

MASSES Week 2nd to 9th Feb 2014

Sat	01	6.00pm	Sheila McElaney (Get well)
Sun	02	9.30am	Alice Fullerton (RIP)
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	03	12.30pm	Requiem-William Stewart
		6.30-7.30	Holy Hour
Tue	04	9.30am	Ralph Jordan (RIP)
Wed	05	9.30am	John Clegg (RIP)
Thurs	06	12.30pm	Requiem –Sylvia Forest
		6.30-7.00pm	Adoration (No Mass)
Fri	07	6.30-7.30pm	Prayer for Priests
		7.30pm	Mary Erwin (RIP)
Sat	08	10.30am	Tess Gabriel (RIP)
11.00am to 12.00 noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sat	08	6.00pm	Rita McDonald (RIP)
			Linval George Morant (RIP)
Sun	09	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	Pa Kuwan Stephen (RIP)

Feast Days: 2nd Feb Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>Weekend 25th/26th Jan</u>	<u>Weekend 1st/2nd Feb</u>
6.00 pm	Tom Ward, Theresa Sophie (E)	Sr Leena, Brendon Barbara (E)
9.30 am	Stephanie, Julia Elizabeth (E)	Sr Lydwin, Roisin Bridie (E)
11.30am	Noble, Ekemini Vera, Kath (E)	Veronica, Honorine Serso, Loveness (E)

RIP: Ralf Jordan, William Stewart and Sylvia Forest.

Anniversaries during this Week: William Molloy, Marie Macken, Teresa McSharry, Josephine Robertson, Elizabeth Hoey William, Antony Braganza, Peter Montague, Frank & Maura Corrigan, William Mulrooney, Leslie Burke, Bridget Clisham,

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Maura Marron, Eileen McHugh, Tony McKiernan, Theodor Vaz, Mary Mulrooney, Maureen Patterson, Jim Dunleavy, Philomena Dunleavy, Molly Kelly, John Currison, Gerard Griffith, Paul Kordes, Jean Kordes, Diana Best, Jim Crean, Margaret Brolly, Tess Pearkes, Joe Reynolds, Sheila McElaney, Sheila Clear, Janie Patalong, Tom Duignan, Thomas Murtagh, Peter Harte, Job Giles, Bob McGorman.

St. Mary & St. Benedict's R.C. Church

52a Raglan Street, Coventry, CV1 5QF Tel. (024) 76258901

www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Reg. Charity No. 234216

P. Priest: Fr Jimmy Lutwama AJ: 024 76 258901 Email:lutwajim@yahoo.com

Parish Sisters: Sisters Lydwin, Leena: 024 76550848.

Parish School: St Mary & St Benedict's, Leigh Street. Head: Mrs P. MacDonald.

Tel: 02476 229486 www.stmary-stben.coventry.sch.uk

Safeguarding: Sr. Lydwin, Mrs. M. Vaughan, Ms Veronica Carroll TEL.024 76258901

Hearing Aid users – Please switch your hearing aid to 'T'

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2nd to 9th Feb 2014

Mass Book Yr. A Part 1 pg.130 onwards

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS

Dear Parishioners, during the week we met to look for the way to implement the Archbishop's request from us to reduce our weekend Masses from three to two. I'm grateful for all who came to the Church hall on their respective days to discuss this matter. We need to be aware that the people of God who make up St. Mary's parish do not necessarily live within its boundaries; to think so is a great self-deception, instead our parishioners come from all over the corners of Coventry even as far as Nuneaton, Lamington-Spa, Bedworth, Rugby, Tile Hill, Holbrookes etc. There is a saying that "what makes a family is where one's heart is" so it is with St. Mary's, what makes membership to her is that it is here where our heart is.

There is no doubt that these adjustments will cause unease but we must never forget that obedience to do the pastoral requests of our bishops is the best thing we can do for the good of the church. Obedience is better than any sacrifices someone can make.

As your Parish Priest, I was pleased that a good number of you turned up for the meetings and that each one of you had the opportunity to speak out honestly his or her opinions concerning the matter.

In his recent pastoral letter, the Archbishop asked us to have the willingness to see the bigger picture by taking into account the pastoral needs across the city. If we need a priest in our parish, we ought to realize that other parishes need priests as well. It is on this account that we are asked to see the bigger picture and to be generous by considering some changes in our weekend routine in order to support the inevitable changes rather than looking for a more convenient time elsewhere.

I have read the pastoral letter again and again; as you do so, you soon realize that the Archbishop has left the destiny of each parish in Coventry into the hands of its members. He wants them to make decisions which of course will have far reaching consequences. We must not be shortsighted, we must not be discouraged, we must not let the Archbishop to function as an arbitrator in a case of this kind even though he has indicated that that can be the case when an agreement cannot be locally reached.

Parish priests around the city are engaged in consultations with their parishioners on how to implement the cutting down of Masses. I'm so pleased that our consultations here at St. Mary's were supported and discussed with love and affection for our parish.

Is any parishioner sick or in hospital? Please inform the Parish Priest or one of the Sisters. It is important that Catholics on admission to hospital tell their religion to be recorded and request a visit from the Catholic Chaplain.

Pastoral Issues:

RCIA: The next session will take place on Tuesday 4th February at 6.00pm in the parish hall. All our candidates to be baptized and to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church are reminded to be present.

Baptism Course for the parents who wish to have their children baptized will be on Monday 3rd February at 5.30pm in the parish hall.

First Holy Communion preparation course for our school children will commence with a meeting for parents of children in year 3 on Monday 24th February 2014 at 6.00pm. If your child is attending a Non-Catholic School and you wish that he/she should receive Communion here at St Mary's please contact Mrs Pauline McDonald, the Head Teacher in the school. We can now confirm that the date for children to receive the Sacrament of First Holy Communion is Saturday 14th June 2014 at 10:30am.

Parish Membership registration: was mentioned earlier at the beginning of the year. The idea has delayed to be implemented because I have not come across a suitable book that would meet our requirements. Suggestions or samples of such record book are very welcome.

"Pilgrimage to Medjugorje from Birmingham 8th-15th May, only £525. Price includes return flights from Birmingham International Airport, coach transfers to Medjugorje, half board accommodation & experienced guide. For more information please contact Jonathan on 01423 546 175 or email travel@aglowpilgrimages.com"

Pious Devotion

Divine Mercy monthly prayers are every last Thursday of the month 6.30 – 7.30pm.

Prayer for priests is every first Friday of the month from 6.30 – 7.30pm.

Rosa Mystica prayers on 13th of every month between 2.00pm & 3.00pm.

The Lady's chapel is open from 9:00am to 7:00pm from Monday to Friday for anyone who wishes to come and spend some time in prayer. It is closed on Wednesday.

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid £218.72 Loose 444.46 Total £663.18 Thank you.

Counters: 1st/2nd Feb Agnes Heffernan & Tom Ferris

Bonus Ball: Wednesday Draw No 35 Rose Hogan

Saturday Draw No 11 Joyce Evans

Second Collection: 16th February-Catholic Education Service

2nd March - Cathedral Maintenance

Mass Attendance: Weekend 25th/26th Jan. 407

Other Matters of Importance

Timetable set by the Archbishop on new Mass times:

1. Weekend of 11 / 12 January 2014 letter from Archbishop Bernard was read in all parishes of the City of Coventry announcing the decision of 2 Masses per parish.
2. From mid-Jan. until Sunday 23rd Feb., consultation period. Every parish looks at its Mass attendance, its current times and what their preference for revised Mass times (with no guarantee). Where possible, each parish will be able to keep one established time.
3. From 24th February to 2nd March the clergy will review the preferences of their parishioners and shape a proposal to give to the Archbishop.
4. First Sunday of Lent (9th March) - announcement of new Mass times for the City.
5. 27th April 2014 implementation of new Mass times on 2 Mass policy per parish.

Warning: *no parish should automatically seek to keep times unchanged, as the provision across the Deanery is of a higher priority than the needs of any individual parish.*

Further Details can be found at www.coventry-catholicdeanery.org.uk and the Archdiocese of Birmingham website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

'The Stones Cry Out' You are invited to the opening event in the National Tour of the story of Palestinian Christians at Earlsdon Methodist Church Albany Road, Coventry, CV5 6NF on Friday 7th February, 7.30pm light refreshments will be served from 7pm and Palestinian goods will be on sale. There will be Film Screening, Q & A with the film maker, Yasmine Perni supported by Pax Christi, Coventry Friends of Palestine Coventry Deanery JP Group and Kairos Britain. Donations accepted to cover costs (£5 suggested but pay whatever who can afford – more or less!) more information can be obtained from: annfarr@phoncoop.coop

Romero Mass: You are invited to the annual Romero Mass celebrating the life of Archbishop Romero and the work of justice & peace in the Archdiocese of Birmingham on Wednesday 26th March 2014 at 2.00pm at St Chad's Cathedral. Mass will be celebrated by His Grace, Archbishop Bernard Longley which will be followed by light refreshments and a talk by Julian Filochowski, Chair of the Archbishop Romero Trust.

Nursery Applications for September 2014: Application forms for Nursery class for September 2014 will be available from the school office along with the Admissions Policy. Your child must be three by 31st August 2014. Completed forms should be returned to the office with an original birth certificate and a baptismal certificate before 31st March 2014.

Sanitary and environmental issue: incidences of chewing gum in the church have been brought to my attention; surely this is not a good thing to do. As you get out of church through car park door you will also notice chewing gum which is spat out as some people come into the church. It looks very ugly and the parish has no facilities to clean it off. St. Mary's is a very beautiful place; please let us passionately take care of it by keeping her clean otherwise it will soon become an eyesore to look at.