

**MASSES Week 22nd Feb to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

Sun	22	9.30am	Janie Patalong (Birthday) Bernadette Doran (Spl Int)
		11.30am	Mary Francis Okolie (Spl Int) People of the parish
Mon	23	12.30pm	Celine Ferris (Anni)
Tue	24	9.30am	Maura Boxall (RIP)
Wed	25	9.30am	Fr. Henry (RIP) Roisin McCateer (Get well)
Thurs	26	6.30-7.00pm	Adoration
		7.00pm	Leslie Anne Stephen (RIP)
Fri	27	6.30-7.00pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	Mary & Liam Campling (Spl Int)
Sat	28	10.30am	Raymond & Diane (Get well)
11.00am-12.00 Noon Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sun	01	9.30am	Zygmunt Drabik (Anni) Tran Family (Thanksgiving)
		11.30am	Honorine & Rose (Thanksgiving)

**Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers**

**Weekend 22nd February 2015.**

9.30 am Aspita, Sr Leera  
Sophie Drabik (E)  
11.30am Honorine, Cynthia  
Cath Slater, Vera (E)

**Weekend 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

Tom Ward, Julia  
Jean Hoey (E)  
Veronica, Patrick  
Serso, Loveness (E)

RIP: Sean McCrave, Anne Stephen, James Ewuzie, Fr. Henry Rodrigues,

Anniversaries during this Week: James Gerald Hearty, Carolina Pinto, Hannah Crone, William Busby, Thomas Francis McDonald, Rose Elizabeth Browne, Francis Joseph McClule, Gussie Stapleton, Mary O'Brien, Kevin David McCarthy.

Please pray for the sick of the Parish:, Eileen McHugh, Tony McKiernan, Theodor Vaz, Mary Mulronee, 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, Danny Diver, Michael Clear, Anne Creed, Mary O'Sullivan, Max Gorman, John Kerrigan, Nora O'Brien.

**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'

**First Sunday of Lent 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015**

**Mass Book Yr. B Part 1 pg. 152 onwards**

**"LET THEM BOTH GROW" IT WAS A SURPRISING ANSWER**

What a sad world we are living in these days, may be you have listened and watched with dismay on the horrors that are taking place in the world; you cannot resist wondering what has become of "man created in the image and likeness of God" as the Bible says (Gen. 1:27).. "Twenty one Christians beheaded in Libya," "Churches burnt to ashes in.....," "Hundreds of thousands of Christians driven out of their countries" are the more likely news making headlines these days! I'm quite sure that what we see on the television is a tiny piece of the iceberg of what exactly is taking place on the ground to the common man. Some events are reported simply because high profile people are involved otherwise they could go unreported.

In the course of the week I was talking with a parishioner who was deeply disturbed by the evil in the world. "Father she said, why should the good God not strike down the perpetrators of these vile acts of Satan?" Well I was immediately reminded of the parable of the deadly weed (darnel) which the laborers found in their master's field; "do you want us to go and weed it out" they asked. No he replied because when you weed out the darnel, you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till harvest time. At harvest time I shall say to the reapers first collect the darnel and burn it then gather the wheat into my barn" Matt.13:24-30. It must have been embarrassing for the laborers to see the deadly weed choking the wheat just because the landowner is patient.

The mind of God like that always willing to give an opportunity to everyone to reform and do the right thing. He plays a blind eye such that we think as if he has forgotten the plight of his people. Don't you feel let down when you see perpetrators of wickedness thriving while those who love God live as though chasing the wind? Doesn't it look as if God has turned a blind eye? In the mind of Jesus, evil and good were to live side by side but at the end of time they will not co-exist for all eternity.

On Wednesday this week we came forth to receive the ashes on our faces as we called upon the mercy of God. The human face is our mark of identity. As we received 'dirt' on our beautiful faces, it was to say that when we let sin dominate our life, it disfigures God's image in us. Lent is a happy and joyful time when we are engaged in a polishing exercise of our lives to make God's image shine through.

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

**The season of Lent** began with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on 18<sup>th</sup> February. I was so delighted to see a large number of my parishioners being present for the Mass. Yes, it is a sure sign that we acknowledge our nothingness before the Lord and are eager for his mercy. Let this Lenten journey prepare us all to welcome the Risen Lord into our lives and experience his peace especially at Easter.

**Stations of the Cross:** During the season of Lent every Friday we shall have the Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm in the church followed by Mass. Please join in this traditional prayer of reflection and meditation on the Cross of Christ.

**Special Lenten prayer** practices have been organized throughout the Lenten season by parishioners of Polish tradition. These prayers are at the heart of Catholics in Poland and I would greatly encourage you to join in these sessions, to learn something new. There will be "*Bitter Lamentations*" every Sunday before 9:30 Mass.

**First Holy Communion preparation programme** will commence on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 6.00pm in the parish hall. If there are children who are studying in schools other than St Mary's and wish to be included, please contact Mrs MacDonald, the head teacher of our school. The First Holy Communion will be on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**Retreat Day** for anyone engaged or interested in Catholic social action will take place at Oscott College on Saturday March 21<sup>st</sup> from 10.30am till 4.30 pm. It is an amazing opportunity which will include Holy Mass. The cost is just £10 and you can book by going to [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk) and then go to Caritas tab for the booking form. It is being led by David McLaughlin from Newman University.

### Parish Development

**Collection:** Gift Aid £207.60 Loose £523.41 Total £731.01 Thank you.

**Counters:** 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb Sandra McAvoy, Maureen Jones

**Bonus Ball:** Wednesday Draw No 30 Vera Dunnion, June Bentley

**Mass Attendance** Week 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 468

**Second Collection:** 1<sup>st</sup> March CAFOD-Lent fast  
8<sup>th</sup> March Cathedral maintenance

### 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 13<sup>th</sup> 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

**Advice sought:** I need your advice concerning our Saturday morning Mass, Adoration and Confessions., which at present begin at 10:30am. I'm proposing to have Saturday Mass at 9:30am, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions to start from 10:00am until 11:00am.

**Diocesan pilgrimage to the Holy Land**, 9-16 Sept 2015 will be led by Bishop Robert Byrne with Canon Melvyn Tower as the Spiritual Leader. Please note: The deadline for booking forms and the non-returnable deposit of £300 per person is 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015. There are still some places available. Details are available from Gill Didino at Tangney Tours, telephone 01732 88666 or visit [www.tangney-tours.com](http://www.tangney-tours.com)

**Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 2015** will take place from Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Friday 29/30<sup>th</sup> May. It will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the Archdiocese of Birmingham started to make pilgrimages to the Blessed Mother in Lourdes. If you wish to go to Lourdes this year, please register as soon as possible. Details are on the noticeboard.

**Lifeteen summer Camp** will be held from 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The camp is open to anyone who is aged 11-18 years and it is held in the fantastic grounds of Alton Castle in Staffordshire. The camp consists of catechesis, outdoor activities, full day in Alton Towers as well as time for shared prayer and Mass together. If you are interested to be involved please do get in touch for more information on 01675464755 or [Beccy.roseman@bcys.co.uk](mailto:Beccy.roseman@bcys.co.uk).

**CAFOD** Lent Fast Day is on Friday 27 February. Fast Days are our opportunity to support the poor and the hungry of the world. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from church this week. Good news: the UK Government has promised to match every pound and penny you give this Lent up to the value of £5m. Thank you for your generosity and your compassion.

**CAFOD** invites for a Mass in celebration of Archbishop Oscar Romero celebrated by the Rt Rev David McGough, Auxiliary Bishop of Birmingham on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 1.00pm at St Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. Reception afterwards in the Grimshaw Room with refreshments and talk by Clare Dixon of CAFOD and Romero Trust. For more information please call 01922722944.

**Community of Our Lady of Walsingham** has arranged a number of 'Come and See' and other events for young adults for this year. With 2015 being the 'Year of Consecrated Life', we feel this is a graced time for young adults to know and experience the joy of consecrated life, especially those discerning their vocation. Details are on the noticeboard.

### LIVE MASS BROADCAST FROM ST. MARY'S:

Step 1: Go to internet Google and type in [www.mcnmedia.tv](http://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