



**ST THOMAS MORE PARISH**  
**7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**17 May 2026**



**Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.**

**Parish Priest**  
**Fr. Alessandro Renó,**  
**1 Meeting Lane, Towcester NN12 6JX**

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 Parish Website: [www.stthomasmore.org](http://www.stthomasmore.org)

**Parish Office:**  
 Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10am to 12noon.

**S.V.P. (Charity/Support):**  
**Michael J. Emery**  
 ✉ [michaeljemery@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:michaeljemery@hotmail.co.uk)  
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**Finance Committee:**  
**Michael J. Emery:** Chairman  
 ☎ 07831 248199  
**Hugh Moran:** Treasurer

**Safeguarding Parish Rep.:**  
**Mary McAllister**  
 ✉ [safeguarding.towcester@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:safeguarding.towcester@northamptondiocese.org)

**Health and Safety:**  
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**Pat Griffin**  
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**Eucharistic Ministers Group:**  
**Claudine Lavelle**  
 ✉ [claudinelavelle@hotmail.com](mailto:claudinelavelle@hotmail.com)

**Readers Group:**  
**Malcolm Alphonso**  
 ✉ [malcolm.alphonso@abbott.com](mailto:malcolm.alphonso@abbott.com)

**Children Liturgy:**  
**Rose Darwin**  
 ✉ [rosiedarwin@aol.com](mailto:rosiedarwin@aol.com)

**Music/Choir Group:**  
**Chris Nikel**  
 ✉ [chris@nikel.net](mailto:chris@nikel.net)

**Welcome**  
**Jason Colin**  
 ✉ [jmauricecolin@gmail.com](mailto:jmauricecolin@gmail.com)  
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**Altar Servers Group**  
**Dave Brennan**  
 ✉ [dave.brennan@sylviajeffery.com](mailto:dave.brennan@sylviajeffery.com)

**Parish Website**  
**Marco Gonzalez**  
 ✉ [marcogpl@gmail.com](mailto:marcogpl@gmail.com)

**TIMES & MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday 16 May**  
 5.30pm – Vigil Mass – Seventh of Easter [A]

**Sunday 17 May – Seventh of Easter [A]**  
 11.00am Mass – Margaret Robiett (Thanksgiving)

**Monday 18 May**  
 9.00am Rosary  
 9.30am Mass

**Wednesday 20 May**  
 9.00pm Rosary  
 9.30pm Mass

**Friday 22 May**  
 9.00am Rosary  
 9.30am Mass

**Saturday 23 May**  
 5.00pm Rosary  
 5.30pm – Vigil Mass – Pentecost [A] –

**Sunday 24 May – Pentecost [A] 11.00am Mass**

**7<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday Mass Readings:**

Acts 1:12-14; Ps 27(26):1.4.7-8a;  
 1 Peter 4:13-16; John 17:1-11a

**Psalm response:**

I believe I shall see the LORD's goodness  
 in the land of the living.

**Gospel Acclamation**

I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am  
 going away and I will come to you, and your hearts  
 will rejoice.

**Eucharistic Acclamation:**

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

**CONFESIONS:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of May from 4.45pm to  
 5.15pm.

**ADORATION:** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> of May from 4.45pm to  
 5.25pm

**ROSARY**

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday at 9am, and Saturday  
 at 5pm.

## LAST SUNDAY COLLECTION:

Weekly collection: £ 516.50

Weekly collection: £ 140.68

Standing order: £ 450 (estimate per Week)

## SECOND COLLECTION:

Diocesan Bishops' fund

## TEA AND COFFEE

Every Sunday and Wednesday  
after mass in the LOMBARD  
ROOM!



## PARISH WALK INVITATION

Dear Parish Family of St Thomas More,  
We warmly invite you to continue your Sunday  
journey with us beyond the sanctuary doors!  
Join us for a parish walk to enjoy the outdoors,  
connect with fellow parishioners, and build our  
community in fellowship.

**When:** Today Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May, immediately  
following the 11am Mass (approx.12.30pm).

**Where:** Meet in the Church Garden

**Route:** A Moderate walk of 1.3km along 'The  
Water meadows park' (behind the Towcester  
library -lifts could be arranged for anyone who  
can't manage to walk to the Watermeadows-)

All ages are welcome! Please wear  
comfortable walking shoes. We will aim for a  
casual, conversational pace, a lovely prayer to  
the Blessed Virgin Mary on the month of May  
and a sandwich break!

Let's share our Sunday joy, support one  
another, and walk together as a community of  
faith. See you there!

## SVP RETIRED PARISHIONERS MASS

The SVP Retired Parishioners Mass and Meal  
will take place on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June 2026 at the  
Tove Baptist Church. If you are interested in  
attending, please place your name and  
telephone number on the sheet provided on  
the notice board and you will be contacted with  
more details.

## CHILDREN CINEMA ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON!



Dear Parish Families, we are delighted to  
invite you to a special children's cinema  
afternoon every Sunday, starting the 14<sup>th</sup> of  
June, for four Sundays in a row! Join us at St  
Thomas More, Upper Room, at 4pm, for a fun  
and uplifting Disney's film experience. Each  
Sunday, we'll have pizza and popcorn,

creating a wonderful time of fellowship and fun  
for the whole family.

We look forward to seeing you!



We are excited  
to invite you all to  
the parish  
barbecue in the  
garden!

Join us on  
Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup>  
of June, at  
12noon, right

after the morning Mass. It will be an afternoon  
filled with delicious food, fun, music and  
fellowship. This is a wonderful chance for us  
all to come together as a community, share a  
meal, and enjoy the garden setting.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## CHILDREN AFTERNOON FUN IN THE PARISH GARDEN!

Dear children, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of July straight  
after mass until 2pm, we are waiting for you in  
the parish garden for an afternoon of games,  
fun, music, and, of course, pizza and drinks!  
We can't wait to spend this time with you! If  
you want to be part of this event, please  
contact **Rose Darwin** at:  
[rosiedarwin@aol.com](mailto:rosiedarwin@aol.com) or speak with Fr  
Alessandro after mass.

## CHILDREN'S LITURGY VOLUNTEER:

If you wish to be a volunteer to help, please  
contact Rose Darwin after Sunday Mass or at:  
[rosiedarwin@aol.com](mailto:rosiedarwin@aol.com)

## REPOSITORY:

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

**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](mailto: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](http://www.stthomasmorerc.org)

## CHURCH CLEANING ROTA

25 May Kathy Finnegan and Catherine Blackman

### **DIOCESAN DIRECTORY:**

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

## **DIOCESE**

### **NORTHAMPTON DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM**

A special day of prayer, reflection, and procession along the Pilgrim Route to the Priory Grounds with a short service at the site of the original Holy House and the Mass on **Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026.1**

If you are interested to take part of the pilgrimage, please ask Fr Alessandro for the notification form available in the parish office.

**PILGRIMAGE TO PATMOS** of St John the Evangelist, Led by Fr Jerome Ituah, OCD, 1 st -7 th June 2026. Cost £1595 including flights, ferries and hotels, with breakfast and one other daily meal. See the poster in the narthex porch for details. ASSISI led by Fr Matt Roche Saunders.

**ASSISI** is celebrating a Jubilee Year marking the 800th anniversary of the life and death of St Francis... The trip is from 1-6 June 2026 from £1350 per person including return flights from Stanstead, Accommodation, Breakfast and Dinner and services of a local English-speaking guide throughout. Pilgrims will visit the basilicas of St Francis and St Clare, Mount Subiaco and also the tomb of St Carlo Acutis. Full details at [www.jcjourneys.com](http://www.jcjourneys.com) or call 01886 812862.

### **LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:**

This year marks the 125th anniversary of pilgrimages to Lourdes, and pilgrims have been travelling there from the Diocese of Northampton since the very beginning. The Catholic Association (CA) pilgrimage is medically supported with dozens of healthcare professionals in attendance, and offers spiritual, liturgical, pastoral and logistical infrastructure to enable dioceses to achieve far more for their pilgrims than they could do alone.

The CA pilgrimage, from 21st-28th August, coordinates the welcome and care of those making the journey with them, including “assisted pilgrims” who have particular care and support needs. The assisted pilgrims can stay either in a hotel with basic support from volunteer helpers, or in the Accueil Notre Dame, where medical and personal care is provided.

People of all ages and backgrounds also come to Lourdes as volunteer helpers to answer Our Lady’s request to “come in procession”, but more importantly they come in response to the command of her son Jesus to love God and to love our neighbours as ourselves. The minimum age for helping is 16 and there is no maximum age, but those aged 16-25 can be part of the Young Helpers Group, a supervised group who stay in a separate hotel.

You can find out more at [www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join](http://www.catholicassociation.co.uk/join)

## **OTHER**

### **PREPARING FOR PENTECOST:**

As our mission relies on the power of the Holy Spirit, we have the opportunity each year, in the days before Pentecost, to ‘Return to the Upper Room’ like those first Christians. We are invited to wait and pray in order to be clothed anew with power from on high to empower us as witnesses to Christ (Lk 24:49, Acts 1:4,8).

This is the original nine days of prayer, or Pentecost Novena, where we simply pray anew ‘Come Holy Spirit’. To help us with this there are a number of resources that have been developed for individuals, families, churches and schools, which are freely available here: [www.northamptondiocese.org/pentecost-novenaresources-2026/](http://www.northamptondiocese.org/pentecost-novenaresources-2026/)

### **CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP FORMATION**

CLF is a one-week residential programme at Stonyhurst for Year 12 and Year 13 students.

It combines theology, philosophy, media skills, and leadership development with daily liturgies and a strong social element. Students consistently tell us it is the most formative experience of their school years.

This summer's courses are:

Year 13 — The Human Ecology: 5-10 July

Year 12 — The Common Good: 10-15 August

Scholarships are available. The website is: [www.christianleadershipformation.com](http://www.christianleadershipformation.com)

### HEART TO HEART WOMEN'S RETREAT

A three-day retreat for women (whether single, married or religious), based on principles of Ignatian spirituality 19 - 22 June 2026.

Guided by Fr Bernard Murphy, CFR and Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal, the retreat will seek to draw participants closer to the Lord through a greater attentiveness to His will.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/heart-to-heart-retreat/>

#### +Useful

<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>

#### Websites:

### 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.*

### **A PRAYER FOR PEACE**

*Almighty God, from Whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed, kindle, we pray You, in the hearts of all people the true love of peace, and guide with Your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth; that in tranquillity Your Kingdom may go forward, till the earth be filled with the knowledge of Your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

### **PRAYER TO INVOKE THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.*

