

MASSES Week 30th November 7th December 2014

Sun	30	9.30am	Rosemary Tracy (Anni) Mary Murray (RIP)
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	01	12.00pm	Requiem- Vincent Peter McKeown
Tue	02	9.30am	Kathleen Delany (Spl Int)
Wed	03	9.30am	Francis Mathias (RIP)
Thurs	04	6.30-7.00pm	Adoration
		7.00pm	Desmond Sweeney (RIP)
Fri	05	6.30-7.30pm	Prayer for priests
		7.30pm	Michael Noonan (Anni)
Sat	06	10.30am	Nora Griffith (Spl Int)
11.00am-12.00 noon exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sun	07	9.30am	Tony Mulroney (RIP) Deceased of McGirr Family
		11.30am	Alazar & Amameele Gebreal Aklasia (RIP)

Feast Days: 1st Dec St Edmund Campion
3rd Dec St Francis Xavier

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Weekend 30th Nov 2014

9.30 am Keyna, Tom Ward
Sr Leena (E)
11.30am Charles, Ajiri
Veronica, Sr Leera (E)

Weekend 7th Dec 2014

Julia, Aspita
Sophie (E)
Honorine, Veronica
Serso, Loveness (E)

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

Anniversaries during this Week: Elizabeth Reid, Mary O'Brien, John Heavey, Ellen Duffy, Rose Donagher, John Sheridan, Joseph Reid, Theresa Hickey, Francis Maloney, Eamon Lusty, Franck McSorley, Dennis Doran, Kathleen Wilson, Charles Ward, Ita Howe, James Gaffy, Margaret McSorley, Sean Kiely, Tony Mulroney, Birdie Collins, Michael Kapusta.

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, Bob McGorman, 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'

First Sunday of Advent 30th November to 7th December 2014

Mass Book Yr. B Part 1 pg. 82 onwards

SCARED BY THE NAME "CATHOLIC"

Have you met some people who feel defensive once they know that you are a Catholic? There are also those who think that the Catholic Church is one of the Christian denominations just like any other spurious Christian sects that have mushroomed over the centuries. I was talking with someone who was swollen with pride that he founded a church; 'I'm a founder of my church' he said. As far as I know the only person who founded not a sect, or a denomination but a community of believers call it a Church is Jesus Christ. This Church can be traced through the succession line to St. Peter to whom Jesus himself said "feed my lambs, feed my sheep." Only the Catholic Church can with all certainty claim and produce this evidence. Sects and denominations can trace their origins to a certain man or woman, but none of them can trace its origin from Jesus Christ.

Christianity was born in a Greek speaking world. The term "Catholic" from Greek καθολικισμός, *katholikismos*, literally means "Universal" but the world did not originally refer to the fact that the Catholic Church is found on every continent of our planet, instead it referred to a people who accepted every person irrespective of whether they were Jews or gentiles, slaves or free men, women or men. For this group love was not bound to class or position; salvation was not for some chosen few but for all. Therefore to call oneself a Catholic is to accept the fact that you belong to a family that would see and receive others as Jesus Christ saw and received them.

For a Catholic to take pride for belonging to a Church whose origins go to Jesus himself is not an empty claim. In his letter to the church in Smyrna about 107 AD, St. Ignatius of Antioch exhorted Christians to remain closely united with their bishop. "Wherever the bishop shall appear, he wrote, let the people also be; even as, wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church. Every Catholic Bishop can be traced to the 12 apostles.

"From the 2nd century, "Catholic" referred to someone who was "orthodox" (non-heretical); "because Catholics taught the whole truth, and represented the whole Church, while heretics arose out of the exaggeration of some truth, it was essentially partial and local". In 380, Emperor Theodosius limited use of the term "Catholic Christian" exclusively to those who followed the same faith as Pope Damascus. To be a Catholic is compared to owning a pearl of great value, as it implies faithfulness to Jesus and to his teaching as it is handed down to us through the Pope and the bishops.

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

BBC Radio 4: I would like to welcome Mr. Lawrence Program Producer at BBC Radio 4 who is present today with his team to make a program for the Radio. He is here to record the Holy Mass at 11:30am today. While we all know the often destructive nature of the media today, we need to appreciate that well used media can be a providential means of evangelisation. The choice of our parish by Radio 4 to produce the program has much to say of who we are; for this I thank you all.

The blessing of the crib today will be at 4pm in the Upper Precinct, between Marks & Spencer and British Home Stores – the most prominent place in the Shopping Centre. Children from our schools will be leading us in Carols. Please join in this joyful witness to Our Saviour's coming. (This public Crib was commissioned and built by the Catholic Parishes in Coventry and is stored at St Osburg's during the year).

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.

Today the Season of Advent begins It is a time of waiting for the coming of Christ with personal and community spiritual preparation. To help with our preparations the '**Walk With Me**' booklets are available at the back of the church. Please pick your copy and use it for your personal prayer and reflection.

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. Many of our members 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*).

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.

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid £239.50 Loose

vcd£547.11 Total £786.61

Catholic youth £190.86 Thank you.

Counters: 30th Nov Agnes Heffernan, Tom Ferris

Second Collection 7th December Poor parishes

Bonus Ball: Wednesday Draw No 31 M Moore

Mass Attendance Week 23rd Nov **563**

Other Matters of importance

Thanks to all for your support of our annual parish Christmas Bazaar. The bazaar does not simply take place on the day it is a process whose preparation runs throughout the year. My thanks to those who work hard the year round to make the event a successful one.

Christmas Raffle Prize-Winners

First Prize	4203	Second Prize	2335
Third Prize	7006	Fourth Prize	0818
Fifth Prize	8814	Sixth Prize	2667
Seventh Prize	3982	Eighth Prize	3153
Ninth Prize	2230	Tenth Prize	4078

Name the Teddy No 27 Con

Raffle Winners

First prize	No 956-960	BLUE	AB 477635
Second Prize	No 186-190	PINK	AB 454180
Third Prize	No 701-705	BLUE	AB 477635

Polish Parishioners of St. Marys are conducting a bazaar in the hall to continue raising money to run our parish. Please go to the hall and support this event which started with the main bazaar yesterday. I thank the polish friends for this initiative.

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