



Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry



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

Parish Newsletter—4th Sunday in Ordinary time—Year B: 28th Jan to 4th Feb 2024

Prophets and The Word of God

Last Sunday was dedicated to the Word of God; today we are reflecting on its proclaimers: the prophets. A prophet is God's mouthpiece. From ancient times, God chose individuals through whom he communicated his will to his chosen nation of Israel, they were the prophets. Prophets were very special friends of God, for example we read: *'Yahweh would speak with Moses face to face, as a man speaks with his friend'* (Exodus, 33:11).

Towards the end of his life, Moses announced, 'Your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen' (Dt. 18). This prophecy has a double meaning: it was referring to the fact that God was going to provide for Moses' contemporaries by sending to them Joshua, his immediate successor. It was also pointing to the messianic times and was referring to our Lord Jesus. Interestingly, the two names Joshua and Jesus both derive from the Hebrew name Jehoshua, which means God is Deliverance, or God is Salvation. Indeed, God crowned the work of all prophets in Our Lord Jesus Christ, *'the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of his nature (Heb. 1:3)*. Jesus communicates to us by his very life and his words.

We are invited to listen with a humble heart. The psalmist has indicated this message in the verse: *'O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts' (Ps.94:90)*. If only we listened to and obeyed God's word, we would have a much better world of less arrogance and destruction, and more justice, peace, compassion, care and respect for human dignity and rights.

By virtue of the Sacrament of Baptism we share in Christ's prophetic ministry. This entails constant listening to the Word of God in prayer, and teaching the same Word by our actions and words. To be a prophet requires courage.

In this Year of Prayer, let us persevere in our listening to the Word of God and proclaiming it to the people of our generation. This we can do as we go about our daily lives. May God bless you. Amen.

MASSSES— 28th Jan to 4th Feb 2024

Sun	28	9.30am	McHugh & Ferry Family (Spl int) Mariam Osagie (B'day), Anna Mora & John Mora (B'day)
		11.30am	Apostles of Jesus Missionaries
Mon	29	12.00noon	Bob Haddock (RIP)
Tues	30	9.30am	Emmanuel Malize (Spl int)
Wed	31	9.30am	Tom Ward (Spl int)
Thurs	01	9.30am	Sean McCrave (RIP)
Fri	02	9.30am	For Consecrated people
Sat	03	9.30am	Bob Haddock (RIP)
Sun	04	9.30am	Apostles of Jesus Missionaries
		11.30am	People of the parish

Lectors

	28/01/2024	04/01/2024
9.30am	Cath Slatter, Naomi (R)	Clinton, Demisha (R)
11.30am	Daluchi, Valerie (R)	Ortise, Sharon (R)

Eucharistic Ministers

	28/01/2024	04/01/2024
9.30am	Sophie (E)	Cath Slatter (E)
11.30am	Loveness (E)	Patricia (E)

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

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

Anniversaries during the week. : Harold Rixon. Harold Rixon, William Michael Redmond, Walters, Bridget Teresa Chapman, William Molloy, Marie Macken, Teresa McSharry, Josephine Robertson, John Nash.

Feasts during the week: 31st Jan—Memorial of St. John Bosco, Priest, 2nd Feb—Feast of the Presentation of the Lord—World day of prayer

Prayer for Racial Justice Sunday

God of light and truth, you call all men and women to live lives of holiness and justice. Help us to see in one another: a heart which is tender, a mind which is humble and a care for our brothers and sisters; so that together we may build up the Body of Christ as a sign of hope and mercy for all. We make this prayer through Jesus our Lord.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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

Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

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

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCv1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1m1)

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

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

21/01/24: Gift Aid : £136.69 Dona: £ 60.00 Non-Gift Aid: £368.19 Total: 564.88

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

2nd collections :

Bonus Ball : No. 17—Agnes Haffernan

Mass Attendance : 316

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

Pope's prayer intention for February: for the terminally ill.

We pray that with a terminally illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

CHURCH NOTICES

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.

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

YEAR OF PRAYER: Thanks to two seekers who asked me a question and allowed me to publish our conversation.

Seekers: We would like to read the Bible, but don't know how to start. Which book should we start with?

Fr. Bukenya: I advise you to start with any book that you like. Try to explore facts about the human author, why the book was written, when it was written, its targeted audience, and its message. If you currently want me to recommend a book, then read the Gospel according to Mark, the focus of the Sundays of this Year B. A systematic reading of any book of the Bible is one way to improve prayer life, because any book of the Bible inspires our communication with God and with one another.

YOU AND THE APOSTLES OF JESUS MISSIONARIES

I briefly mentioned last week that I am away, in Nairobi – Kenya, in a meeting of different leadership teams in our Institute, the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries. Described in terms familiar to us, the members of the Apostles of Jesus form a family that has both the nuclear and extended connections. The community of St Mary and St Benedict Catholic Church, Coventry comprises part of that extended family.

I appreciate the fact that my brother Fr. Jimmy Lutwama introduced this idea to this parish and incorporated you into the extended family of the Apostles of Jesus, as Friends of the Institute. I thank you for your voluntary services and donations, that you have always so generously given, particularly towards the formation of our future priests. I appeal to you to continue with that spirit.

As Fr. Jimmy and I participate in the meetings at this time, I ask you to pray for us and for the entire Institute of the Apostles of Jesus. We are giving your regards to the participants in the assembly and all our members and friends that we are meeting in Nairobi. May God bless you and all that you care about.

WHILE I AM AWAY: Sr. Leera will coordinate the ordinary activities in the parish office; the fathers of the Apostles of Jesus in Coventry will celebrate Holy Mass; those who require the Sacrament of Penance may seek it in the neighbouring parishes.

ASH WEDNESDAY, 14 FEBRUARY, the start of the Lenten Season, we shall have two Masses: at 9.30am and 7.00pm.