

The Catholic Parish of St Thomas Aquinas and All Saints, Bletchley

Diocese of Northampton Registered charity No. 234091 / Pastoral Area of St Paul, Milton Keynes

Parish Priest: Fr Gerard Byrne

Parish Secretary: Mrs Jo Cerrone

Parish Office: 1 Sycamore Avenue, Bletchley MK2 2JE

Tel: **01908 372315**

Office Hours for Telephone Enquiries: Monday to Friday: 11am – 2pm

Parish Email: parish.bletchley@northamptondiocese.org

Parish Website: www.catholic-bletchley.com

Parish Safeguarding: **(CONTACTS FOR SAFEGUARDING ISSUES ONLY)**

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Marie - 07882 713797; Andrew - 07984 271499

safeguarding.bletchley@northamptondiocese.org

CHRISTMAS 25th December 2025

Liturgies this Week

STA: St Thomas Aquinas Church, Sycamore Avenue, MK2 2JE

AS: All Saints Church, Shenley Road, MK3 6HG

Wednesday 24th December Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

AS	4.00pm	Pro Populo
AS	7.00pm	Tony & Sarah-Jane Daoud, RIP; Yolanda Gabriele, RIP
STA	Midnight	Pro Populo

Thursday 25th December THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

STA	8.00am	Domenico Cerrone, RIP
AS	9.00am	Paula Stimson, Anniv. RIP
AS	11.00am	Constanza Del Grosso, Anniv. RIP

Friday 26th December ST STEPHEN

STA	12 noon	Altar Servers, Int.
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Saturday 27th December ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

STA	9.30am	Josie Lyons, Int.
STA	6.00pm	Michael Leahy, RIP

Sunday 28th December HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH

AS	9.00am	Silvia Pinherio, RIP
AS	11.00am	Giuseppina & Francesco Pilla, RIP
STA	6.30pm	Pro Populo

Regular Devotions

The Holy Rosary: Daily, 30mins before morning Mass, Monday to Friday; Saturdays, after 9.30am Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet: Fridays, 9.10am (STA)

Perpetual Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour:

After 10.00am Mass on Mondays, followed by Benediction

Confessions: Thursday: 9.30am (AS)

Saturdays: 10.00am to 11.00am (STA)

Let your goodness Lord, appear to us, that we, made in your image, may conform ourselves to it. In our own strength we cannot imagine your majesty, power, and wonder, nor is it fitting for us to even try. But your mercy reaches from the heavens, through the clouds, to the earth below. You have come to us as a small child, but you have brought us the greatest gift, the gift of your eternal love. Caress us with your tiny hands, embrace us with your tiny arms, and pierce our hearts with your soft, sweet cries. Amen.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

May the peace and joy of Christ be yours this Christmas

Home Visits

Do you have a loved one confined to their home or a care home who can no longer attend Mass? Would he/she like to receive Holy Communion or a visit from the Legion of Mary or the Knights of St Columba? If so, please contact Maggie on 01908 563277.

In Hospital?

Contact MK University Hospital Chaplaincy on 01908 996061.

Please inform them that you are a Catholic.

Local Catholic Schools:

Bishop Parker Primary School, MK2 3BT

01908 372129

www.bishopparker.co.uk

St Thomas Aquinas Primary School, MK3 5DT

01908 373977

www.st-thomasaquinas.co.uk

St Paul's Secondary School, MK6 5EN

01908 669735

www.st-pauls.org.uk

If you need help...call the SVP

If you or someone you know would benefit from their support, please make contact by calling **07788796378**.

If you want to make a financial donation to the work of the SVP via Bank Transfer, please use the following details: -

Account Name: **ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

Sort Code: **60-60-04** Account No: **46084789**

Angelus (said before the Vigil Mass)

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:

And she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

Be it done unto me according to Thy word. Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh:

And dwelt among us. Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God.

That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray.

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Mondays: After 10.00am Mass, Benediction at 11.00am (STA)

Tuesdays: After 10.00am Mass, Benediction at 11.00am (AS)

Saturdays: After 9.30am Mass, Benediction at 11.00am (STA)

Time spent before the Blessed Sacrament in the best time you will spend on earth. (St Teresa of Calcutta)

Bereavement Support Group

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"
(Matthew 5:4).

Either one-to-one or (depending on future demand) in group meetings, our volunteers are here to listen to you, support you and reflect on our faith to guide us through difficult times.

Please contact us via the Parish office.

Our Lady of Fatima Home Visitation Information

A Blessed Statue of Our Lady of Fatima is available for families to take home on a Sunday or Saturday and returned the following week for another family to share the blessings in their home for a whole week. To request and book a visit of the Blessed Statue in your home, please contact one of the Custodians:

Arshi Colaco – 07454605655 (All Saints Church)

Othelia Fernandes – 07459483045 (St. Thomas Aquinas)

St Thomas Aquinas & All Saints Parish Fundraising

New Years Prize Draw. Tickets £1.00 each to be sold after all Masses at the weekend. Cash only. Please support your Parish.

Baptism Preparation Meeting

The next meeting for parents/guardians who are requesting the sacrament of Baptism for their child will be at 7:00pm on **Monday 5th January 2026** in St Thomas Aquinas Church Meeting Room, MK2 2JE. The meeting is for parents and guardians only, unfortunately we are not able, currently, to accommodate young children. **Please contact the Parish Office to book a place.**

Please Remember in Your Prayers

As many of us prepare to celebrate Christmas with family and friends, please remember in your prayers those for whom this will sadly not be a time of joy: the sick, the housebound, the lonely and the bereaved; we remembered too the homeless, the hungry and those around the world who live in war zones or face persecution simply for following Jesus. May Christ grant them grace and peace this Christmas; and may they know that despite their trials they are surrounded by our love, support and prayers.

Crib Offerings

This year we will support our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land through the charity *Aid to the Church in Need* (ACN). The help provided by ACN in the Holy Land since October 2023 has included emergency aid, food, housing, school fees, medical assistance to hundreds of Christian families, also job creation programmes, pastoral projects and support for Christian-run organisations. ACN also provides subsistence aid, Mass stipends, transportation, support for church construction projects and help with the formation of priests and religious congregations.

The Holy Year Draws to a Close

On Christmas Eve 2024, Pope Francis ceremonially opened the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica, thus inaugurating the Holy Year of 2025. It has been a year that has seen many challenges and developments in the world, along with many changes; but it has also provided Catholics around the world with the opportunity to journey to Rome on pilgrimage, to pray at the Holy Sites, to undertake works of mercy and to gain the Jubilee Indulgence. It is a real blessing that a number of people from the parish and their families have made a pilgrimage to Rome in this Holy Year, and there they have prayed for us and for the many needs of the world. The Holy Year officially ends on the 6th January 2026, the Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord, so there is still time to get to Rome for the special Jubilee graces offered to pilgrims. May the many graces which pilgrims have received this past year be of spiritual benefit to the world, the Church and the people of our Diocese and Parish; may they bring closer the day when wars end and all people live in peace and harmony with one another.

Christmas Liturgies

Christmas Eve - 24th December

4.00 pm Children's Vigil MASS of Christmas

All Saints Church

7pm MASS of Christmas

All Saints Church

12 Christmas Midnight MASS

St Thomas Aquinas Church



Christmas Day - 25th December



8.00 am MASS of Christmas

St Thomas Aquinas Church (No Hymns)

9.00am MASS of Christmas

All Saints Church

11.00 am MASS of Christmas

All Saints Church

St Stephen's Day – 26th December Mass at 12 noon

All our Altar Servers are encouraged to attend this Mass of the Patron of the Servers Guild in St Thomas Aquinas Church. If you have been serving regularly for at least a year and are due your bronze medal, see Fr Gerard.

White Flower Appeal 2026

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual White Flower Appeal the weekend of 17th/18th January. In the space of one week in June 2025, MPs voted to allow women to abort their baby up to birth for any reason, and to legalise assisted suicide. **Life is under attack at every stage.** The fight is not over on either bill but whatever happens we must rise up and fight back. **Will you join us? Every life matters!** Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC in their work.

APF Red Boxes

If you have one of the APF Red Boxes for the support of the overseas missions, then please bring it in so it can be emptied. Thank you for your support for the spread of the Gospel.

Christmas

Christmas is the celebration of the Birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; God's most precious gift that speaks of His infinite love for us all. That little Baby who stared out from the crib on the first Christmas night was surrounded by so much love: there was the love of His Heavenly Father; the love of His Blessed Mother and St Joseph; the love of the shepherds who came to visit; even the animals who shared the stable with Our Lord looked lovingly on their Creator lying in the manger. The gifts of love, peace and joy which Jesus brought into the world, He wants to share with each one of us. This Christmas open your heart to those gifts, receive them, and then go and share them with those you meet over the Christmas Season. Our world is so much in need of true love, lasting peace and real joy. Make your gift to Jesus this Christmas a loving heart where He can dwell with His precious gifts; and from where His love, peace and joy can flow into the whole world.

A Prayer for The New Year

O Most Holy Trinity, during the coming year, bless the Catholic Church: convert heretics and unbelievers; soften the hearts of sinners so that they may return to Thee; grant peace to the world; pour down Thy blessings upon our friends and relatives; assist the poor and the sick; and have pity on the faithful departed. May all our actions begin and likewise end through Thee. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

May Christ, the Baby of Bethlehem, pour out many graces on you in this Holy Season and may His love, peace and joy be in your hearts and in your homes. Fr Gerard