

## Matters of importance

**Organizing the parish office:** the parish computer is too old and its software is phased out by Microsoft. I think St. Osburgs is the only parish using Microsoft Windows 2000. In colloquial terms we are in the stone age. Even Windows XP, is no longer supported by Microsoft, the computer is good for scrap. I'm making an appeal for 2 new desktop computers One for the Financial secretary and Gift Aid departments the other is for parish ordinary secretarial work. The two computers will cost £1,600:00

**Candles at the statues:** thanks to the faithful who visit our church and light candle leaving them burning in the presence of the Lord. I have observed though that some people place candles beneath the statues. This is not good because, soon and very soon these recently restored statues will be blackened with soot. Please light the candle and place it on the candle tray. May the Lord always answer your requests.

**St. Osburgs Fun Quiz Night:** has been organised to raise funds to refurbish the kitchen of St. Osburgs parish hall which is in a very sorry state. It will take place on Saturday 7th May 2016 starting at 7:30pm. There will be a raffle with fabulous prizes to be won. Admission charge is £1.00. Please bring your own drinks and let us all have an evening filled with fun and cheer.

**Class teacher required from Sept. 2016:** by St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School Foleshill. Application forms are available from [www.catholiceducation.org.uk](http://www.catholiceducation.org.uk) we encourage applications to be returned via e-mail to the address above. **Closing date:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 12 noon. Candidates who are shortlisted will be contacted on 3<sup>rd</sup> May evening Observation on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2016. Interviews: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2016

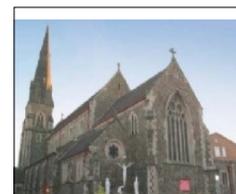
**Understanding CAFOD Day- an Invitation:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 11am-4pm. St Chad's Sanctuary, Birmingham (B4 6HA). All are very welcome whether a long-standing or new supporter, please do join us. Come along to an excellent day of learning about all things CAFOD including: Who is CAFOD? How did CAFOD get started? How can you as a current Parish Contact, Education Volunteer or someone wanting to know about how to volunteer at CAFOD, become, or get more involved? Free lunch & refreshments provided. To confirm your place, please email [ewignall@cafod.org.uk](mailto:ewignall@cafod.org.uk).

**Archbishop Bernard wrote** Ahead of this weekend's special collection, on Sunday 24 April 2016 requested by the Holy Father, for the Ukraine, I thought you might also like to see a letter from Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, the Ukrainian Catholic Eparch for Great Britain, which is available via diocesan intranet (Clergy – Misc Documents – Ukraine Appeal - Letter from Bishop Hlib Lonchyna). I have been informed that the proceeds of this Sunday's collection will be joined to a substantial offering to be made by Pope Francis and that these funds will be used for the benefit of those living in conflict zones and those displaced within the Ukraine. Thank you once again for encouraging a generous response to this special appeal in view of the particularly grave situation facing the Ukrainian people.

**Thank you to all** those from our parish who attended the funeral of Fr Eamon Clarke, retired priest of the Diocese who died the morning of 9th April, at Warwick Hospital. He was former priest of Christ the King, Coventry, and was a member of the theology department when he was Chaplain of what was then Newman College, Birmingham and is now Newman University, Birmingham. He died a priest. Let us do our best to remain faithful in our Christian calling until the end.



AJ Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeth

## Parish Newsletter—5th Sunday of Easter- 24th April to 1st May 2016

### WOULD YOU CONTINUE OR YOU WOULD RUN BACK?

One day while basking in the hot African sun my dad and I noticed that the house of our neighbour was on fire. The animals in that home had also noticed the pending disaster and were calling for help; dogs were barking, cows were mooing and goats were bleating. It was a huge fire indeed each animal was calling loudly in its own language. It was natural instinct to run as fast as we could to put the fire off. I sympathised with my old dad. As we approached the neighbours' house, my dad looked back at his house and he noticed that it had caught fire too. He did not continue but turned back to put off the fires in his house first. That was the end of his rescue mission.

At the moment there is a lot of need which as Christians we have to respond to. Some of our neighbours houses are on fires; think of the refugee crisis, natural disasters and disease. But we must not forget that as a parish our house is on fire too, the fire of huge financial debt. The huge financial debt of St Osburgs will not be solved by strangers or by our neighbours but by ourselves. No single individual will solve it unless he/she wins a lottery. The generosity showed by the parish towards different charities some of which have other sources of funding to carry on their work should not blind us to the fact that the fires in our house are ferocious and that unless we fight hard, the parish can sink beneath the waves.

The parish debt at St. Osburgs is coming down thanks to your generosity. My approach so far has been to make alternative provisions for running costs just to keep the deficit low. For example, altar candles which used to cost £60. a month were replaced by oil filled candles which cost £60.00 a year newsletter printing is done at St. Mary's and more than 3000 miles I have covered between St. Mary's and St. Osburgs since I took on the parish in September 2015 are not claimed. Fuel and car maintenance is from my pocket. This is a personal effort. I'm sure Fr. Moses would have his story to tell too.

Parish debts are not 'ordinary mortgage' as some of us might think. Remember that a parish has huge buildings and other infrastructures more than an ordinary household, therefore its running costs are always higher than an ordinary home. Let us take every opportunity to reduce our parish expenses; close the door, switch off lights, close the taps in the bathroom, support 300 Club, come for our Saturday lunches in the hall. Buy cards from our piety stall, increase your Sunday offering in you can. Are a tax payer why don't you register with Gift Aid so that for every pound you give to the church we can claim £0.25 back thus making your donation bigger without extra cost to you? God has given us a mission to do here and now, that is why he created us to live at this time to do our best, the rest we leave to God. Remember the story above about my dad's rescue mission. At that moment his home took precedence over his neighbour's

**The Most Holy Sacrament and St. Osburgs**

Barras Lane, Coventry, CV1 4AQ. Tel 024 76220402  
Fr. Jimmy Mobile. 07906124756 Home 02476258901  
Fr. MosesTel.:024 76688536

Parish Sisters: Sr. Philomena and Sr. Theresa (PBVM)  
(St. Osburgs Primary School, Upper Hill Street Coventry CV1 4AP. Tel  
02476227165 Headteacher Mrs Nicola Rynott.

**St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church**

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901  
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  
Website: 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**

**1st collection**

**Gift aid..... £129.97**

**Loose..... £418.71**

**Total..... £548.68 Thanks for your generosity.**

**2nd special collection today for people of Ukraine 23rd/24th April.**

**Making your Sunday Offering by Gift Aid** : if you pay taxes on your income is a wonderful opportunity to support the church without extra cost to you. All you have to do is to sign a form and you pick up some envelopes in which you place your Sunday offering no matter how big or small it may be. Take an example last week the loose collection was £418.71. If this was donated through Gift Aid scheme our parish would have claimed from the Government £104.45 making our loose collection to become £523.16. If you are a tax payer every pound you donate to the church, the government adds 0.25pence which is passed on to the parish. The parish debt of St. Osburgs is more than an ordinary mortgage. That is why every effort we make to keep it low is commendable and worthwhile.

**Funeral Mass** there will be a Requiem Mass for John Clark commonly as Johnny on Thursday 28th April 2016 at 12:10pm. He was 86. Please keep him in your prayers.

**Request for Mass:** it is important to ask the priest to have him celebrate a Holy Mass for your intentions. Mass cards are available either in the sacristy or at the piety stall in the hall. A prayer requested for and offered for the welfare of others is one of the highest form of showing true love. Notice of the Mass requested for will be put in the parish bulletin and mentioned at the beginning of the Mass. It is extremely important that when you request for Mass you endeavour to be present at that Mass.

**Hearing Aid Users—Please switch your hearing aid to ‘T’**

**5th Sunday of Easter- Mass Book pg. no. 136**

**TIMES OF MASSES DURING THE WEEK from 24th April to 1st May 2016**

Sat	23	11.45am	John Fahey (Anni)
		5.30pm	John Francis Kelly (RIP)
Sun	24	11.30am	Ian Campbell (Anni)
Mon	25	12.10am	Clare (Get well)
Tues	26	12.10pm	Phil Brien (RIP)
Wed	27	12.10pm	S. Doffey (RIP)
Thurs	28	12.10pm	Bernie Lloyd (Spl int)
Fri	29	12.10pm	June Mc Dermott (Get well)
Sat	30	11.45am	Fr. Jim Mannix (Get well)
		5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun	01	11.30am	Maureen Pearsans (B'day)

**Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers**

**Weekend 23rd/24th April**

**30th April/1st May**

5:30 pm	Ann F, Raquel (R) Bernadette (E)	Ann E, Bernadette (R) Maggie (E)
11.30am	Maggie, Charles (R) Janet, Zen (E)	School Readers Charles, Maggie (E)

**Please pray for the sick of the parish:** Laurence Gallen, Ron Hamilton, Garry Hobbs, Teresa Rynne, Cameron Reilly, Carla Lawrence, Josie Kennedy, Terence Harris, Patrick Connolly, Mark Corvisgandis Anne, Bacia, Colin Hipper-son, Kathleen Tierney, Diane Cunningham, Kieran Connell, Ahmed Musa, Carol Sparks, Ruth Glithero, Jan Carusso, Nadia Faruk Hannah, Tom McDermott, Winnie McDermott, Gerald Douglas, Shirley Hartnett, Stephen Bayliss, Jackie Buckley, Angela Jordan, Dave Riliott, Alan Davis, David Horley, Margaret Ghen, Bridie & Benny McAndrew

**Please pray for those whose anniversary occur about this time :**

Lawhor Harnah, Morrissey Margaret Rose, Brady James, Clare Daphne Mary, Jones Eileen Teresa, Sullivan Sheila, Thompson Patrick, Doherty Michael, McHayle Elizabeth Sarah

**300 Club April Draw winners.** 1st prize No. 397 G. Campbell,  
2nd prize No 391 J. Cox,  
3rd prize No. 438 J. Murphy  
4th prize No. 146 M. Molloy,  
5th prize No. 680. M. Leahy. Congratulations to our winners of the month. I wish to encourage you to join these parish fundraising activities for good causes. If you want to know more about 300 club please contact Mrs. Ann Fenton.