

Sun	29	9.30am	Mariam Osagie (B'day), Rajashree (B'day) Callistus Obi & family (Spl int)
		11.30am	Bernard Rodrigues (RIP), Holy souls Adriel Munachimso Nwosu (Baptism)
Mon	30	12.00noon	Patsy Lesley (1st Anni)
Tues	31	9.00am	Fr. Garry Byrne (RIP), Yacob & Ganet (25th Wed Anni)
		6.00pm	Reception—Michael J. Kenny
Wed	01	12.00noon	Requiem Mass—Michael J. Kenny
Thurs	02	9.30am	Sean McCrave (RIP)
Fri	03	9.30am	Ben McAndrew (RIP)
Sat	04	9.30am	Sara Da Costa (Spl int), Anna Mara (Thanksgiving)
Sun	05	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	Deceased members of Eric & Preethi family

9.30am	Asipitha, Emmanuela, (R)	Stanley, Nicholas O. (R)
11.30am	Mary, Sharon (R)	Privin, Elena (R)

9.30am Sophie (E) 11.30am Vera, Serso (E)

Anniversaries during the week : Bridget Teresa Chapman , William Molloy, Marie Macken, Teresa McSharry, Josephine Robertson, John Nash.

Blessed are those who can laugh at themselves; they will have no end of fun.
Blessed are those who can tell a mountain from a molehill; they will be saved a lot of trouble.
Blessed are those who know how to relax without looking for excuses; they are on the way to becoming wise.
Blessed are those who know when to be quiet and listen; they will learn a lot of new things.
Blessed are those who are sane enough not to take themselves too seriously; they will be valued by those around them.
Happy are those who can take small things seriously, and take serious things calmly; they will go far in life.
Happy are those who can be kind in understanding the attitudes of others; they may be taken for fools, but that is the price of charity.
Happy are those that can appreciate a smile, and forget a frown; they will walk in the sunshine.
Blessed are they who think before acting, and pray before thinking; they will avoid many blunders.
Blessed are they who recognise the Spirit in all whom they meet; the light of truth will shine in their lives.



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter –4th Sunday in ordinary time — 29th Jan to 5th Feb 2023

The beatitudes are so common to our ears, such that some of us know them by heart. They are some of the most beautiful sayings of Jesus, that call upon the listener to go beyond the word, and apply them in their personal life. The beatitudes are essentially promises that Jesus makes to us, if we deliberately chose the lifestyle he is talking about. On the face value of this teaching, there is no blessing in poverty or in mourning, peace makers lose their peace and life in the course of looking for it. Those who suffer persecutions, know very well how difficult it is to escape with your life. There is no blessedness when you become an object of abuse, ridicule and laughing stock. But Jesus calls them “Blessed.”

The question is: why are you persecuted, or abused, mourning or poor? Those who suffer these things, Jesus calls them blessed because of the motive behind their suffering. They are blessed because, they suffer something they are convinced of to be the right thing to do. They willingly accept it, even though doing the contrary would give them illusory happiness. The martyrs of all time suffered persecutions, they were laughed at, and many holy people were publicly humiliated for believing in Jesus Christ. He calls them blessed because their fidelity carries a great reward. Jesus is asking us to aspire for the life of the beatitudes. Great people, are not those who inflicted sufferings to others, but those who humbly bore it.

When you lack something, you try to look for it, we are not contented until we get it. A driver running short of fuel is anxious to find a petrol station,. God is the highest good that mankind is designed to aspire for. It is this poverty that Jesus talks about, we should never feel contented that we do not need God in our life, or that we do not need the Church to guide us in our pilgrimage towards him. We must be anxious to have God fill our life. That is when we truly become blessed.

In the second reading Paul reminds the Corinthians of the humble beginnings of evangelisation among them. It was not the rich and powerful that accepted the gospel when it was first preached but simple ordinary folks. It reminds us that poor people, those that have no authority or who have nothing to impress the powerful, are sometimes the very ones that God uses to fulfil his plans. When I look at you this morning, I can see how similar we are to the first Christians of Corinth, how many of us are wise in the ordinary sense of the word, how many are influential, or come from noble families. We are just ordinary people assembled by God to listen to his word. Yes, Divine favour rests with and empowers those having no status and prestige, who live a life of humility, acknowledging that all is a divine gift.

As you return home, reflect on the promises Jesus has given us today, and let us do our best to have them realised in your daily life. Blessed, Blessed and blessed indeed are those who have received the promises of the Lord in their life.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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

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

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

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

E-mail : 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 : 172.50 **SO (Jan) : £** **Non-Gift Aid:** 736.19 **Total: £. 908.69**

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings: Zep : 2:3, 3:12-13; 1Cor :1:6-31 Mt.: 5: 1-12

2nd Collection :

Bonus Ball :

Mass Attendance : 356

Pious Devotions

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm

Church cleaning: 7.30am

Confessions: Saturday–
10.10–11.00am.

Divine mercy prayers : Last
Thursday of every month at
6.00pm followed by Mass.

Gospel Reflection

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 5:1–3

This beautiful sermon presents us with many familiar teachings of Jesus, such as the Beatitudes, the Lord's Prayer and the Golden Rule. Jesus begins His sermon by going up a mountain and sitting down.. Today's Gospel presents us with the glorious and very high calling of the Beatitudes. This teaching on the Beatitudes sets the stage for the many other lessons Jesus taught..

Jesus is calling us to follow Him up the mountain of the Beatitudes. This is our calling. But the fruit of perfection is the fulfillment in which God wants us to share. The easy life of sin leaves us dry and interiorly dead, but the hard journey to perfection leads us to the deepest fulfillment we could ever attain. Commit yourself to the journey and do not hesitate on the way, and you, too, will be rewarded with the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mass intentions:

If you wish to offer a Mass for your intentions please use the Mass intention envelopes found at the piety stall. Write down the intentions with donation £5.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

The Archbishop of Birmingham regrets to announce the sudden death of Canon Garrett 'Garry' Byrne that took place on Saturday morning, 21st January, aged 74. Canon Garry had recently celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his Ordination to the Priesthood. He was ordained on the 13th January, 1973, after which his ministry took him to St Vincent's, Ashted & Vauxhall, St Thomas More, Sheldon, St Philip Neri, Smethwick, St Joseph's, Bidford-on-Avon and St Osburg's, Coventry, returning to Bidford in 2015. He was installed to the Chapter of Canons in 2002, and in 2008 he was appointed Dean of the Coventry Deanery. Canon Garry. We pray for Canon Garry's family, friends, his former parishioners and all who mourn him. May he rest in peace.

Racial Justice Sunday will be marked on 5 February. It is a day that the church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. The theme for this year is: “*All are included in the mission of Christ and His Church. Let us walk together, pray together and work together*” It reflects the role each of us must play in promoting the mission of Christ and His Church. This was inspired by conversations around last year's Racial Justice Sunday and Pope Francis' visit to Canada in July 2022 when he spoke about looking towards a future of 'Justice, healing and reconciliation'.

Are you interested in promoting Christian unity? The newly named diocesan Commission for Promoting Christian Unity, formerly the Ecumenical Commission, is seeking to establish a network of Catholics committed to Christian Unity at parish/deanery level, to assist in promotion of Christian unity. Dn David Fairbotham invites for volunteers to have an informal chat with him his contact details are: *St Dunstan, Kings Heath and St Jude, Maypole; email: dcn.david.fairbotham@rcaob.org.uk; telephone: 0121 242 5641.* David will be happy to talk to you.

Our Lady of Walsingham: The bishops have agreed to ask the Holy See to elevate the Memorial of Our Lady of Walsingham to the status of a Feast in England. This is very good news that the National Shrine of Our Lady, under the title of Our Lady of Walsingham, will be recognised and celebrated across the country.

Death announcement: I regret to announce to you the death of Mr Benedict McAndrew commonly known as Benny of Hamilton St. which occurred on Tuesday. Our thoughts and prayers go to his wife Bridie of Oak Nursing Home and daughter Claire McAndrew they are members of this parish community.

Lourdes 2023 pilgrimage - Saturday 27 May to Friday 2 June Pilgrimage bookings are now open. To travel with the pilgrimage from start to finish, you can book your flight or coach, plus preferred hotel via our tour operator Tangney Tours. To join us as an affiliate pilgrim please contact Kath White: admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk Tel. 0121 230 6288

Prayer intention for February : We pray that parishes, placing, communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need

Saint of the week: John Bosco priest: Italian in full San Giovanni Melchior Bosco, by-name Don Bosco, (born August 16, 1815, Becchi, near Turin, Piedmont, kingdom of Sardinia [Italy]—died January 31, 1888, Turin; canonized April 1, 1934; feast day January 31), Roman Catholic priest who was a pioneer in educating the poor and founded the Salesian order. He is a patron saint of editors, publishers, youth, apprentices, and magicians.