. Both prices include lunch. Visit the SPUC website for further information and booking details.

+Useful Websites:

<https://northamptondiocese.org>

<https://www.catholicreadings.org>

<https://cbcew.org.uk>

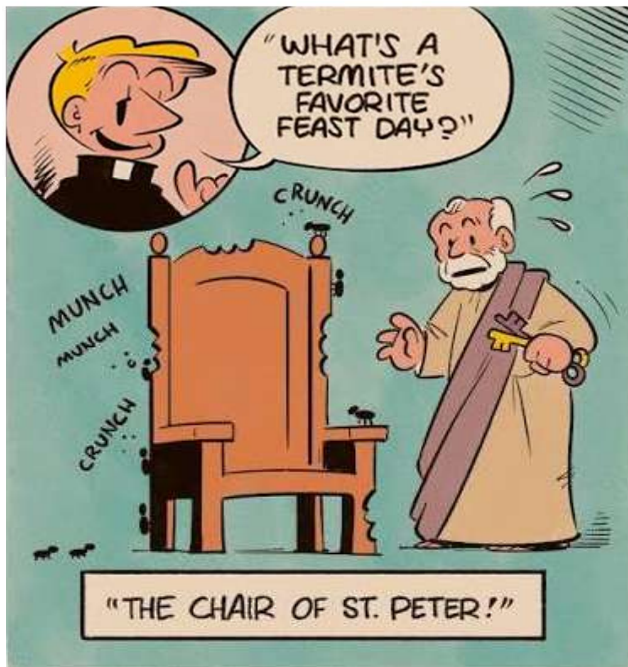
<http://www.heavensroadfm.com>

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

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

<http://cafod.org.uk>

SUMMER HUMOUR



A PRAYER TO ST. THOMAS

MORE, counsellor 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.

