

MASSES— 12th to 19th Dec 2021

Sun	12	9.30am	Deceased members of Saldhana family
		11.30am	CWA (Thanksgiving), Bridie McAndrew (Spl int)
Mon	13	9.30am	Deceased members of Hogan & Meehan family
Tues	14	9.30am	Sr. Sonia (RIP), Luciana Coelho (RIP)
			Deceased members of Almeida family
Wed	15	9.00am	Nora Dickson (RIP), Antonio Dores DeSouza (RIP)
			Departed members of Lobo family
Thurs	16	9.30am	Susan Skarwinko (RIP), Deceased members of John & Valana family
Fri	17	9.30am	Peggy Hyland (RIP), Hannah Walsh (1st death Anni)
			Caetano & Cecelia Desouza (RIP)
Sat	18	9.30am	Peter Miranda (RIP) Deceased members of Texiera family
Sun	19	9.30am	Thi Tran (RIP), Deceased members of Mullarkey family
		11.30am	Brandon (Thanksgiving), Riziki Veneranda Abraham (RIP)
			Onuchukwu family (RIP)

Lectors

12/12/2021

9.30am Anthonia O., Anthonia A. (R)
11.30am Honorine, Florence E. (R)

19/2/2021

Creshel, Luca (R)
Florence K., Nicole (R)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatirisa, Teresa MacCaffer, Andrea.

Anniversaries during the week : Anne Plunkett, Norah Bernadette Hanbury, Margaret Kinsella, Jack Sheehan, John Cain, Andy McHugh, Jozef Conka, Josephine Battles, Patrick Meehan, Nora Herbert, Allen Leslie Randall, Michael Oliver Hickey, Cornelius John Morris, Edward Donnelly, Don McCaffer, Francis Morrinssey, Catherine Dunnion, Tom Heavey, John O'Reilly, Bridget Hayden, Kathleen Gill, Bridget Agnes Rafferty, Rita O'Sullivan, Ann Dunnion, James McMenus, Denis Joseph Buckley, Robert McGorman, Paula Moore, Bridie Mooney, Jack McCullough, Frank Martin.

Christmas/New year Programme

24.12.21 6.30pm & 8.30pm **25.12.21** 9.30am & 11.30am
31.12.21 11.00pm Thanksgiving Adoration
12.00am New year Mass

Lectors

24.12.21 6.30pm - Clinton & Demisha 8.30pm - Perpetua,
25.12.21 9.30am - Elizabeth H & Godfrey 11.30am - Florence K., Florence E.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter– Third Sunday of Advent -12th—19th Dec 2021

ADVENT MUST STIR UP OUR CONSCIENCE:

Members of the Franciscan Order have several groups. Some are called Capuchins, others Conventuals, and others are Franciscan Friars. You must have heard of a story about cannibals who kidnapped a Franciscan missionary and boiled him for their dinner. The meal was delicious but in the night, the stomachs of the cannibals went loose they run to the toilet several times in the night. The following day, they met a fellow cannibal and told him of their ordeal. How did you cook him? The other asked. Ooh we boiled him one answered. You see it is your mistake they are Friars!

The word of God today talks to us about the interior revolution of the heart and of the mind that Advent must stir within our life. It is all about change of attitude, coming closer to God and recognising that the other people also exist.

In the Galilean wilderness John the Baptist proclaimed a message of repentance. This disturbed the conscience of the people, that today we hear them asking him how best they could change their lives. What shall we do? John asked the people to share what they had with others, if you have food share with someone who is hungry. To the tax collectors Zacchaeus and Levi group, he told them not to take more than what they were supposed to collect. Corruption is not new, it was there even before Jesus started his ministry. Soldiers all over the world use intimidation as a weapon to claim supremacy over others and those they defeat they confiscate their wealth. John told them “No intimidation, no stealing, be content with your pay!” How does this apply to me as an individual? How does this apply to us as a family? How does this apply to us as a parish? What must we do to show that we want to become good followers of Christ?

Advent is just a good reminder that we must be prepared to route out evil in our Christian life. Christmas is an event, but conversion, change of our attitude, reconciliation are things that we must do every time. I'm sure that each one of us has something that need to be changed in life as a sign that we are ready to welcome the Lord. Seek reconciliation with someone, end cold silence, renew contact, break down the barriers, build a bridge, recognise the face of Jesus in your neighbour.

This Gaudete Sunday, calls us to get more excited about the coming of our Saviour. Indeed St. Paul urges us in the second reading to be happy in the Lord, that happiness should make us patient with everyone, make us thankful and work for the peace of God. God is very near to us, just a brink of an eye.

Just this week a catholic choir of Mwingi in Kitui Diocese Kenya drowned in a river just less than 20 meters from where they boarded a bus taking them to sing at a wedding Mass. God is very near to us than we can think or imagine.

As you return home, I give you some homework to do, the message of Advent, the call of John the Baptist, the reason why we make this pilgrimage of faith is to help us to come closer to God. God desires to save us as a community, let us support each other especially during this advent time to prepare one another for the coming of the Lord.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: www.mcmedia.tv

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/EHEpr5IMocc>

Donations to the parish : <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>.

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

E-mail : lutwajim@yahoo.com

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

Safeguarding Rep: Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko

Parish School: St Mary & St Benedict's, Leigh Street CV1 5HG

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline McDonald

The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg. Charity No. 234216

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME to our Parish Church. If it is your first time here or probably you have been here before, your presence with us at this moment at our community worship is greatly appreciated. Our Parish Church is the second to be built in Coventry after the Protestant Reformation. It was built in 1893, the pews have never moved since then! Our Musical Pipe Organ was inaugurated in 1898, it was the best of its kind at the time. Our Parish has had eleven Parish priests since 1889, the present one being a Religious Missionary from the Institute of Apostles of Jesus in Uganda. Our Parish welcomes and promotes the initiatives taken by everyone for the building up and sustenance of our faith community.

Parish Development

Gift Aid : 117.00 SO (Nov) : £ 1583.00 Non-Gift Aid: 688.78 Total: £2388.78

Thank you for your generous contribution May God Bless you.

2nd Collection :

Bonus Ball : No.

Mass Attendance : 324

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm

Church cleaning:

Confessions: Saturday–
10.10–11.00am.

Third Week of Advent—The Candle of Joy

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light one more candle on our wreath: the pink candle that represents joy. It's an exercise of faith to address the Unknown—which can also be called “The Not Yet Known.” Advent is a season of watchfulness: we listen and keep vigil for the promise of things to come. We speak and sing about the promise of the Not Yet Manifest, as reflected in the words of familiar hymns.

O come, o come, Emmanuel....

May the lighting of this candle bring us patience,
grant us faith, draw us closer to joy.



Mass Intentions

If you have requests for Mass for your intentions envelopes are available at the back of the church please pick one, write your intention, place it in the box provided. It is recommended to give a donation for your intention from £5.00. You can call Tel. 07547242375.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Baptismal Preparation class: will take place on Monday 13th December at 6:00pm in the parish hall.

Christmas Bazaar: I'm glad that many parishioners have made inquiries about the annual Christmas bazaar. This is greatly appreciated, however I regret that in the present circumstances of uncertainty, we shall not hold the bazaar instead we have cake sale to raise funds for the upkeep of our parish. I cannot thank you enough for your generosity.

Whole Advent School Mass: there has been several Masses in the school to prepare our children for Christmas. Tomorrow Monday 13th Dec. children will have Holy Mass together before their Christmas break at 9:15am.

Job opportunities are available at Birmingham Cathedral for a Social Welfare Advisor permanent or part time (21 hours per week) Agile Working £22,500.00 p.a. The duties is to support our Clergy as they prepare to leave active ministry and after leaving active ministry. The Social Welfare Advisor will be expected to prepare reports for the Care of the Clergy Sub-committee on activities and outcomes, and to represent the Archdiocese at meetings of other Clergy welfare advisors. To fulfil the duties of this role you are likely to have / must have a nursing or social work background and can communicate/empathise with individuals of senior years. You will also need an understanding of state and local authority benefits. The job description for this role is available from Gerry Dryden, Human Resources & Communications Director – email: gerry.dryden@rcaob.org.uk Closing date for receipt of applications is noon on Monday 10th January 2022.

Bishop Ullathorne Catholic Secondary school entertained guests parishioners of St. Marys to a lavish Christmas lunch for the elderly. It was very good to see the children in a real school setting. Thank you for supporting our Catholic secondary schools in the city.

Covid 19 General Information: following the statement by the Prime Minister on Wednesday 9th December, there has been a Government directive that further restrictions to mitigate against viral transmission, especially in the light of the new Omicron variant, will be imposed. Summarising the Government directives:

- From Friday 10th December, face coverings will be required by law in most indoor settings.
- From Monday 13th December office workers who can work from home should do so.
- From Wednesday 15th December, certain venues and events will be required by law to check that all visitors aged 18 years or over are fully vaccinated, have proof of a negative test in the last 48 hours, or have an exemption.

Singing: the current Church guidance states that congregational singing should take place with face coverings. Practical Guidance to be followed:

- People displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.
- Hand sanitiser to be used at every time for those attending Church.
- Face coverings must be worn unless there is a genuine exemption as for the case of a priest leading the Mass.
- Readers/ Lectors must do so with their face coverings worn over their faces.
- There should be good ventilation and air throughput in the building. Due to climatic conditions, it would be important to remind people to wrap up well in church!