

***CONTACTS FOR AMENDMENTS
AND
FUTURE BOOKLETS:***

***Fr. Malachy Brett : Parish Priest
Telephone: 0116 221 8385***

Annette Bateman : Telephone: 0116 270 2808

***"Thanks to our Parish Council
For taking this initiative in
Producing this first copy of our
Parish Magazine"***

Welcome



The Catholic Church of
St. Thomas More,
75 Knighton Road,
Leicester.
LE2 3HN

Telephone: 0116 221 8385

You are most welcome
as a visitor or as a new Parishioner

To help us to keep our Parish Records up to date, especially if you are a new Parishioner, or if you have changed your address or telephone number, please complete the form below and place it in the box at the back of the Church.

Family Name:

Address:

.....

Post Code:

Telephone Number:

E mail address:

How many in your family?

Adult Names:

.....

Children's Names:

.....

Would you like details of Gift Aid? Yes/No

If **YES**,
by **Envelope**
or **Standing Order?**

SACRISTANS

Preparation of the Altar and the vestments for the Priest is carried out by the Sacristan.

Ian Hudson carries out this duty with great dedication on a day to day basis. Others are also involved on a less regular basis.

Our Priests wear colours according to the Liturgical Seasons:

- Purple - For Advent, Lent and Requiem Masses
- Green - For Ordinary Time Masses
- White - For Easter, Christmas and special celebrations,
e.g., Saints Days
- Red - For Pentecost, Palm Sunday, Martyrs Feast days

Other colours may be chosen for special occasions.

Main Contact: *Ian Hudson : Telephone : 0116 273 0550*

WEBSITE

The Parish Website is: <http://www.thomasmore.org.uk>
(Our Diocesan website: www.nrcdt.org.uk)

YOUTH GROUP

We meet every two weeks on a Sunday from 7.00 p.m.—8.30 p.m. (during term time) and this group is open to all Year 7 and above young people.

Sessions include free time in the parish rooms where games are available or you can just chat with your friends. We try to do field activities during the lighter evenings and we have been on trips, including bowling and “The Snowdome”. A regular café is also available during the evening run by a team of parents. New parent helpers are always welcome.

Meetings are usually published in the Parish Newsletter or contact one of the committee members below for further information.

Main Contact: *Annette & Phil Bateman Telephone: 0116 270 2808*
 Catherine & Paul Danaher Telephone: 0116 270 7796
 Veronica & Jonathon Mickleburgh Telephone: 0116 285 8781

RCIA - RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Also known as the Journey of Faith. Primarily intended to support adults thinking of joining the Church, this course is also open to practising Catholics who would enjoy learning more about their faith in this way.

During a 9 month course of friendly weekly sessions, we discuss all aspects of our faith and share how God has helped us on our own individual journeys.

For some, this course may lead to full membership of the Catholic Church through the Sacraments. This course will provide something new for everyone to think about. Come and join us. For more details, please contact -

Main Contacts: *John Elliott : Telephone: 0116 270 3291*

READERS

This group of dedicated people supports the priest during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass.

John Elliott co-ordinates the Readers for the Christmas Liturgies and during Holy Week.

If you would like to join the rota, please speak to Fr. Malachy, or to one of the Welcoming Team.

Main Contact: *Fr. Malachy/Welcoming Team*

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Through this Sacrament those whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age are strengthened by Christ. The Sacrament is celebrated by the laying on of hands by a priest and by anointing with oil made holy by God's blessing.

The Church encourages us not to delay requesting this Sacrament, so as well as responding to individual requests for the Sacrament we try to have some occasions during the year when the Sacrament is offered either during or at the end of Mass so that all who desire it may have the opportunity to receive it.

Main Contact: *Fr. Malachy*

OUR DIOCESE

Our diocese is split into 14 local deaneries (administrative regions) and St. Thomas More Parish falls in the Leicester East Deanery with Fr. Malachy Brett VF as Dean. The Deanery is part of the Diocese of Nottingham which covers the counties of Leicestershire, Rutland, Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire, under the leadership of Bishop Malcolm McMahon OP.

The Parishes within the Leicester East Deanery are:

Leicester - Holy Cross
Leicester - Sacred Heart
Leicester - St. Edward
Leicester - St. John Bosco/ St. Mary's,
(South Wigston)
Leicester - St. Joseph
Leicester - St. Thomas More
Market Harborough - Our Lady of Victories
Oadby - Immaculate Conception

Contact Details for the Parish

Parish Priest

Fr. Malachy Brett VF
The Presbytery, 75 Knighton Road,
Leicester, LE2 3HN.

Telephone: 0116 2218285
Website: www.thomasmore.org.uk

Sunday Mass Times:	<i>Saturday Vigil</i>	6.00 p.m.
	<i>Sunday</i>	9.00 a.m.
		11.00 a.m.
 <i>Confessions after Saturday 9.00 a.m. Mass and Saturday Vigil Mass 6.00 p.m.</i> 		
Chair of Parish Council:	Jeremy O'Dwyer	
Child Protection Representative:	Dr. Joe Dawson	
Convent:	Corpus Christi Carmelites	
Schools:	<p style="text-align: center;">St. Thomas More Primary <i>Headteacher: Mrs. P. Mason : Telephone: 0116 2706365</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">St. Paul's Comprehensive <i>Headteacher: Dr. F. Doherty : Telephone : 0116 241 4057</i></p>	

APF - ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROPAGATION OF FAITH

The APF operates for the overseas development of our faith, particularly to the third world countries, helping 1059 dioceses and territories to provide pastoral care and preach the Gospel.

Donations are usually made by families keeping a "Red Box" in their home and making contributions until the box is collected. Nationwide, over 170,000 homes have donated millions of pounds for the Missions.

The "Red Boxes" at St. Thomas More's are collected regularly. A magazine is delivered to each member every quarter and a report is sent to the diocesan Director annually. If you would like to be part of this magnificent missionary work, please contact us.

Main Contact: *Maz Read: Telephone 0116 270 2055*

of the parish. Committee members stay for two years. At the end of their tenure members are replaced by further volunteers. If more parishioners apply than there are places available then a vote is cast by the parishioners.

Contact details for all members are posted in the Narthex. The PPC has a defined constitution, terms of reference, mission statement, and membership. It has rules on quoracy, Officers (Chairman, Vice Chair and Secretary), and length of tenure and it has the ability to convene sub committees if needed.

The PPC meets every 8 weeks to an agreed Agenda. Minutes are taken and made available to parishioners. The PPC reports formally to the parish it is answerable to every year in the form of an Open Meeting. The members of the PPC welcome your direct comments on the running of the parish and do feed them back to your Parish Priest.

PLANNED GIVING AND GIFT AID

It is very helpful in planning our Parish finances when parishioners choose to plan their giving by way of using weekly envelopes or by monthly standing order through the bank.

If you or your partner are tax payers, you can offer further support to the Parish, at no extra cost to yourself, some people also opting to "gift aid" their donations to the Parish. The Parish can claim the tax paid on the donation—an extra 28p in each £1—from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs—without it costing an extra penny! The scheme is totally confidential—even our priests do not have information on individual donations. In order to administer the planned giving and gift aid scheme, the following procedures are carried out:

- Counting the weekly collections
- Ensuring all records are maintained regularly as per Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs guidelines
- Controlling and maintaining the distribution of Planned Giving Envelopes
- Recovering monies from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

If you or your partner are a tax payer, please consider the gift aid scheme.

Main Contact: *Gilbert Paul Clarke : Telephone : 0116 270 641*
Jonathan Mickleburgh : Telephone : 0116 2858781

MUSIC GROUP

The Music Group play on the second Saturday of the month, meeting at 5.30 p.m. to practise before the 6.00 p.m. Mass. We are always delighted to see new musicians and singers.

Main Contact: *Alison Bridgwood : Telephone: 0116 2123859*

If anyone would like to sing at the 11.00 a.m. Mass each Sunday - no rehearsals - just turn up and join in. For Christmas and the Easter Triduum we do plan ahead and rehearse - we let people know in advance.

Main Contact: *Helen Ladkin*

NINE O'CLOCK COFFEE-STOP

If you have time, any Sunday, after the 9.o'clock Mass, why not call in at the Parish Rooms for a cup of tea or coffee - Fairtrade, of course! - and a biscuit.

It's great for a chat and catch-up and a good opportunity to meet and welcome any new arrivals to the Parish.

Any profits we make go to the Homeless, Care Group and Flower Group and current school/parish charities. We also manage to provide a super hamper for the Parish Bazaar each year - and if you were to decide that you would like to join our happy band of tea-makers (*with a turn on the rota every 6-8 weeks*) we would be absolutely delighted to hear from you!

Main Contact: *Julia : Telephone: 0116 270 8315*
June : Telephone : 0116 270 8137

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) was formed in 2007 following calls for increased representation from both parishioners and the Diocese. It exists to help and advise our Parish Priest in the day to day running and administration of the Parish. It advises and plans on issues from liturgy and laity to security and social events. It allows parishioners direct feedback to their Parish Priest and the Parish through the council members.

The PPC consists of the Parish Priest and 12 members of the Parish. At inception, six members were hand-picked by Fr. Malachy and a further 6 volunteered from the body

ALTAR AND SACRAMENTAL LINENS

The Purificators, Lavabo Towel, Chalice Pall and Corporal are maintained by a rota of three volunteers. Other linens and the Altar Servers' Albs are cleaned and maintained by Sister Theresa Joseph, while Sister Joan Agnes cleans the Sacred Vessels.

Main Contact: *Doris Paul Clark: Telephone: 0116 270 6418*
The Carmelite Sisters : Telephone: 0116 270 4564

ALTAR SERVERS

A lively group of friendly youngsters aged from 7 — 40+ support Fr. Malachy during weekend Masses, and a few adults perform the same role at weekday Masses. It is a wonderful privilege to be of service to the community and also to get to know more about your faith. All that we ask is that you have received your First Holy Communion - apart from that, age is no barrier! After attending faithfully altar servers become members of St. Stephen's Guild. Just ask one of the altar servers or see Fr. Malachy if you think you might be interested.

Main Contact: *Ian Hudson: Telephone: 0116 273 0550*

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASSES

If you're thinking of having your baby or child Baptised the parish of St. Thomas More offer a number of Baptism preparation classes throughout the year. These classes generally take place over two to three evening sessions in January/February, June and November (subject to numbers). The classes allow parents to gain a better understanding of the Sacrament of Baptism as well as providing the opportunity to meet other new parents in the parish. If you would like further information relating to these sessions and/or would like to reserve a place please contact one of the people below.

Main Contact: *Gabby Newman : 0116 270 8019*
Justine Colley : 0116 2709307

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Parish property is always in need of attention and we have two main contacts for these:

Main Contact: *Fr. Malachy* *Buildings -Pat McCole*
Grounds - Liam O'Halloran

CAFOD - CATHOLIC AGENCY FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT

CAFOD is the official overseas aid organisation of the Catholic church. Through prayer, campaigning and fundraising, we seek to raise awareness of development issues and bring about an end to poverty and the human suffering that goes with it.

CAFOD raises money from the general public, the UK Government and through our donations in order to help the world's resources to be shared equally among the poor. Members of our parish generously support the two fast day collections (in Lent and Harvest-time) each year and monies collected for the Newsletter are also donated.

Within the group, Annette Brindle is CAFOD's Key Volunteer and works closely with CAFOD in the Nottingham diocese, particularly with respect to campaigning and schools. If a group wants to know more about any aspect of CAFOD's work, Annette is available to give a presentation.

She can be contacted on: benbrindle1@yahoo.co.uk.

Main Contact: *Sally Ruane: Telephone: 0116 270 3053*
email address: sally.ruane1@homecall.co.uk

CARE GROUP

The Care Group is a small group of parishioners who meet every couple of months to discuss the sick, elderly and housebound of the parish. The group work well together with Fr. Malachy, trying to ensure parishioners who need visits get the support of the parish.

Once a year we organise a service for the sick, elderly and housebound and the Sunday before Christmas we invite the sick, elderly, housebound and anyone in the parish who will be alone for Christmas to join us in the Parish Room for a tea party. The children of the parish entertain us with Christmas carols.

If you would like to be involved with the group please make contact with one of the members below.

Main Contact: *Honor Guerin: Telephone: 0116 271 7244*
John Elliott: Telephone: 0116 270 3291

CASH COUNTING

The procedures for cash counting are necessary to provide audit trails required by the Parish bookkeeper, the Parish Auditor, the Diocesan Finance Officer and the Inland Revenue.

MARRIAGE

The Sacrament of Marriage allows partners to promise to give their life and their love freely—one to the other—with the help of God and the community, who are called to witness this joyous celebration.

Church law normally requires one partner to be a confirmed Catholic. If you live in this parish, worship here regularly, or consider St. Thomas More's to be your "family church," you may approach the priest about the possibility of being married at St. Thomas More.

Six month's notice of your plans is required to allow time for the priest to establish that both parties are free to marry according to the rites of the Catholic Church. Couples are also required to attend a Marriage Preparation Course which can be discussed with the priest. On the wedding day, many who are involved with the parish will be there to offer help and support.

If your partner is not a Catholic, please be assured that we will make them and their family welcome and at home.

Main Contact: *Fr. Malachy: Telephone: 0116 221 8385*

MUM'S THE WORD

The St. Thomas More Mother & Baby/Toddler Group is a group of parents who meet every Monday during term time for play, crafts, story-time and singing.

We meet at 2.45 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. There is a small cost of 50p per session per family which includes a cuppa, a biscuit and all the gossip. The first session is free to newcomers.

Everyone is very welcome to come along. It is a great opportunity for your children to meet with other children who they may well end up going to school with.

Although the group is for your children to play and socialise together, it has in fact become much more than that. We arrange social events for the parents and the whole family including nights out, pamper days, play days and picnics in the park. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

Main Contact: *Julie Telephone: 0116 271 4177*

Guides:

Guides have fun! They take part in indoor and outdoor activities that challenge them to do their best! Guides choose and plan most of their activities, which can include themed evenings, trips, concerts and many more! There are opportunities for Guides to take part in special activities such as sleepovers, an annual summer camp, pop concerts, to name but a few. We meet on Monday evening during school term time, from 7.00 p.m.—8.45 p.m. at St. Thomas More School. Guides are for girls aged 10 years and over.

For more information please contact our leader below and also the Girl Guiding Website: www.girlguiding.org.uk.

Main Contact: *Annette McHale: Telephone: 0770 8882654*

HOMELESS

The Parish gives financial support to the Youth Advice and Support Centre which works with the Homeless of Leicester. John Elliott acts as the link person.

Main Contact: *John Elliott : Telephone : 0116 270 3291*

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

The Justice and Peace Group is concerned with working for justice and peace both at home and abroad by exploring the causes of injustice, raising awareness and facilitating the participation of parishioners in relevant events and actions.

The group meets as required, usually around every six or eight weeks, and any parishioner is very welcome to join us at any point. In the past we have mounted campaigns in the parish on indebtedness in the developing world and on trade justice, among other things.

For many years we have arranged for greeting cards to be sent annually to prisoners of conscience by parishioners. We are currently focussing on environmental issues, including climate change, but this is not our only focus of interest and we continue to campaign, for instance, on debt.

Anyone with an interest in these issues or in other issues of relevance to justice and peace that they would like to raise in the group is welcome to join us. Meetings take place on a weekday evening.

Main Contact: *Carol Sourbutts : Telephone: 0116 270 2657*
Sally Ruane : Telephone: 0116 270 3053

All donations to the Parish are counted and recorded with an emphasis on accuracy, particularly with regard to contributions made in weekly envelopes which provide the greatest income to the Parish. The Gift Aid Organiser ensures that all monies are banked and that necessary records maintained. Strict confidentiality is maintained throughout.

Cash counting is carried out by two volunteers on a Rota basis. For further details or to offer help please contact as below.

Main Contacts: *Fr Malachy*
Gilbert Paul-Clark : Telephone : 0116 2706418
Jonathan Mickleburgh : Telephone : 0116 2858781

CATENIAN ASSOCIATION

The Catenians' motto is "Strengthening family life through friendship and faith." The Catenians are a group of practising Catholic men who are invited to join and meet socially once a month to share common Catholic and family values, and socialise with their families.

Three groups meet in the Leicester area each month and all are represented in the parish:
Leicester group meet on the third Wednesday of each month
South Leicester group meet on the last Tuesday of each month
Kirby Muxloe group meet on the third Thursday of each month

If you are interested, you would be very welcome to find out more by contacting the members below:

Main Contact: *George Canty: Telephone: 0116 210 7976*
Gilbert Paul Clark: Telephone: 0116 270 6418

CENSUS FORMS & PARISH RECORDS

Our Parish Database is compiled using information provided by parishioners, with their consent, usually by way of completing a Census Form available in the church porch..

The information is kept confidential and used solely for church use. It is not divulged to any outside agencies or other parishioners, other than those approved by the Parish Priest for work within the parish.

If you have not completed a Census Form yet, or if you are new to the parish, or you have recently changed your address details; please feel free to pick up a blank Census Form in the church porch. Completed forms should be handed to Fr. Malachy.

Main Contact: *Jenny Allan/Pauline Payne at the Presbytery*
Telephone: 0116 221 8385

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

St. Thomas More Parish follows the Nottingham Diocese Child Protection Policy, shown below:

The Church recognises the personal dignity and rights of children towards whom it has a special responsibility and a duty of care. The Church, and individual members of it, undertake to do all in their power to create a safe environment for children and to prevent their physical, sexual or emotional abuse. The Church authorities will liaise closely with statutory agencies to ensure that any allegations of abuse are promptly and properly dealt with, victims supported and perpetrators held to account.”

If you have any concerns regarding any matters relating to Child Protection, please contact **Joe Dawson**, Protection Representative, either in person or via the Presbytery.

Alternatively, you may contact **John Creedon**, the Catholic Child Protection Co-ordinator at:

**Warren House, 2 Pelham Court,
Pelham Road,
Nottingham, NG5 1AP.**

Telephone: 0115 960 3010

**Main Contact: (St. Thomas More) Joe Dawson
Telephone: 0116 2702467**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

A special space in which we give children aged 4 - 11 years the opportunity to encounter and experience God directly at their own level. We use the Gospel to help children hear God's call and to grow in their understanding of God's presence in their lives. Activities include mime and drama, art and craft, music and meditation.

Children's Liturgy takes place every Sunday (term time only) during the 11.00 a.m. Mass. We also hold workshops during Lent and Advent. The children are invited to go into the parish hall before the Liturgy of the Word and return to the church just before the Offertory.

During the session we sing the Gospel acclamation, listen to the Gospel and follow this up with a discussion. This encourages the children to share their understanding of the Word of God. The children then do an activity such as colouring in, making paper objects or perform action songs.

After their liturgy the children are invited to the altar by Fr. Malachy. He asks the children about the Gospel and what they have understood and then encourages the children

FLOWER GUILD

Group meetings are held at various times during the year and are announced in the Newsletter.

New members are always welcome—for further information and special occasions regarding flowers please contact us.

Main Contact: Fran Lovell : Telephone: 0116 2889726

FRIENDS OF ST. THOMAS MORE

The Parent/Teacher Association for St. Thomas More Catholic School. This is open to all parents from early years to Year 6. We help support the school by fund raising for major or simple purchases or simply help provide refreshments at social events for the school. More details are available at the school office or contact one of the members of the committee below:

**Main Contact: Annette Bateman :Telephone: 0116 270 2808
Helen Rowlinson: Telephone: 0116 220 8452
Clare Lightfoot: Telephone: 0116 2708891**

GIRL GUIDING UK - "Girls in the Lead"

Girl Guiding is the largest voluntary organisation for girls and young women in this country. It has about 600,000 members. There are similar organisations throughout the world and Girl Guiding UK is a founding member of the world association that unites them.

Brownies:

Brownies is for girls aged 7 - 10 years old. They have fun and their meetings are full of challenges, games and activities, usually ones that the brownies have suggested themselves. They belong to a Pack and work in small groups called Sixes. This gives each girl a group of ready-made friends to take care of her. It also makes her feel that she belongs to something special.

We meet weekly during term time at St. Thomas More School, 5.30—7.00 p.m.

There are many opportunities for brownies to take part in special activities and events throughout the year, such as evenings at our local Girl Guiding campsite, visits to the pantomime, themed parties, as well as joining in with local brownie packs. There are also many badges for the brownies to work towards learning new skills in a friendly learning environment.

- Informs the Secretariat of deceased members for inclusion in the Book of Remembrance.

If you would like an Extraordinary Minister to visit a sick relative or friend or if you feel you would like to help with this rewarding work in our Parish please contact Fr. Malachy.

Main Contact: *John Elliott : Telephone : 0116 2703291*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION

Unusually our Parish School takes the lead in the preparation for First Holy Communion and Reconciliation programme. Parents are invited to put their children forward for preparation in September. Children who do not attend the Parish school are, of course, very welcome also.

The programme consists of child preparation during RE lessons at school. The parents of those not attending the school are given materials to support their child's preparation at home. In Advent, Lent and just before First Holy Communion Day, there are workshops on a Saturday afternoon where Parish, school and families come together to take part in creative activities, closely linked with the child's spiritual preparation. There are several celebrations:

*an Advent Mass,
a Rite of Commitment,
Reconciliation,
the First Holy Communion Mass*

and

a final Parish and School Celebration of Mass.

The parents are supported during six meetings which address Baptism, Reconciliation and the Eucharist, as well as the everyday organisational business; e.g., social arrangements for the celebrations. The children are given work books to work on at home throughout the year, with their parents. The programme aims to ensure the preparation is at the level of the children and that they are able to take ownership of the celebrations.

Main Contact: *Jane Gadsby : Telephone : 0116 270 5492 (home)
 Mobile: 07814 122567*

to show him what they have done for their activity. The children then return to their seats.

Our volunteers are parents who enjoy helping the children of our parish celebrate their faith. We always welcome new members so if you can help we invite you to join us in this very rewarding role.

Main contact: *Marcella Hoey: Telephone: 0116 288 5022
 Cornelia: Telephone: 0116 270 9644*

CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS

These, mostly unnoticed, but extremely efficient volunteers keep our church clean and tidy. They also clean and polish our brassware and sacramental vessels.

More volunteers are always needed so if you would like to help, please come forward. Thank you.

Main Contact: *Honor Guerin: Telephone: 0116 271 7244*

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

The parish regularly runs a course for young people wishing to make their Confirmation. The young people preparing for Confirmation will usually be in school years 6 or 7. The course followed is one designed in the parish using material from a range of sources. The last two Confirmation courses have been based on the Creed and have sought to help the young people understand their faith more fully. The sessions usually run on a weekday evening in the Parish rooms. The courses are publicised well in advance in the Parish Newsletter.

Main Contact: *Joe Dawson: Telephone: 0116 2211200 or
 josephpeterdawson@googlemail.com
 Father Malachy*

DOORKEEPERS

The smiling face and cheery greeting at the door may be the reason why you have come back to the Parish of St. Thomas More. Our "Welcomers" are worth their weight in gold. They stand at the back of Church and like a stage manager in a theatre, see that everything runs smoothly whilst discreetly staying in the background.

If there is to be singing at Mass, they will give you a hymn book or Mass sheet as you enter, they can help you to find a seat when the Church seems full, they ensure the Offertory Procession proceeds without a hitch, they take up the collections and do so much more

They are founts of knowledge - if they don't know the answer, they know someone who does. They can usually point you in the direction of someone involved in the group you are interested in joining. They are useful people to get to know!

If you would like to join the welcoming teams, speak to one of them - they will tell you all you need to know.

Main Contact: *Gilbert Paul-Clark: Telephone: 0116 2706418*

DRIVING ROTA

We have a driving rota in our parish for the weekend Masses. If you need a lift to any of the Masses or would like to help with the driving please contact one of the people below who will be happy to give you more information.

Main Contact: *Honor Guerin: Telephone: 0116 271 7244*
Chantel Spencer: Telephone: 0116 212 8175

“DROP-IN” GROUP

The “Drop-In” meets every Thursday after 10.00 a.m. Mass in the Parish room. We are a lovely group of about 35 members; there is no age limit as we always need people to help with lifts, tea, coffee or the occasional sherry! It's a great opportunity to meet the senior members of our parish, have a chat, meet old and make new friends.

About once a month we try to go out for lunch or have lunch in the Parish Room. If you have free time on Thursday mornings you are very welcome and join us. More information available from the contact below.

Main Contact: *Honor Guerin: Telephone: 0116 271 7244*

ECUMENISM, CHRISTIAN UNITY, INTER-FAITH

We, of St. Thomas More Parish, Knighton, are continually invited to respond and be aware of our role in Ecumenism/Christian Unity and Inter-Faith understandings. It is a huge responsibility, it is our Mission throughout every day of our lives.

Our Ecumenical Team is held in high esteem by our fellow Christians in our area, i.e., through The South Leicester Christian Partnership of which our Parish have been full members since it's inception.

Presently we have in our Team: Cari Crook, Sr. Joan Agnes, O.Carm, Fr. Malachy and Tom O'Connell.

We share increasing discoveries through our fellow members: the churches and communities of Baptist, Methodist, Quaker, Anglican, Congregational and Evangelical understandings (others are not excluded) within the Yearly Christian Calendar, on special occasions and particularly through The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

We benefit from our contacts and involvement with St. Philip's Pathway, a centre of welcome and enlightenment to all who are conscious of our responsibilities within the Interfaith and Multi-Ethnic population of our unique City. All this is ours to enjoy and share.

To be involved in any of this read our Parish Newsletter, listen to announcements or enquire from any representative of St. Thomas More Ecumenical Team.

Main Contact: *Tom O'Connell : Telephone : 0116 270 9590*

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

The dedicated people in this group have each been commissioned by the Bishop to support the Priest of the Parish in the distribution of the Eucharist at Mass, lead Eucharistic Services in the absence of a priest, and take Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. They are often referred to as “**Eucharistic Ministers**”. John Elliott co-ordinates the taking of Holy Communion to the sick and housebound and liaises with the Diocese for the parish team.

After appropriate training, the first such ministers for the Nottingham Diocese were commissioned by Bishop James McGuinness in 1978. On average almost 100 have been commissioned each year since then, latterly of course, being commissioned by Bishop Malcolm McMahon O.P.

The main activity of Extraordinary Ministers is to visit the sick with Holy communion. They also help with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass, on a rota basis, and attend a renewal day once a year in May or June.

Our Parish Representative organises the following:

- Copy and distributes to Extraordinary Ministers all relevant information received from the County Secretariat