

**MASSES— 26th Dec to 2nd Jan 22**

Sun	26	9.30am	Neil McHugh, Eileen Kerrigan (RIP)
		11.30am	Bridie McAndrew (Spl int)
Mon	27	9.30am	Theresa Anatuanya (B'day remembrance) Sr. Costance (RIP)
Tues	28	9.30am	Fr. Jimmy Lutwama (Spl int), Mary Costello (RIP)
Wed	29	9.30am	No Mass
Thurs	30	9.30am	SAP (Thanksgiving) Ben McAndrew (Good health)
Fri	31	9.30am	Groogan Family (RIP)
		11.00pm	Thanksgiving Adoration
		12.00am	New year Mass
Sat	01	10.00am	Thomas Clear, Tomy Griffith (RIP)
Sun	02	9.30am	Mary Delargey, Theresa Day (RIP)
		11.30am	Mama Cecile Nzanda & Charlie Ekobe (RIP)

**Lectors**

**31/12/2021**

**01/01/2022**

12.00am Chukwudi, Florence E. (R) 10.00am Elizabeth H., Emmanuel A. (R)

**26/12/2021**

**02/01/2022**

9.30am Asipita, Nicholas (R) Alex, Naomi (R)

11.30am Florence K., Kissanet (R) Sharon, Elena (R)

**09/01/2022**

9.30am Godfrey, Anthonia A. (R) 11.30am Scarlett, Sharon (R)

**Please pray for the sick of the Parish:** Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatarisa, Teresa MacCaffer, Andrea.

**Anniversaries during the week :** Thomas Travers, Teresa Mawn, Denis McGrath, Pat Kinsella, Mary McClean, Patrick Joseph Wright, Bridget Margaret Theresa Sloan, John Ferry, Patrick McLaughlin, Margaret Moore, D. Stafford, Michael Murphy, Eddie Branfield, Myra Scott, Larry Mawn, Mary Woollett, Thomas Griffith, Francis Jack Beaufay, Denis George, Josephine Armstrong, Vittoria Giampaglia, Carmel Ryan, George Pilkington, Peter Byrne, Caroline Balcarres, Bernard Joseph Doran, Philomena Mulvey, Gerald Patrick McNamee, Tom Dunleavy, Dymphnah Glennon, Elizabeth Benson, Hugh Matthew O'Neill, Sean Costelloe, Thomas Patrick Joyce, Patrick Gannon, Nora O'Brien, Michael Hogan, Jim Davis, Con O'Driscoll, Eileen Helen Teresa Coleman, Thomas Joyce.

*Wishing you all the joy and peace on this wonderful Christmas season. May this incredible time of giving and spending time with your family bring you the joy that lasts throughout the New year ! **HAPPY NEW YEAR***



A.J. Missions

St. Osburg

Ss. Mary & Benedict

St. Elizabeth

**Parish Newsletter—Feast of the Holy Family -26th Dec 21 to 9th Jan 22**

**THE GREATNESS OF GOD IS REVEALED IN HUMAN IGNORANCE:**

Here we are again celebrating another Christmas, for some people 2021 has been just another year that came and has gone, for others, it is a moment to look back and recognise that God has been a faithful companion and provider. You and I know that it was not by our own power or by our shrewdness that we are here today. Many people would have loved to be here but they are not. Your presence like that of the shepherds at the humble stable of Bethlehem is a gesture of adoration, worship and thanksgiving to God.

In the gospel of Lk. 17:11-19, we are given a story of some men who suffered from leprosy, it was an incurable disease during the time of the Lord. The men cried out to Jesus for healing, after their request was granted, only a Samaritan immigrant returned to thank God. There are many things we have to thank God for, it is reasonable enough that at Christmas churches get filled.

But what are we celebrating at Christmas? We celebrate the love of God in a simple, small and almost insignificant baby born to Mary at Bethlehem. The mystery of the incarnation is in the fact that God makes himself present among us as one of us in a form of a little baby. He communicates to us in a language that all of us can understand. If God had spoken to us in another form, we would probably not have grasped the meaning of his love, but in the little baby of Bethlehem, his humanity raises us to understand his divinity.

When we celebrate Christmas, we are immediately reminded of family life. The Saviour was born in the family of Joseph and Mary, there could probably be no any other school where the kind of life Jesus lived could be learned apart from a family. Christmas reminds us the dignity and sanctity of family life, that God himself created it as an institution where his children could be born and nurtured. A family is not a human invention but a divinely established order. As your priest, I cannot hesitate to thank you all for your efforts and sacrifices you make everyday to sustain your families in love and to nurture your children with faith, good discipline and appreciation of serving their brothers and sisters. A family that prays together, eats together, suffers together will always live together. We find these aspects in the life of Mary and Joseph. Let us not be afraid to teach them in our families too.

As you return home today, depart in a spirit of praise and thanksgiving to God for his goodness to you since last Christmas. Invite Jesus to your Christmas dinner table, make him part of your conversation in your family lounge and recognise him in your neighbour. Christmas celebrations can be hard on the lonely. Shopping extravagance can be hard on the poor. Do not behave as though no other persons exist except you. Yes, there was no room for them in the inn. Do not forget those who might find Christmas painful.

I must say something on Covid19; brothers and sisters, God has put us to the test. Pope Francis has told us in one of his homilies, that vaccination, wearing face mask properly and sanitization is an act of love for your neighbour. During this time, be a carrier of health not of sickness to the people you will meet. The fact that there is so much we are ignorant of as human beings, reveals God's greatness and all knowing.

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

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

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

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

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

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/EHEpr5IMocc>

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

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

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

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

Safeguarding Rep: Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko

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

Gift Aid : 117.50 SO ( Dec ) : £ Non-Gift Aid: 531.65 Total: £649.15

Thank you for your generous contribution May God Bless you.



### 2nd Collection :

**Bonus Ball** : No. 54 Jasmine D.

**Mass Attendance** : 297

### Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice : Fri- 7.30pm

Church cleaning:

**Confessions**: Saturday- 10.10  
-11.00am.

### Masses 3rd to 9th Jan 2022

Mon	03	9.30am	Sean Donnelly, Angela Parker (RIP)
Tues	04	9.30am	Pauline McDonald (Spl int) Bridgit Clear (RIP)
Wed	05	9.30am	Miss McFeely (Spl int)
Thurs	06	9.30am	School Children
Fri	07	9.30am	Dolores Conley (Get well) Josie McCrave (Spl int)
Sat	08	9.30am	Patsy Sproul (Spl int)
Sun	09	9.30am	Elizabeth Hancock (Spl int)
		11.30am	Florence Ekobe (Thanksgiving)

### Mass Intentions

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. It is recommended to give a donation for your intention from £5.00. You can call Tel. 07547242375.

## MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

### **Message of thanks:**

Dear parishioners, as we come to the end of the year, I take this opportunity to thank you all for the support you have given to our parish and to myself as your pastor. We have had a very hard time since the pandemic started and our parish has been hit hard in so many ways. Thank you for responding promptly to make sure that the parish carried on. Thank you for the sacrifices you have made in terms of your finances and your time to support the parish during these difficult times. I'm lucky as your priest because every time I pass my eyes across the congregation, it seems as if every person has something to do in the building up of our faith community. I wish you a Blessed Christmas time and a happy new year 2022. Fr. Jimmy

**Peace Sunday** is on 16 January, 2022. The resources come to you with the support of the International Affairs Department, of the Bishops' Conference, England and Wales. The theme chosen for 2022 by Pope Francis is: "Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace" Pax Christi depends very much on financial contributions receive from Peace Sunday collections and in these difficult circumstances they would be doubly grateful for any donation you are able to make.

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** 18 to 25 January 2022: This year's theme is inspired by the story of the Magi. Prayer resources to help prepare services, and daily reflections can be found on Churches Together website at <https://ctbi.org.uk/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2022/>

**Retirement** Mgr John Moran who was Vicar General of our archdiocese has retired as Parish Priest of Harvington. As a parish we are grateful for his dedicated service and for his support of our parish during difficult time. He will remain priest in residence at Harvington Hall Worcester.

**Pope Francis to be vaccinated is a moral obligation act of love:** HM Government has made the wearing of face covering mandatory in Places of Worship from Friday 10 December 2021. There is overwhelming evidence showing the effectiveness of vaccination in preventing serious illness, the further spread of the virus and ultimately death. The vaccination programme, therefore, serves the common good by protecting the population, especially the most vulnerable. Pope Francis has spoken of the 'moral obligation to be vaccinated' and referred to vaccination as an 'act of love'. Given that, at the present time, the numbers of people being infected is rising quickly, a collective effort is needed to combat Omicron virus.

With respect to the current situation with the Omicron variant it is important to ensure the following points are followed in our churches:

- That people displaying any symptoms of Covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.
- That hand sanitizer is available to those attending the Church.
- Face coverings must be worn by those attending public acts of worship unless there is a genuine exemption or the person is leading worship or participating in a role that requires the mask to be removed for a period of time.