

### MASSES 21st to 28th Feb 2021

Sun	21	9.30am	SSA (Thanksgiving) Janie Patalong (1st Anni)
		11.30am	Rose Mary Owen (60th B'day—Thanksgiving)
Mon	22	9.30am	Kosesocnukwu Kke (B'day), Catherine Connolly & family (Spl int), Josephine Murray (100th B'day remembrance)
Tues	23	9.30am	Janie Patalong (B'day remembrance), Robert Mullen (RIP)
<b>Wed</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Requiem Mass - Maria Hilda Vaz</b>
Thurs	25	9.30am	Maureen Gregson ( Spl int), Caroline (Get well)
Fri	26	6.30pm	Stations of the cross— <b>ONLINE</b>
		7.00pm	SSA (Thanksgiving) - <b>ONLINE</b>
Sat	27	9.30am	Aidan Dorrian (Get well)
Sun	28	9.30am	James Ferry (Anni), Neil McHUgh (RIP)
		11.30am	Terry Kimani & family (Thanksgiving)

### Lectors

21/02/2021

9.30am Anthonia O., Demisha (R)  
11.30am Morgan, Georgina (R)

28/02/2021

Alex, Noah (R)  
Florence K., Mary (R)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek , Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatarisa. Josephine Scoles.

Anniversaries during the week : 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, Gussie Stapleton.

Reflect on true repentance : 'Four marks of true repentance are:



*Acknowledgement of wrong,  
Willingness to confess it,  
Willingness to abandon it,*

*And willingness to make restitution.' (Corrie ten Boom)*

Feasts for the month of February

- 21. First Sunday of Lent, Sunday
- 22. Chair of St. Peter, Feast
- 28. Second Sunday of Lent, Sunday

Baptisms: Due to Covid-19 baptismal preparation classes have been put on halt.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

### Parish Newsletter—1st Sunday of Lent - 21st to 28th Feb 2021

### OUR JOURNEY TOGETHER IS SO SHORT

Lent has very little to do with what we eat and drink or even what we wear. When the prophets proclaimed a fast, they also demanded a change of heart. On Ash Wednesday we heard the Prophet Joel say: "*Let your hearts be broken not your garments torn*" It is a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marked the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial and practical generosity. It is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal. True Lent and true fasting has much more to do with your relationship with God and with his people, than with whether you eat biscuits and chocolates this time or not. This time is so special because it is meant to help us realise that "*Our journey together is so short!*" The time has come Jesus tells us, change, repent, believe'.

A story is told of a young lady sat on a bus. At the next stop a loud and grumpy old man came and sat next to her. He squeezed into the seat and bumped her with his numerous bags. Someone sitting on the other side of the lady got upset. He asked her why she did not speak up against that grumpy man. The lady responded with a smile, "It is not necessary to argue over something so insignificant; the journey together is so short anyway, I'll get off at the next stop."

This response deserves to be written in golden letters: our journey together is indeed too short. How often do we darken our relationships with quarrels, fights, futile arguments, not forgiving one another, and fault finding attitude; instead of enjoying good family and working environments! When we do this we waste time, energy and opportunity. Someone might have broken your heart. Be calm, forgive him and love him instead because *the journey together is so short!*

Jesus our Saviour was betrayed humiliated, and bullied. When someone cheats on you, you not only feel betrayed but humiliated too. Lent invites us to be calm, to forgive, because *the journey together is so short!* Lent is a time to examine the way how we treat others. It is not unusual to find people whose behaviour is cause of pain and distress. You might hear some say "I don't care no matter what you do or say " Lent is here, to remind us to care for one another, it is a time to change because our journey together is so short. No one knows the duration of this journey. No one knows when their stop will be. All we need to be aware of is that '*Our journey together is so short.*' Let us love and support each other.

Lent will profit us if we change our behaviour and attitudes not on cutting down weight. Keep your weight but be kind, eat your chocolates but be generous to the poor. Put on your beautiful dress but forgive your neighbour. Eat bread without butter and vegetables without salt, instead of fattened calf with grudges. Cherish your friends and family. Be respectful, kind and forgiving to one another. Be filled with gratitude and gladness because '*Our journey together is so short!*' In the gospel Jesus has told us " The time has come, the Kingdom of God is close at hand Change!" Time can be Chronos or Kairos. Kronos comes and goes it is that time you hear people say: "history repeats itself" but Kairos comes once and never return, once it is lost it is lost. The time to follow Jesus is now , the time to love and to forgive is now this is an opportune time, this is the day of salvation. We do not have much time together.

**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.

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

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

www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: [www. mcnmedia.tv](http://www.mcnmedia.tv)

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

**E-mail [lutwajim@yahoo.com](mailto:lutwajim@yahoo.com)**

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Anne of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

Safeguarding Rep:

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

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher Mrs McDonald

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

**Parish Development**

**Collection: Gift Aid : £ 141.00 SO (Jan) : £ Non-Gift Aid: 183.00 Total : £323.00**

*Thank you for your generous contribution during this pandemic. I'm particularly thankful to those who have set up Standing Orders with your banks which has enabled your parish church to continue receiving your support. May God Bless you.*

**Hall Hire: Bonus Ball : No. Counters : 2nd Collection**

**Mass Attendance for the week : 169 Pious Devotions**

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

**Confessions:**

By appointment only

**Listen to Jesus...**

'To you who hear I say, love your enemies,  
do good to those who hate you,  
bless those who curse you, pray for those who mis-  
treat you.

To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer  
the other one as well, and from the person who  
takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic.

Give to everyone who asks of you,  
And from the one who takes  
What is yours do not demand it back.  
Do to others as would have them do to you.'

**Mass Intentions**

Please 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 with minimum £5 for each Mass or request by calling Tel. 07547242375. The Masses you request will be celebrated on the day or as much close to the day as possible.

**MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE**

**Stations of the cross:** Every year during lent we have the holy practice of meditating on the passion and death of our Lord as we do the Stations of the Cross. This year the Stations of the Cross will be attended through the live stream starting from 6:30pm followed by Mass at 7.00pm. These are unprecedented time. Please come together as families every Friday in your homes and let us join our parish priest who will lead the parish in recalling the passion of the Lord.

**Catechism for First Holy communion:** I wish to ask parents with children who attend non catholic schools and have reached the age of receiving Holy Communion to start preparing them at home. If you need books to help you in catechising your children at home, they are available at the piety stall. For further information you can contact Sr. Leena

**Offertory collections:** put your offerings in a Basket provided at entrance, this will help us to maintain expenses of the Parish during this difficult time. Thank you for your generosity which is highly appreciated.

**Europe's Bishops to pray for victims of the Covid-19 Pandemic** Bishops from all over Europe, through their Bishops' Conferences, will join together during Lent to celebrate a series of Masses and pray for the victims of Covid-19. The continent has suffered over 770,000 deaths from the virus. England and Wales will come together to pray on 2 March 2021. The initiative, promoted by the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE), aims to offer a sign of communion and hope for the entire continent. 2 March Each nation, or nations in our case, will come together to celebrate Holy Mass on a designated day to be part of this continental prayer network – a Eucharistic chain. Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Vice President of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences, will celebrate a special live-streamed Mass on Tuesday, 2 March 2021, at 17:30 in Westminster Cathedral. Bishops across England and Wales will also celebrate Masses in their own dioceses.

**Cardinal Vincent Nichols,** President of the Bishops' Conference, has circulated his Pastoral Letter for the start of the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday is a day rich in associations and symbolism. It marks the beginning of Lent – a time for turning again to the practice of our faith, in prayer, self-denial (fasting) and practical generosity (almsgiving). It is the doorway into our Lenten season of renewal.

**Information from Marriage Care:** it is now a great time to prepare for married life together! Marriage Care is still here and our dedicated relationship support services can be accessed online. Our live, facilitated, marriage preparation courses continue to be popular with couples who can now easily join these interactive workshops via Zoom. We provide group courses called "Preparing Together" which have received an Imprimatur from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, and FOCCUS – a tailored questionnaire-based marriage preparation service for couples who wish to explore their own unique relationship in more depth. Both courses are approved for marriage preparation in the Catholic Church. You can find out more and book a course here.

For couples who need counselling and support if they are experiencing relationship distress, can get this service too. Our professional relationship counselling service is provided on a donation-only basis and seeking help at whatever stage can make a real difference. You can find out more and book counselling sessions here.