

**MASSES— 21st to 28th Apr 2024**

Sun	21	9.30am	Jim & Phil Dunleavy , Josephine Lobo (Anniv) Peter Harte & Annie Laffey (Anniv) Paschal Osagie (B'day)
		11.30am	People of the parish, Perpetua Sam (Thanksgiving) Michael Kegni Hendom (RIP)
Mon	22	12.00non	Holy souls
Tues	23		NO MASS
Wed	24	9.30am	Peace in the world
Thur	25	9.30am	Pauline Bending (RIP)
Fri	26	9.30am	Tom Ward (Good health)
Sat	27	9.30am	
Sun	28	9.30am	Peter Miranda (Anniv)
		11.30am	People of the parish

**Lectors**

**21/04/2024**

9.30am— Clinton, Demisha (R)  
11.30am Chioma, Michelle (R)

**28/04/2024**

Creshel, Elizabeth H. (R)  
Christiana, Elena (R)

**Eucharistic Ministers**

**21/04/2024**

**9.30am Betty O.**  
**11.30am Marcel , Lilian**

**28/04/2024**

**Felix M.**  
**Serso, Patricia**

**LET US PRAY TO THE LORD**

**The sick of the Parish:** Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Gerard Griffith, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, John Crowford, Mr. Tran, Owen Darroch, Lucia Drabik.

**Anniversaries during the week** : Elizabeth Patricia Gamble , Sheila Byrne, Elizita Cabral, Meta Stretton, Michael Kavanagh, Bridie Durkan, John Patrick Kerins , Mario Giampaglia , Minnie Noonan, Mary McCarron.

***Today's liturgy*** invites us to reflect on Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, a theme beautifully unveiled in the Gospel according to John. This imagery is not just a metaphor but a deep revelation of Christ's sacrificial love and commitment to humanity. Unlike a hired man who flees at the first sign of danger, Jesus stands firm, ready to lay down His life for His sheep. This act of ultimate sacrifice is a testament to the depth of His care and concern for us. It is a love that goes beyond duty or obligation. Jesus wants to be our shepherd, guiding us, protecting us, and leading us to pastures of eternal life.



**Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry**



**The Parish is in the Care of the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries**

**Parish Newsletter— Vocations Sunday - 21st—28th April 2024**

**WHAT IS YOUR VOCATION?**

Today's liturgy is drawing our attention to a striking title of our risen Lord, the Good Shepherd, which harmonises with the themes of Vocations Sunday. We therefore ask in what ways God is calling us to serve him in the Church today?

By virtue of the Sacrament of Baptism, every Christian has the vocation to share in the ministry of our Lord: the priest, prophet, and king. St Peter affirms these roles when he says '... you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light' (1Pt. 2:9). This sense of identity has significant implications as we go about our lives and minister to each other. Basically, as Christians, and above all Catholics, we each share in our Lord's ministries of shepherding in the world.

**Special ministries:** I am inviting our young people to look at the various ways the Lord may be inviting them to spend their lives as they respond to the needs of the Church. I believe that the Lord continues to call some to embrace the sacred priesthood, monastic life, religious life, and missionary life in the various Institutes of Consecrated Life.

**Vocation Evolves with Ministries:** There are adults who embraced the vocation to marriage and family life but who the Lord is calling to serve as permanent deacons, extraordinary eucharistic ministers, lectors, catechists, and members of pastoral councils, to promote the kingdom of God in our times.

**Discernment:** The process of finding one's particular vocation, and ways of ministering in the Church, requires an honest self-examination before the Lord in prayer, and an availability to the assessment of the Church leaders through whom the Lord communicates his will. This means that a vocational journey is one of faith because it entails personal surrender to God in the generous availability to the people that need our time and efforts.

May the Lord, the Good Shepherd, inspire us to discover the ways in which he wishes us to serve him in the Church today. Amen.

### St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901

Parish email: [stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com](mailto:stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk](http://www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk)

Web cam: [mcn.live/camera/st-mary-and-st-benedict](http://mcn.live/camera/st-mary-and-st-benedict)

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](http://stmaryandbenedictchurchcoventry)

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

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

Parish Priest: Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, AJ

E-mail : [fr.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence  
Leena and Leera

Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Emmanuella

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 by everyone to build up and sustain our faith community.

#### Parish Development

**14/04/24: Gift Aid :£ 235.10 Dona: £.287. 00 Non-Gift Aid: £ 303.50 Total: 825.60**

**SO (Apr): £ Second collection : £ Holy places– 415.25 Thank you and may God bless you all.**

**2nd collections** 21st April—Clergy training Fund

**Bonus Ball** : No. **Mass Attendance** : 335

**Choir practice** : Fri– 7.30pm **Church cleaning**: 7.30am

**Confessions**: Saturday– 10.10–11.00am (& by appointment)

**Pious Devotions** : **Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6pm**

**Legion of Mary: Meet every Sunday after 11.30am Mass**

**SAFEGUARDING** : The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko. They can be contacted at: [sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**CHILDREN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE:** must be accompanied by an adult if they need to leave the church to use the toilets during Mass or other Church services. Also, please do not let children of this age go near the votive candle stands unaccompanied, and do not let them run round the car park. It is important that we do everything to ensure that accidents do not happen. Thanks you for your help in keeping our children safe.

## CHURCH NOTICES

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND THANKS

We to acknowledge your generosity as you give to the Church in form of offertory, time, donations, and services. Thank you for using the Dona Machine at the back of the Church. The refurbishment of the parish hall which is to cost close to £ 3,126.00. Thank for the donations received so far.

### THANKSGIVING MASS FOR SR. LEENA MATHIAS

Next Sunday, 28th April, we shall celebrate the Second Mass in thanksgiving for the many graces that the Lord has performed in the 50 years of consecrated life of Sr. Leena Mathias.

### MASS FOR MARRIED COUPLES IN THE ARCHDIOCESE

His Grace Bernard Longley, the Archbishop of Birmingham is inviting married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary, and those preparing to marry this year, to our annual Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral on **Saturday 4th May at 12 Noon**, followed by refreshments. Those intending to go, kindly register after the Holy Mass.

**A Coventry Pilgrimage in May** The members of the Legion of Mary invite you for a local Marian pilgrimage to the site of Priory and Cathedral of Coventry on **Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> May, at 11.30pm**. It will start with a tea and coffee at the Visitors Centre, a guided tour as we recite decades of the holy rosary at some stops.

### Apostles of Jesus Missionaries Support UK, Charity Number: 1205905

We thank all who have contributed to the starting of the Charity to support the training and formation of the missionary seminarians for Africa and the world. We welcome donations as we plan other fundraising activities. Towards this end, the second collections of **Sunday 9th June** and **10th November** will be in support of the Charity's goals.

**Catholic University Students:** Please, register yourself at the back of the Church; we shall plan our first meeting to plan for the creation of a vibrant community of Catholic university students who too will inspire our parish in unique ways.

### REGISTRATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Registration has started for children in non-Catholic Schools who are to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation; it is to be conferred on them at the end of this year.

**Divine mercy prayers** will not be held at St. Marys this week . We shall have our prayers on 30th May the last Thursday of the month. You are all welcome.

### Diocesan Prayer for Vocations

*Heavenly Father, we ask you to send labourers into your harvest. Inspire, in the hearts of your people, vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Bless our families with a spirit of generosity, so that those whom you call have the courage to give themselves to your Church in faith. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.*