			MASSES— 21st TO 28th Jan 2024
Sun	21	9.30am	Neil McHugh (RIP), Pearl Irianan (B'day)
		11.30am	People of the parish
			Eromosele Gabriel Agenmonmen (B'day)
Mon	22	12.00noon	Tony Smith (Spl int)
Tues	23	9.30am	Sr. Franca Rita (RIP)
Wed	24	9.30am	Tom Ward (Spl int)
Thurs	25	9.30am	Fr. Aloysius & Fr. Jimmy (Spl int)
		6.00pm	Divine mercy prayers
Fri	26	9.30am	Mabel Braganza (Anniv)
Sat	27	9.30am	Bob Haddock (RIP)
Sun	28	9.30am	McHugh & Ferry Family (Spl int)
			Mariam Osagie (B'day), Anna Mora & John Mora (B'day)
		11.30am	People of the parish
			Lectors
		<u>21/01/2024</u>	<u>28/01/2024</u>
9.30am		Desma, Cos	mos (R) Cath Slatter, Noami (R)
11.30	am	Angela N.,	Mary (R) Daluchi, Valerie (R)
			Eucharistic Ministers
		<u>21/01/2024</u>	<u>28/01/2024</u>
9.30a	m	Felix (E)	Sophie (E)
11.30	am	Florence K.	(E) Loveness (E)

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

<u>Anniversaries during the week</u>. : Eugene Pinto., Michael Hyland, Francis Hannon, Sylvia Forrest , Kathleen Waters, William Peyton , Denis McGrath, Caroline Alexandra Gorman, Felich Goucher, Alice & Michael Moran, Lynn Hand, Maria Hilda Vaz , Terrence Reily, Fame (Mabel ) Braganza, Neil McHugh, John Ferry, Harold Rixon.

*Feasts during the week*: 24th Jan - Memorial of St. Francis de Sales; 25th Jan—Conversion of ST. Paul, the Apostle; 26th Jan—Memorial of Ss. Timothy and Titus, Bishops.

Reflect on...

As we celebrate the Sunday of the Word of God, ask God to give us a love for His Word and strength to obey it so that through it God might cultivate a greater love in our hearts for Him. As He does, we will be challenged to live greater lives of obedience for His glory.



Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry



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

Parish Newsletter-Sunday of the Word of God-Year B: 21st to 28th January

# The Bible is Word of God

This third Sunday in Ordinary Time is designated the "Word of God Sunday" and provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of the Bible in our lives. The word Bible, from the Greek language, *Biblia* **meaning many books**, refers to a collection of many books each of which has been inspired. The Bible is a miracle book because, in it, God breaks the silence and speaks to us in a consistent manner that starts from the Book of Genesis and ends with the Book of Revelation. God invites people to form a special relationship of love. The great miracle about the Bible is its unified theme, namely, God's love for all people and Jesus Christ as the centre of all the writings. The preservation of the books through the centuries, and with its message that is ever old and yet ever new is also cause for wonder.

The Bible was written over a span of more than 600 years, which is a long time to have the kind of consistency in its progressive message whose crux is Our Lord Jesus Christ. There are many questions that we cannot accurately answer about the specific books in the Bible, for example the exact dates, and in some cases who their authors were. God used the authors to communicate his message to the people of their time.

The different authors wrote with the unique purpose of communicating their faith to the people of their generations, and they were aware that they were writing the Word of God.

When God speaks, we must listen. For several reasons, listening, even in our ordinary conversations, is a difficult skill. It requires some training in attentiveness to get the message of the other person. This too applies to the Word of God in our situations: God wants us to listen to him. Attentive listening to God must be accompanied by an appropriate response to leave the familiar sources of our security that are provided by our past lives, to follow the will of God, as we see in today's readings of Jonah and the Gospel of Mark. In responding to the Word of God, we will experience God's mercy and love, the transformative power of Christ's message, and the constant mercy of God, who fills us with peace and other spiritual outcomes.

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

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5OF. Tel 02476258901 Parish email: stmarvandbenedictch@vahoo.com Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk Web cam: www. mcnmedia.tv/camer/st-mary-and-st-benedict Youtube: st mary and benedict church coventry **Donations to the parish :** *https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online.* https://donate.mvdona.com/ss-mary-benedict-church

Parish Priest: Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, AJ E-mail : fr.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence Leena and Leera 02477045457 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**

14/01/24: Gift Aid : £137.60 Dona: £87.00 Non-Gift Aid: £342.06 Total: 566.60

SO (Dec): £ 817.00 Second collection : £ 149.71 May God bless you all.

### 2nd collections :

Bonus Ball : No.

Mass Attendance : 356

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.stmarystbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

If we want to know the Glory of God, if we want to experience the beauty of God, and if we want to be used by the hand of God, then we must LIVE in the WORD of God.



## **CHURCH NOTICES**

### **THANK YOU**

I am hereby thanking you all for contributing to the success of my induction as parish priest on Thursday, 18th January. Your generous support and positive energy contributed to the success of the event. I am grateful for your active participation in the Liturgy and the positive messages of support in my ministry. May God help us to maintain the vitality that we experience as a community of the people of God.

**OUT OF OFFICE:** Starting on 25 January through 15<sup>th</sup> February, I will be away, in Nairobi - Kenya, for a very important meeting in the Religious Institute the Apostles of Jesus. During my absence, the fathers of the Apostles of Jesus in Coventry will provide the needed services to our Church. Please, pray for the Institute of the Apostles of Jesus.

### WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY, 18TH – 25TH JANUARY. This

year, the theme is "You shall love the Lord your God... and your neighbour as yourself' (Luke 10.27) and the parable of the Good Samaritan. Sunday 21 January at 2pm: Ecumenical Service in the Chapel of Unity. A strong representation from our Catholic Community is encouraged to participate.

### LOURDES ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE

### MONDAY 27 MAY TO SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2024

Those who will need assistance with personal care, medication, or mobility are encouraged you to apply as an Assisted Pilgrim. It is important to note that you will be expected to pay for yourself to attend, though there are funding streams you can apply to for assistance. If you are interested in this, please contact the pilgrimage office on Tel: 0121 230 6288.

VOLUNTEER HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS are needed: carers, nurses, and doctors to help assist those who need help throughout their Pilgrimage. If available to help, please email Kathryn, Chief Nurse, on chiefnurse.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk or visit the Diocesan website for more information. Fr Jeremy Howard - Pilgrimage Director. Parish Priest - Our Lady of Lourdes Hednesford, Uxbridge St., Hednesford. WS12 1DB 01543 422576

### PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE: Thursday, 22nd February 2024, 6.30pm.

#### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER OF ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there, and unite myself wholly to You. Amen.