

Parish News & Notices

Church Heating: The diocesan engineer has been out to look at the heating and we hope that progress will be made quickly! Meanwhile, Mass and Eucharistic Adoration will be held in the Parish Hall, although the church will remain open for private prayer, stations and confessions. Thank you for your patience.

Funerals this week: The funeral of Lawrence (Larry) Gallen will be held on Monday 12th March at 12:10. The reception of his body will be the previous evening at 5pm. The funeral of Barbara Ellen O'Donnell will be held on Thursday 15th March at 9.30am.

Lenten Reconciliation Service and Confessions: In addition to the usual opportunities for confessions, the Lenten Reconciliation Service, followed by confessions will be at 12.30pm(after midday Mass) on Wednesday 23rd March.

Sundays in Lent are days of prayer for candidates for the Sacraments. In our parish, we have 2 candidates - please pray especially for them and also all those attending the joint course at St Mary's.



Stations of the Cross are celebrated at 6pm every Friday during the season of Lent.

Lenten Rosary at the statue of Our Lady of Coventry: This annual Lenten witness of faith takes place every Friday during Lent at the Statue of Our Lady in the Priory Gardens at 1.40pm. Parishioners from across the deanery attend. Everybody is most welcome.

Easter Flowers: This week we will be having a second collection towards the cost of flowers for the church at Easter.

Mother's Day: This Sunday is Mother's Day. We will be including a special blessing for mothers during the 11.30 mass. All mothers and children are welcome.

Easter Mass Cards are now available in the sacristy.

St Patrick's Day: The annual St Patrick's Day Mass will be held at St Mary's at 7pm on 16th March.

Cardinal Newman School warmly invite you to their Family and Community Mass on Wednesday 14th March at 6.00pm. This will be celebrated in the school and refreshments will be provided afterwards. All Welcome.

Newsletter Online: For those of you that have access to the internet, you can get our parish newsletter (and those of other parishes) on the Coventry Deanery website, <http://coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk/new/newsletters/>. This is probably the most environmentally friendly way to read our newsletter!

Mobile Phones Reminder - Please remember to switch off your phones or put on 'silent' when in church. It is very distracting when mobiles ring while others are praying.



ON SILENT MODE PLEASE



St. Osburg's



A.J Missions



St Mary's



St Elizabeth's

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SPIRITUAL LIGHT FOR THE HUMAN JOURNEY OF LIFE

In our natural setting in the universe, light is important for any form of life. Life seems impossible without it; we need light to be able to do most of the things we need to do every day. The plants that the animals feed on require light energy for their growth. We are able to see the beauty of the world with the aid of light. It seems life and light are two the faces of the same coin. If, in simple terms, light is defined as a natural agent that stimulates sight and makes things visible, then without it we would not be able to work to develop our world. If our sight is affected we need correction to improve our vision. In the same way, we also need spiritual attentiveness to improve our spiritual blind spots by reflecting on the Holy Scriptures.

At the creation of the world, light was the second thing to be created (*Gen. 1:1-3, the earth was formless, and it was darkness everywhere God said let there be light.....*). Later on, when he healed the blind man, Christ said *I'm the light of the world..... (Jn. 9:5)*. In today's gospel for the fourth Sunday of Lent, our Lord said, *though the light has come into world, people preferred darkness (Jn.3:19-21)*. In these scriptural events, we are reminded that, to live according to God's plan, we are expected to live in the light of God that includes; holiness, truthfulness, love, forgiveness, justice, generosity, kindness, peacefulness, understanding and faithfulness. If we live in spiritual darkness or in the absence of spiritual light we miss the original plan of God for our life. All that goes contrary to light is darkness or deficiency of good, which includes; injustice, dishonesty, distrust, disobedience, arrogance, disunity, envy, jealousy, unforgiveness, anger, bitterness, violence, unfaithfulness, emotional imbalance, hatred, prejudice, resentment, ignorance and laziness.

During this Lenten season we are called to overcome our spiritual blindness so as hold on to the life of the light of God to make our human journey of life evocative and effective to our contemporary world. It is only when we invite God into our lives that we can be able to comprehend our spiritual blindness. Just as, unless we visit the optician, we may not know how much our vision is affected. By this reflection we are invited to pay attention to God's word to unblock our spiritual blindness.

God bless,

Fr Pontius

The Most Holy Sacrament and St. Osburg

Barras Lane, Coventry, CV1 4AQ. Tel 024 7622 0402

Fr. Pontius 074 2455 3529 and Fr. Sunday 074 4802 9184

Parish Sisters: Sr. Philomena and Sr. Teresa (PBVM)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Anne Collins 024 7667 0304

St. Osburg's Primary School, Upper Hill Street Coventry CV1 4AP. Tel 024 7622 7165

Headteacher: Mrs Nicola Rynott.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 024 7625 8901

www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Jimmy Lutwama AJ

Mobile: 07906124756.

E-mail: lutwajim@yahoo.com

St. Elizabeth's R.C. Church

St. Elizabeth's Road, CV6 5BX Tel.:024 76688536

www.stelizabethcoventry.co.uk

Parish priest: Fr. Moses Pitya David AJ

E-mail: mospitya@yahoo.co.uk

The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg. Charity No. 234216

Parish development

Collection - Gift aid: £69.00 **Loose:** £221.97 **Total:** £290.97

Restoration Gift Aid: £1000.00 **Heating:** £9.32 **Candles:** £48.72

Hall Rental: £25.00 **Rent:** £100

Thank you for your generosity.

The Second Collection taken this week is for Easter flowers.

300 Club February Draw

1st Prize: 676 J Skidmore

2nd Prize: 545 J McGrogan

3rd Prize: 572 A Hamilton

4th Prize: 360 L Murphy

In the event of any queries, contact Ann Fenton on tel 024 7659 9544

School Masses:

Forthcoming school masses are on Thursdays at 9.10am on 15th March (in the school hall) and 29th March. Parishioners are welcome to attend.

First Reconciliation - Congratulations to the Year 3 children who made their First Reconciliation on Friday afternoon. The children led us through a beautiful service of prayers, drama, sacred dance, hymns and readings before individually receiving the sacrament. Thank you to Mrs Bardell and Miss Wood for preparing the children and also thank you so much to the children and families for making it such a reverent and holy experience. We ask the whole school and parish community to pray for them during this special year in their journey of faith.

Hearing Aid Users—Please switch your hearing aid to 'T'

MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEK from 10th - 18th March 2018

Sat	10	11.45am	Eamon Mullalley (Sp Int)
		5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun	11	11.30am	James O'Haire (Birthday)
Mon	12	12.10pm	FUNERAL - Lawrence Gallen
Tues	13	12.10pm	Shirley Hartnett (Sp Int) Ellen Deehan (RIP)
Wed	14	12.10pm	Carol Ward (Get well) Daniel McBrien (18th birthday)
Thurs	15	9.00am 9.30am 12.10pm	School Mass (in school hall) FUNERAL (Barbara O'Donnell) Daniel Kirkwood (RIP) Fr Pontius (Sp Int)
Fri	16	12.10pm	Ann Hobbs (RIP) Joe McInerney (RIP)
Sat	17	11.45am 5.30pm	Lawrence Gallen (RIP) People of the Parish
Sun	18	11.30am	John Rynne (Anniversary)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 10th March

5.30PM Ann E & Bernadette (R)

Teresa (E)

Sunday 11th March

11.30am Maggie & Charles (R),

Janet & Catherine (E)

Cleaners: This week's team is Team 2.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intentions for March: - "Formation in Spiritual Discernment; that the Church may appreciate the urgency of formation in spiritual discernment, both on the personal and communitarian levels."

Please pray for the sick of the parish: Eileen McHugh, Garry Hobbs, Teresa Rynne, Cameron Reilly, Carla Lawrence, Terence Harris, Patrick Connolly, Mark Correvisgandis, Anne Bacia, Colin Hipperson, Kathleen Tierney, Diane Cunningham, Kieran Connell, Ahmed Musa, Ruth Clithero, Jan Carusso, Tom McDermott, Winnie McDermott, Gerald Douglas, Shirley Hartnett, Stephen Bayliss, Jackie Buckley, Dave Riliott, Alan Davis, Margaret Ghen, Bridie & Benny McAndrew, Christine Strong, Hilda Gibson, Sheila Biggs.

Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

James Dunphy, William Horan, Florence Spencer, Molly Gorrell, Francis O'Reilly, Sam McCooey, Mary McConville, Dermot Daly, Annie McLennaghan, Angela Gaffney, John Rynne, Noel Cross.

