

MASSES— 14th to 21st May 23

- Sun 14 9.30am Betty Osagie (B'day) Sam & Anthonia family (Thanksgiving)
Grace Ferry (Anni), Dylan & Stancy (Wed Anni)
11.30am Cecile Nzanda & Charlie Ekobe (Anni), John Bull Oyawiri (RIP)
Chidebe & Eucheria(Spl int) Mercy Nwokocha & family(Thanksgiving)
7.00pm Reception—John Patrick Kerins
- Mon 15 11.00am Requiem Mass—John Kerins**
- Tues 16 9.30am Chukwudi Malize & family (Spl int)
- Wed 17 9.30am Chidebe & Eucheria Ekwozoh (Spl int)
- Thurs 18 9.30am Mercy Nwokocha & family (Thanksgiving)
7.00pm Ascension of our Lord
- Fri 19 9.30am Anna Kutti Augustine (Anni), Laetitia & family (Spl int),
- Sat 20 10.30am First Holy communicants**
- Sun 21 9.30am Estelizo Menezes (RIP), Jim & Phil Dunleavy (RIP),
Zara Irianan (B'day)
11.30am Mathew Tanner (B'day remembrance), Zikorah Umeh (14th Biday)

Lectors

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 14/05/2023 | 21/05/2023 |
| 9.30am Emmanuella , Cosmos (R) | Anthonia A., Nicholas (R) |
| 11.30am Blessing , Mary (R) | Childrens Mass |

Eucharistic Ministers

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 14/05/2023 | 21/05/2023 |
| 9.30am Ann M. (E) | Cath Slater (E) |
| 11.30am Florence K. (E) | Serso (E) |

The sick of the Parish: Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosisi, John Crowford, Mr. Tran, Damian Curristan, Owen Darroch.

Anniversaries during the week : Mary Dunnion , Violet Daphne Bibby , Sean Anthony Logan , Patrick Ward, Michael Stapleton, Bridget Theresa Ludid, William Morrissey., Michael McDermott, Mary Devlin, Edmond Patrick Flynn, James Anthony Domican,

We fly to your protection, most holy Mother of God; please listen to our petitions and needs, and deliver us from all dangers, ever glorious and blessed Virgin Mary. Mary, our model and mother, by your obedience and patience you have taught us how to be true children of God. Please help us by your powerful assistance to overcome all our weaknesses, and to fulfil perfectly our tasks in life.

By your compassionate aid may we ever stand in spirit with you beneath the cross of Christ so that we may also rejoice with you in your divine Son's triumphant victory over sin and death.

In your maternal kindness help us to be faithful to prayers in the company of God's Church as you were one with the Apostles in the upper room as you waited for the promised Spirit of Pentecost.



A.J. Missions St. Osburg Ss. Mary & Benedict St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter – 6th Sunday of Easter—14th to 21st May 2023

HAVE YOUR ANSWERS READY

This Sunday Jesus resolutely prepares his disciples for his departure. The mission given to him by the Father was done, he was sure that the disciples or the Church could go on without his physical presence. Jesus makes a new promise, *I will ask the Father to give you another advocate, to guide you, to strengthen you, to watch over you, the Spirit of truth.*

The promise of the Holy spirit was fulfilled on Pentecost day, and as you know we look forward to Pentecost Sunday, but we should remember that the Holy spirit has always been with the church and with every baptised Christian such that without the guidance of the Holy spirit the Church would not have stood today confessing her faith in Jesus Christ.

In the second reading, St. Peter has taught us that we should always have our answers ready for people who ask us for the hope that we have. In other words, we must know our faith, we must understand fully what we believe, why we believe it. What does your faith mean to you.

Some of the mistakes that we make as baptised Catholics is to follow the crowd, or to do things out of routine. I go to church because I see people going to church, or because we have always done so on this day at that time. Of course it is good to have holy habits, but if you are asked why you believe or why you do these things, you should have the answer. As baptised Catholics, we can do a lot of damage to our faith and to the Church, if we do not have an answer that can either explain our faith to others or when we cannot defend it.

At the time when St. Peter exhorted the early Christians to have their answers ready and to endure punishment even when they have done nothing wrong, Christianity was alien to the pagans. Ignorance created suspicion and suspicion brought about imprisonment and death. So he encouraged them not to stop doing the right thing and do wrong, but to endure suffering if it came to that.

Christians and Catholics in particular, are criticised or even attacked on every side. If they are not attached by fellow Christians, they are attacked by non Christians. If they are not criticized for honouring Mary the Mother of Jesus, they will be criticized for having statues in the church. They are criticised for praying the rosary or for respecting for the Pope. Unfortunately, some Catholics give in to these criticisms and follow strange doctrines. But what does St. Peter say to us: *“it is better to suffer for doing something good, than to suffer for doing wrong. It is a blessing for you when people insult you for bearing the name of Christ...because it means that you have the spirit of God resting on you.”* As a prisoner on Robin Island, Nelson Mandela suffered 27 years of loneliness and isolation. Mahatma Ghandhi suffered starvation almost to death, but none of these caused them bitterness or revenge because they knew what they were suffering for and had their answers ready if someone asked them.

We too must have our answers ready.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: www.mcmedia.tv/camer/st-mary-and-st-benedict

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqj8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K8K)

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

Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Ernest

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

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline McDonald

<https://donate.myдона.com/ss-mary-benedict-church>



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

SO (Apr) : £ 1569.00 Gift Aid : £ 131.60 Non-Gift Aid: £475.29 Total: £ 606.89

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings: Acts. :6:1-7, 1Pet. 2: 4-9; John 14: 1-12

2nd collection : 21 May Catholic Communications

Bonus Ball :

Mass Attendance : 412

Church cleaning: 7.30am

Choir practice : Fri- 7.30pm

Confessions: Saturday- 10.10-11.00am.

Pious Devotions : Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6.00pm

(RCIA): sessions : will take place on every Sunday after 11.30am Mass

Gospel Reflection

Peter and John arrive in Samaria and prayed for the new believers, laying their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. Peter instructs believers to always be ready to give a defense of their faith with gentleness and respect, even in the face of persecution. He then reminds them of the example of Christ, who suffered and died for our sins, but was raised to life by the power of God.

Jesus promises his disciples that if they love Him, they will keep His commandments, and He will ask the Father to send them the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to be with them forever. He also promises that He will come to them and reveal Himself to them, and whoever loves Him and keeps His word will be loved by the Father, and they will dwell with Him.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Ascension Day: the Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on Thursday 18th May. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be two Holy Masses at 9:30am and at 7:00pm.

Marriage Banns: Jerome Obinna Okpo, of 29, Humphrey Davy Road, Bedworth, Son of Edwin Okonkwo Okpo, and Bridget Okpo (Uche) would like to marry Jennifer Louise Champion, of 29 Humphrey Davy Road, Bedworth, Daughter of Garry peter Albert Champion and Joan Louise Champion. If there is anybody who knows that they should not get married to each other, kindly come and inform the parish priest.

Golden Jubilee of St. Patrick's Church will be celebrated on 17th May 2023 at 19.00pm. Fr. George Bennett and the parishioners of St. Patrick's Church invite all of us to join them in celebrating the Golden Jubilee. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Bernard Longley followed by refreshments.

Baptism sessions : The next baptisms sessions for parents with children to be baptised, will take place on Saturday 24th June, 1st & 8th July at 6.00pm in the Lady's Chapel. God parents are invited to attend these sessions too.

Congratulations to all our 30 First Holy Communicants from St. Mary's School and Parish, who will be receiving Jesus in their hearts for the first time. Let us support them through our prayers that they may always grow in the love of Jesus and remain ever faithful to His commandments. First Holy communion will take on Saturday at 10.30am.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Hednesford Shrine of Our Lady will take place on Sunday 2 July

All are invited. Refreshments available from 1pm - Rosary 3pm - Mass (including the sacrament of the sick) 4pm with Principal Concelebrant and Preacher Bishop Stephen Wright. Please note this is an outdoor Mass and all are requested to bring their own chair and an umbrella.

Jobs and opportunities across the Archdiocese including: Part-time Chaplain at HMYOI Swinfen Hall - deadline to apply is Friday 19 May. Head Teacher at St George's Catholic Primary School, Worcester. September 2023 start. College Priest Chaplain at Mount St Mary's College, Derbyshire. September 2023 start. These and more employment opportunities are available at the diocesan website.

Junior Catholic Women Association (Cameroon), had their spiritual retreat yesterday 12th May in preparation for their enrolment as members. I was privileged to be part of it. I thank them for their desire to be witnesses to Jesus in every circumstance they may be.

Coventry Pioneer Association: there will be a meeting on Monday 15th May at 2pm in the Library at Christ the King.

New appointments: Family Education Trust (FET) has announced three new appointments to its team. Peter Williams has been appointed Director and will formally join FET in mid-June. Stephen Balogh has been appointed a Trustee of FET. FET has also welcomed Shelley Luckie as Administrator.

International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians the Bishops of England and Wales expressed their support for the International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians to be celebrated on Sunday, 14 May. It offers an opportunity for Eastern and Western Christians to come together to pray for peace in the world – especially in the Middle East. We shall always remember to pray that Eastern Christians may be strengthened in their faith so that they can continue to steadfastly give witness to Jesus Christ.

World Communication Day will be observed on Sunday 21 May. There is a second collection to support the work of communications at national level.