MASSES— 19th to 26th Feb 23					
Sun	19	9.30am	Wlliam & Anna Mara (Anni), Jinto & Rajashree (Wed Anni)		
			Ileen Mary Kerrigan (B'day remembrance)		
		11.30am	State of Nigieria (Spl int)		
Mon	20	12.00noon	Mapuanga family (Thanksgiving)		
Tues	21	9.30am	Feast of Bl. Enrichetta		
Wed	22	9.30am	People of the parish		
		7.00pm	People of the parish		
Thurs	23	6.00pm	Divine Mercy prayers		
		7.00pm	Mary Flanigan (RIP)		
Fri	24	6.30pm	Stations of the cross		
		7.00pm	Ignatius & Josephine Lobo (RIP)		
Sat	25	9.30am			
Sun	26	9.30am	Jimmy Ferry (RIP), Zygmunt Drabik (Anni)		
		11.30am	People of the parish		
	<u>Lectors</u>				
		19/02/2023	<u>26/02/2023</u>		
9.30a	am	Anthonia A., N	Jaomi (R) Elizabeth H., James M. (R)		

	19/02/2023	<u>26/02/2023</u>
9.30am	Anthonia A., Naomi (R)	Elizabeth H., James M. (R)
11.30am	Chidekke, Mary (R)	Children (R)

Eucharistic Ministers

9.30am Betty O. (E) 11.30am Frank, Patricia (E)

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

Anniversaries during the week: William Mara, John Callaghan, Francis Quilter, Jimmy Allen, Joseph Corcoran, James Gerard Hearty, Cardelina Pinto, Hannah Crone, William Busby, Thomas Francis McDonald, Rose Elizabeth Browne, Kevin Andrew Flynn, Francis Joseph McClule, Patrick James Ward.

Thought for Lent:

Put aside your hatred and animosity. Take pains to refrain from sharp words. If they escape your lips, do not be ashamed to let your words produce the remedy since they have caused the wounds.

Pardon one another so that later on you will not remember the injury, he recollection of an injury is itself wrong.

It adds to our anger, nurtures our sin, and hates what is good. It is a rusty arrow and poison for the soul.

It puts all virtue to flight. St. Francis of Paola.







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

Parish Newsletter -7th Sunday in ordinary time - 19th to 26th Feb 2023

FREEDOM AND INTERGRITY ARE IN YOUR HANDS

The readings for the 7th Sunday focus on holiness and loving of the neighbour. The first reading tells us not to bear grudges with people and gives us the Golden Rule. The second reading reminds us that all of us are God's temples, he lives in us. In the gospel, Jesus tells us that we must love everyone, even our enemies.

The lesson we learn hardly needs any emphasizing. If we are truly followers of Christ, he tells us to forgive those who offend or injure us. We must love and do good to everyone friends or foes. This is where the greatness of Christianity is manifested. As a matter of fact, our neighbours and our enemies; are generally the same people. It is very easy for me to love the Japanese, Chinese, Australians, the Mongolians since they never come in contact with me and never tread on my shoes. But it is my neighbours, those among whom I live and work, who are liable to injure me and thus become my enemies. All that the Lord tells us is: never look at another human being, no matter what happens, as someone who deserves your anger as someone who deserves to be dealt with as if he was your enemy.

Charity begins at home, because it is here that it can and should be learned and practiced. It is first and foremost necessary for Christian peace in the home. Husband and wife must learn to understand and tolerate each other's imperfections and faults. If one offends in what the other would regard as something serious, the offended one should not demand an apology but should show forgiveness before the other has humbly to apologize. No two persons in the world, not even identical twins, can agree on all things, so it is vain and unrealistic to expect even one's married partner to agree with one in all points.

There will be the dishonest, the tale-bearers, the quarrelsome, the critic of everyone and everything. It is when we have dealings with such people that all our Christian charity is necessary. Most likely we will never be able to change their ways of acting, but charity will enable us to tolerate their faults and will move us to pray for their eternal welfare.

Turning the other cheek is not easy. Jesus s not calling us to succumb to abuse, but to keep our integrity. When we respond to our enemies with a gesture of peace, we make them foolish because they expect us to pay back with violence, an action that would justify their violent behaviour against us. When you do good to your aggressor, you disarm him. So, Let us not be afraid to walk an extra mile, because by doing so that we truly show that we are Christians.

To give in to a violent person is not weakness but a real sign o power and authority because there is a lot of authority in integrity of life.

As you return home today, go and do your best to keep your integrity, do not lower yourself by returning evil for evil, instead do good to the person who wrongs you and you will have inner victory and peace of mind.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5OF. Tel 02476258901, 07906124756

Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

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

Youtube: st mary and benedicct church coventry

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

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 (Jan): £ Gift Aid: £113.04 Non-Gift Aid: £504.63 Total: £ 617.67

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings: Leviticus: 19: 1-2, 17-18; 1Cor: 3:16-23; Mt.: 5: 38-48

2nd Collection: Turkey Earthquake - 26th Feb

Bonus Ball: Mass Attendance: 356 Choir practice: Fri– 7.30pm Church cleaning: 7.30am

Confessions: Saturday- 10.10-11.00am.

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

Gospel Reflection:

Jesus didn't come to abolish the law but to fulfil it. His new understanding expands, rather than reduces, the message of the law, making it more radical, yet, at the same time, more loving: 'Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect'. That includes loving both your friends and your enemies.

Our task is to make room for everyone, firstly because that's what God des, but secondly because we don't want to be in bondage to our resentments and thus fail to grow in our own relationship with the Lord of love. Jesus loved his enemies, and forgave those who mocked, scourged and crucified him. Going the extra mile and being accommodating, kind and understanding drives those who oppose, resist and loathe us into confusion. Therefore God's way is the way of the Spirit and here the Spirit is there's freedom.

DONA CONTACTLESS: You can now give your Sunday collection, donation, buy articles of piety etc. using your credit or debit card.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Ash Wednesday will be on 22nd February to start the season of Lent. It is a time of repentance penance and almsgiving. Repent and believe in the Gospel, will be the call. Ease prepare yourselves for this moment of grace.

There will be two Masses at 9.30am and 7.00pm. It is a day of fasting and abstinence when everyone over the age of 14 should abstain from meat and those between 18-60 should also fast. Church also asks to fast on Fridays during Lent. Let us come together during Lent on every Friday at 6.30pm for Stations of the Cross to reflect & meditate on the Passion & death of our Lord followed by Mass at 7.00pm.

Lent is a 40-day fast — a reference to the time Jesus spent being tempted in the desert. It's a time when we can prepare our hearts for the remembrance of Christ's death. Our observance of Lent culminates in the solemn celebrations of Holy Week when on Palm Sunday we follow Christ from his triumphant entrance into Jerusalem to the foot of the Cross as sorrowful bystanders to His Passion, before rolling back the stone of the empty tomb and the joy of the Resurrection.

First Holy Communion: the children who will receive their First Holy Communion in May are requested to meet at St. Mary's Primary School on Monday 6th March 2023 with their parents to prepare for the Sacrament. The meeting will start at 6:00pm.

Religious Christian Instruction of Adults (RCIA): sessions will take place on every Sunday after 11.30am Mass in the Lady's Chapel.

Birmingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place from Saturday 27 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023. If you would like to travel or would be interested in travelling, then please contact Kath White via email: admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk or by phone: 0121 230 6288. If a parishioner with disability wishes to make this pilgrimage, please talk to the Parish priest Fr. Jimmy.

Walk with me 'A journey of prayer for Lent' booklets are available at the back of the church. Kindly take them for your personal reflection as you prepare for Easter. If you wish please place a donation of £1 for the booklet.

Day for Eucharistic Ministers Fr Stephen Fawcett is organising a day for Eucharistic Ministers at Christ the King on Saturday 25th March. The day will start with mass at Christ the King at 9.30am followed by Holy Hour and two talks given by Fr Cecil Rogerson and Fr Stephen Fawcett. The day will finish with a light lunch at 1pm.

Appeal to Turkey earthquake: CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance, and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at Prayer for the people of Turkey and Syria affected by the earthquakes (cafod.org.uk). The archbishop has directed that we have a second collection next Sunday 26th February to assist those affected by this calamity.