

MASSES Week 9th to 16th March 2014

Sat	08	6.00pm	John Murphy (Anni) John Joe O'Sullivan (Anni)
Sun	09	9.30am 11.30am	People of the parish Murphy Family (Spl Int)
Mon	10	12.30pm 6.30-7.30	SSA (Thanksgiving) Holy Hour
Tue	11	9.30am	Jeremiah Donovan (RIP)
Wed	12	9.30am	Sr Aloysia (RIP)
Thurs	13	8.00pm	St Patrick's Mass
Fri	14	6.30-7.00pm 7.00pm	Stations of the Cross Marie Garner (Get well) Jean Hoey (B'day)
Sat	15	10.30am	Rose Hogan (Get well)
11.00am to 12.00 noon Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sat	15	6.00pm	Dominico Tran (RIP) William & Winifred Mooney (Anni)
Sun	16	9.30am 11.30am	Jack McFeeley (RIP) Kevin Kelly (B'day Remembrance) Kuan Stephen Nyuydine & Judith Kinyuy (RIP)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>Weekend 8th /9th March</u>	<u>Weekend 15th /16th March</u>
6.00 pm	Sr Leena, Brendan Sophie (E)	Tom Ward, Theresa Barbara (E)
9.30 am	Aspita, Roisin Sr Lydwin (E)	School children School staff
11.30am	Cynthia, Veronica Serso, Loveness (E)	Noble, Ajiri Vera, Kath (E)

RIP: Bridget Theresa Chapman, Ralf Jordan, William Stewart, Sylvia Forrest.

Anniversaries during this Week: Delia Sheridan, Joe Clark, John Murphy, Margaret Stapleton, Patrick Stapleton, Lena Fitzgerald, Edward Brennan, Margaret Dunne, Ada Ryan, Ivy Elsie Lucas, Rosalyn Moffitt. **Fr. Harkin was our Parish priest he died in a gas explosion with his house keeper Mrs. Nora Woods on 12th March 1985. It must have been one of the most trying moments of the parish but God gave the parishioners of that time to keep faithful trusting in Him. Please pray for Fr. Harkin and let us seek his intercession for the growth of our parish.**

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, Marie Garner.

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'

First Sunday of Lent 9th to 16th March 2014

Mass Book Yr. A Part 1 pg.147 onwards

ST. PERPETUA AFRICAN MARTYR

Last Friday was a Feast of two African Martyrs Ss. Perpetua and Felicitas who were martyred at Carthage on 7th March 203. The account of their martyrdom is historical and has special interest as much of it was written by Perpetua herself before her death. This makes it one of the earliest pieces of writing by a Christian woman. Our Choir mistress is called Perpetua. Her mother gave her that name probably because of her admiration for the saint; she wanted her daughter to imitate such a great African Saint. Some parents chose names for their children at baptism without meaning! Who was Perpetua? Below is some truth about her faith:

A number of catechumens were arrested including Felicitas and Perpetua who was about 22 years old newly married and had an infant son at the breast. Her mother and father were still alive and one of her two brothers was a catechumen like herself. While under arrest her father out of love tried to persuade her to deny she was a Christian, this would save her life and the baby at the breast. *'Father,' she said, 'do you see this jar; could it be called by any other name than what it is?' 'No' replied her dad. 'Well, so too I cannot be called anything other than what I am, a Christian.'* At this her father was so angered by the word 'Christian' that he moved towards her as though he would pluck her eyes out.

Perpetua was imprisoned with her baby she nursed him but was faint from hunger. In her anxiety she spoke to her mother about the child. She could have had the opportunity to save her life if only she denied that she was a Christian.

One day while they were eating breakfast they were suddenly hurried off for a hearing. All the Christian prisoners questioned admitted their guilt. Hilarianus the governor passed sentence on them to be condemned to the beasts!

The day of their victory came, and they marched from the prison to the amphitheater joyfully as though they were going to a party, with calm faces, with joy rather than fear. Perpetua went along with calm steps as the beloved of God, as a wife of Christ, putting down everyone's stare by her own intense gaze. Perpetua and Felicitas were thrown to a mad bull which tossed and trampled them up and down. She called for her brother and spoke to him together with the catechumens and said: *'You must all stand fast in the faith and love one another, and do not be weakened by what we have gone through.'* You and I might not suffer martyrdom, but we are expected to live it daily. How? Through the daily acts of fidelity to Jesus Christ. Martyrdom is not a thing of the past, it happens even today. Jesus did not promise that we shall be successful, but he expects us to be faithful.

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

RCIA-Rite of Election will take place this Sunday 9th March at 3:00pm at St. Chad's Cathedral. I'll be accompanying our five catechumens **Aspita Iroko, Betty Osei-Bonsu, Stella Chisom Nsiegbunam, Amaka Chika Egbob and Samuel Isowa Aikhionbare** to the Cathedral. Let us support them with our prayers as they prepare themselves to journey along on this pilgrimage of faith.

The First Scrutiny will be on Third Sunday of Lent 23rd March 2014 at the 9.30am Mass. The catechumens are requested to attend that Mass along with their sponsors.

A Retreat in Daily Life will be held at Christ the King Church, Coventry from Monday 24th March to Friday 28th March. Not many are the time to go away on retreat. This retreat allows you to live your daily routine with the opportunity for prayer each day. Details are on the notice board.

Stations of the Cross: are celebrated every Friday during Lent from 6:30pm followed by Holy Mass at 7:00pm.

Annual Mass for St. Patrick will take place on Thursday 13th March here at St Mary & St Benedict, Raglan St at 8 pm. You are all welcome.

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid £467.17 Loose 451.40 Total £918.57

Cathedral Maintenance £ 516.48 Thank you.

Counters: 9th March Maureen Jones & Vera Dunnion

Bonus Ball: Wednesday Draw No 30 June Bentley

Saturday Draw No 45 P Leslie

Second Collection: 16th March CAFOD Lent Fast

18th April Holy Places

Mass Attendance: Weekend 2nd /3rd March 556

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

Other Matters of Importance

Table Top Sale will take place next Sunday 16th March after both the Masses. If you require a table please contact Ms Patsy Sproul or one of the Sisters. Each table costs £5.00. It is an opportunity to sell whatever things you have and also to buy the stuff in order to support our parish.

St Thomas More School: vacancies: Deputy Head teacher: Required for September 2014 ; Full time permanent position: Group 3 NOR 446: Salary: Leadership range: L9-13: Closing date: noon on Monday 24th March 2014 Interviews in week commencing 31st March 2014: **Assistant Head teacher:** Responsible for Inclusion: Required for September 2014: Full time permanent position Salary range: L5-L9: Closing date: noon on Monday 24th March 2014: Interviews in week commencing 31st March **Class teacher:** Required from September 2014: Full time temporary position: Main Pay Scale: Applications from newly qualified teachers would be welcomed. Closing date: noon on Friday 14th March 2014: Interviews in week commencing 17th March 2014

Volunteer to clean the church: I would like to thank all the young people who turned up to clean the church. The church building in some way can be compared to the face of Jesus, as he walked to Calvary hands tied with chains his face covered with sweat and blood, a woman named Veronica realised that it was dirty; she broke through lines of soldiers and cleaned it. You have been that "Veronica" this week and I hope you continue to be one. Cleaning takes place every Saturday at 8:30am or at any time as it suits you.

Timetable set by the Archbishop on new Mass times:

1. First Sunday of Lent (9th March) - announcement of new Mass times for the City.
2. 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.*

CAFOD Lent Fast Day: Friday 14 March Tonight, one in eight of us will go to bed hungry. For some, finding food is a daily struggle. CAFOD is working with poor communities around the world on our behalf, so those communities can put food on the table. Fast Days are our opportunity to support that vital work. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this week, and don't forget to hold your fast on Lent Fast Day! **Mr Krif Pears** will visit our parish this week end and speak briefly about the activities of that organisation.

Dates for your Diary

9 th March	Rite of Election at St Chad's Birmingham at 3.00pm (Announcement of new Mass time for Coventry)
14 th March	CAFOD Lent Fast Day
16 th March	Table Top Sale in the parish hall
5 th /6 th April	Cake sale
14 th April	Parish penitential service
27 th April	Divine Mercy Sunday (implementation of new Mass times)
23 rd Oct	Confirmation at 7.00pm

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