

MASSES Week 7th to 14th December 2014

Sun	07	9.30am	Tony Mulroney (RIP) Deceased McGirr Family
		11.30am	Alazar, Amameele & Aklasia (RIP)
Mon	08	12.30pm	Joseph Clear (Anni)
Tue	09	9.30am	Nora Griffith (Spl Int)
Wed	10	9.30am	Sisters of St Ann (Thanksgiving)
Thurs	11	6.30-7.00pm	Adoration Kathleen Delany (Spl Int)
Fri	12	6.30-7.00pm	Adoration Terry Bennett (Anni)
Sat	13	10.30am	Mick & Rose Hogan (Spl Int)
11.00am-12.00 noon exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sun	14	9.30am	Sam & Antonia Aikhionbare (Wed Anni)
		11.30am	People of the parish

Feast Days: 8th Dec Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Bl Virgin Mary
13th Dec St Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Weekend 7th Dec 2014

9.30 am Julia, Asipita
Sophie (E)
11.30am Honorine, Veronica
Serso, Loveness (E)

Weekend 14th Dec 2014

Nazareth, Elena
Barbara (E)
Cynthia, Victoria
Veronica, Serso (E)

RIP: Bob McGorman, Don McCaffer, Vincent McKeown, Mary Kavanagh, Ellen Flaherty, Michael O'Shea, Jim Dunleavy, Kevin Foley, Theresa Carey, Maura Marron.

Anniversaries during this Week: Michael Kapusta, Breda Byrne, Jean Cartwright, Christine Fitzgibbons, Edward McGinn, Patrick Noonan, Annie Corrigan, Dennis James McCann, Albert Shorthose, Anne Plunkett, Norah Bernadette Hanbury, Margaret Kinsella, Jack Sheehan, John Cain, Andy McHugh.

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Eileen McHugh, Tony McKiernan, Theodor Vaz, Mary Mulroney, Maureen Patterson, Philomena Dunleavy, Molly Kelly, John Currison, Gerard Griffith, Paul Kordes, Jean Kordes, Diana Best, Jim Crean, Tess Pearkes, Joe Reynolds, Sheila McElaney, Sheila Clear, Janie Patalong, Tom Duignan, Thomas Murtagh, Job Giles, Maria Drabik, Michelle, James Hamill, Danny Diver, Michael Clear, Anne Creed, Mary O'Sullivan, Max Gorman, John Kerrigan.

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, Leera: 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'

Second Sunday of Advent 7th to 14th December 2014

Mass Book Yr. B Part 1 pg. 84 onwards

THIS KIND OF PREPARATION IS BAD ENOUGH:

Before performing a baptism, a priest approached a young dad and said to him, "You know John baptism is a serious step. Are you prepared for it?" "I think so," the man replied; "my wife has made appetizers and we have a caterer coming to provide plenty of cookies and cakes for all of our guests, yes we are quite prepared Father." "I don't mean that," reacted the priest. "I mean, are you prepared spiritually?" "Oh, sure," came the reply. "I've got enough bottles of Dry Gin, Some Vodka and a case of Brand Whiskey, we are spiritually prepared too!"

Well, it is funny to see how people prepare themselves for sacraments. Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation and the notion of funeral services has changed these days. In the past when people went to the funeral of someone, the main reason was to pray for the repose of the deceased, those present joined in the prayers and hymns, they opened their mouth and raised their voices as if to tell God we have no one but you'. These days if you want to meet people who hardly know how to read, if you want to meet the deaf and dumb simply go to some Christian funerals. What a colossal ignorance of faith and Christian behavior at Mass by people who claim to be baptized these days!

Advent is a time of preparation to receive the Lord, to return to the obedience of faith, to recognize him in the needy to make him visible in every fabric of our lives. It has nothing to do with the madness of shopping or extravagant eating and drinking. Advent is first and foremost an appeal to the human soul with its relationship with God and neighbor.

It is a scandalizing experience that many Christians are so ignorant of faith and lack good behavior in church at Mass. How unfortunate that some chew gum in church, and others are not bothered to leave litter behind as if they were for picnic! For those who practice the faith and who are aware of what to do, the best thing is to give a public good example by promptly doing what we ought to do. The baptized people who forget their identity make a poor show of themselves before those who expect them to know. We should feel proud to show to others that we believe in God, that we still practice our Christian faith. Jesus encouraged it when he said *"In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that seeing your good works, they may give praise to your Father in heaven. Matt. 5:16.*

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

Decorating the Christmas Crib will be undertaken by the Polish community this year. I'm pleased that they have asked me to do so. There will be Mass for the same Community during this Advent Saturdays 6th, 13th and 20th at 7:00am in the Lady's chapel to help children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion to have that feeling of how Advent is celebrated in Poland.

Exciting Christmas Carols in polish language will be performed on the 4th of January 2015 after the 9:30am Mass. The concert will take about 30 minutes.

Christ, our Morning Star: in the "Run-Up" to Christmas we offer a day of Spiritual Rest and Reflection at Princethorpe Retreat Centre, Coventry Rd, Rugby CV23 9QF, on Saturday 13 December from 10am 'till 4pm. This day of prayer and quiet will include Mass and a time of Reconciliation with God. A wholesome light lunch will be provided. Cost: £10 for info or to subscribe contact Margaret Simmons on 01926312084 or Fr Mark Van Beumen msc on 07974904.

Parish Penitential Service in preparation for Christmas will be on Thursday 18th December at 7:00pm. There will be a number of priests from our neighboring parishes to help you to make your confession.

Special request for the Parish choir which you all know plays a vital role in our Sunday worship. Being students many of our members have completed their studies and returned to their countries. We need more people to join the choir and come for practice. A good singing at Mass uplifts the prayerful spirit of all. Everyone is free to join us. Practice is every Friday from 7.00pm-9.00pm.

Messe en Francais J'informe tou les Francophones que desormais une Messe en langue Francaise est celebre dans cette eglise tou les deuxieme dimanches du mois de 14:30 a 16:00. Tou les Catholiques francophones sont les bienvenus. Prochaine Messe le Sunday 14 Decembre 2014. (*Mass in French: I would like to inform all French speakers that Holy Mass in French language is celebrated in this Church every 2nd Sunday of the month starting at 2:30pm-4:00pm. Please join us at this Mass which celebrates our Catholic French heritage. Next Mass is on Sunday 14th December 2014*).

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid £364.70 Loose £661.53 Total £1026.23 Thank you.

Counters: 7th Dec Agnes Heffernan, Tom Ferris

Second Collection 7th December Poor parishes

Bonus Ball: Wednesday Draw No 7 Patsy Sproul

Mass Attendance Week 30th Nov 567

Pious Devotions

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.

Other Matters of importance

The annual Christmas bazaar was very well attended although some faces were sadly missed! It raised **£4476.14** which includes £186.37 from the Polish community. Thanks to everyone. The bazaar does not simply take place on the day; it is a process whose preparation runs throughout the year. Let us remember that this event is the only occasion when other people from outside our parish come to support us financially. When some parishioners act in a way to show as if the bazaar does not concern them, it is a shame.

Death announcement: It's with great sadness I announce that Bob McGorman of 53 King Edward Road passed away on 3rd December 2014. Bob had been a very strong and faithful member of our parish since 1957, He was a Church warden, a Pioneer and a gardener to many parish priests here starting with Fr. McCabe to Fr. Joe Firth. Bob's contribution to the building up of the parish cannot be forgotten. I extend my sincere condolences to his family and friends and pray that the Lord may receive him into his abode of peace. Bob's mortal remains will be received on Monday 15th December at 6:00pm, funeral Mass will be on Tuesday at 10:00am

Christmas Mass Times

24th Dec Vigil Mass for children 6.00pm

24th Dec Vigil Mass for adults 8.00pm

25th Dec Christmas Day Masses at 9.30am and 11.30am

New Year's Eve: We shall have a thanksgiving Mass on Wednesday 31st Dec at 7.00pm thanking the Lord for all the blessings we have received from his bounty during the course of the 2014 and praying for his blessings and mercy upon us as we usher in the New Year 2014. After the Mass there will be music, dance and food in the parish hall. Entry free. I invite all of you to join in this celebration.

Christmas Raffle Prize-Winners (to be claimed)

First prize	No 956-960	BLUE	AB 477635
Second Prize	No 186-190	PINK	AB 454180

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 18th December Parish Penitential Service at 7:00pm

LIVE MASS BROADCAST FROM ST. MARY'S:

Step 1: Go to internet Google and type in **www.mcnmedia.tv**

Step 2: Click on: **Mcn Media Church Services-Webcams-Live Streaming.**

Step 3: Click on **photo of St. Marys Church.** Sunday Mass at 9:30am & 11:30am