

MASSES— 30th Apr to 7th May 23

Sun	30	9.30am	Anthony H. Braganza (B'day remembrance) Peter Miranda (Anni)
		11.30am	Oyawiri Johnbull (RIP), Mary Jane Okpala (thanksgiving)
Mon	01	12.00noon	Eric & Preethi (18th Wed Anni), Yvette Wilkinson (RIP)
Tues	02	9.30am	Vera Dunnion (Get well)
Wed	03	9.00am	Fr. Jimmy (Thanksgiving)
Thurs	04	9.30am	June Ryan (RIP)
Fri	05	9.30am	Laetitia & family (Spl int), Ann Rodgers (Anni)
Sat	06	9.30am	Mylene Fernandes (B'day)
Sun	07	9.30am	Estelizeo Menezes (RIP), Ellen Hull (RIP), Kyle D'souza (Spl int)
		11.30am	Obinna Ofili & Family (Thanksgiving), Morgan (B'day)



A.J. Missions

St. Osburg

Ss. Mary & Benedict

St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter – 4th Sunday of Easter- 30th April to 7th May 2023

Lectors

30/04/2023

9.30am Filomena, Naomi (R)
11.30am Tasha, Valerie (R)

07/05/2023

Marij, James M. (R)
Chidema, Karen (R)

Eucharistic Ministers

30/04/2023

9.30am Cath Slatter (E)
11.30am Lilian (E)

07/05/2023

Betty O. (E)
Marcel (E)

The sick of the Parish: Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosisi, John, Mr. Tran, Damian Curristan, Owen Darroch.

Anniversaries during the week: Bridget Teresa Chapman, William Molloy, Marie Macken, Teresa McSharry, Josephine Robertson, John Nash, Elizabeth Hoey, William, Antony Braganza, Peter Montague, Elizabeth Hugh.

Keep the Church clean: it takes a lot of time to clean up the mess left behind by some people in the church. I encourage families not to make the church a feeding place for children on chocolates, crisps and biscuits. It does not show your respect to the house of God.

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, with minimum £5 for each Mass.

Prayer for Vocation Sunday

“O Jesus, divine Shepherd of souls, you called the apostles and made them fishers of men. Continue to draw to yourself ardent and generous souls from among the young, in order to make them your followers and your ministers. Give them a share in your thirst for the redemption of all... Open before them the horizons of the entire world... By responding to your call, may they prolong your mission here on earth, build up your Mystical Body which is the Church, and be ‘the salt of the earth’ and ‘the light of the world’ (Mt 5:13)”.

YOU WERE INVITED HAVE YOU RESPONDED?

The mysteries of our salvation are centred on Christ. On Easter we celebrated His Resurrection from the dead. On the following Sunday after Easter, we celebrated His Mercy the Divine Mercy Sunday. On the Third Sunday we celebrated Christ who walks with us especially in difficult times. The story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus were at the critical moment of their life, but as Christ joined them, their lives started to be inwardly renewed and totally transformed at the breaking of the bread.



On this Fourth Sunday, we celebrate Jesus Christ as our shepherd. Jesus is not every shepherd, but The Good Shepherd. So, today is Good shepherd Sunday. By baptism, Jesus placed us into his fold, we belong to him, whether we believe it or not, he chose you because he wants to save you for eternal life. When you reflect on this mysterious plan of Christ for you or for us as baptised, we come to realise that Jesus is the Only Gate through which we must pass to have eternal life.

In the gospel, Jesus has spoken of himself as the Gate; and there is no any other Gate, you can pass through, using either short cut, bribery, nepotism, titles or force. I'm the Gate he says. Just as all of us passed through that door of the church to come here, Jesus is the only gate through which we can pass to come into God's presence. It is important that we know the gatekeeper and that he knows us the sheep of his flock.

This Good shepherd Sunday Jesus reminds us that we too are called to be shepherds. You are called to be your brother, your sisters keeper, to guide him, to lead him to the Gate—Jesus Christ. So, this Sunday is also known as Vocation Sunday, when we are reminded that God has given each one of us a special call, to do something for our brothers and sisters, so that through our action, they may come to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ.

Every parish priest is surprised to see how only a handful of people in the parish can voluntarily use their expertise to do things in the church without being asked. Most people wait to be asked or officially invited. Someone told me, oh Father you did not invite us for Easter celebrations, another said you did not invite us for the bazaar last year,' yet another told me just this morning Father, I'm still waiting for you to invite me to come and help to clean the church. To all these people I replied, " sorry I have not invited you because you received the invitation your baptismal card. The baptism card you received is not a paper to be kept home but a testimonial document that you are invited to every activity in the church and of the church. There is no any other invitation you will receive apart from that, that you have received in baptism. It opened up for you every avenue to do good and gave you authority in the name of Jesus to be a good shepherd to your brothers and sisters after his own example. So, you were invited to do all these things, **have you responded yet or not?**

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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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>.

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

Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Ernest

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

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline McDonald

<https://donate.myдона.com/ss-mary-benedict-church>



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

SO (Mar) : £207.60 Gift Aid : £ Non-Gift Aid: £545.22 Total: £ 752.82 Thank you for your generosity.

Readings: Acts. 2:14, 36-41, 1Pet. 2: 20-25; John 10: 1-10

2nd collection : 30th April– Clergy training Fund ; 21 May Catholic Communications

Bonus Ball :

Mass Attendance : 476

Church cleaning: 7.30am

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm

Confessions: Saturday– 10.10–11.00am.

Pious Devotions : Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6.00pm

(RCIA): sessions : will take place on every Sunday after 11.30am Mass

Gospel Reflection

Jesus said: "Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as the shepherd calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." John 10:2-3

Jesus continued his teaching by saying that He is not only the Shepherd whose voice is known by the sheep, but He is also the gate. "I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture." What does our Lord mean when He calls Himself the gate? As the Gate, He is the Word of God, revealed to us through the Scriptures.

He is the gate, not only for the sheep but for each of the shepherds who lead the sheep in His name. Let us reflect, today, upon the image of Christ the Good Shepherd, calling to us in a variety of ways. We must learn His true voice through faith and prayer. Once we recognize His voice, we will more easily discover Him ministering to us, inspiring us, and inviting us to the life of grace by encountering Him as the source and way to this new life.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Coronation of King Charles III takes place on Saturday 6th of May. It will be a historical moment for millions of people who have never seen how English monarchs are crowned. Since Queen Elizabeth II had a very long reign, only few people have recollection of that event. As you watch the event on the TV, remember to pray for the crowned King and Her majesty the Queen that they may govern us in peace and justice for all.

Sunday School: I wish to thank families that have presented their children for Sunday school. The number is greatly encouraging and the children seem to enjoy it. Sunday school is modelled on the readings of the Sunday and simplified to their understanding. Please ask the children what they have learnt when you return home to help them pay attention when they are in Sunday class.

Marriage course: I am pleased to announce that 5 young couples have registered for ongoing marriage course. Please keep them in your prayers.

Marriage Banns: Jerome Obinna Okpo, of 29, Humphrey Davy Road, Bedworth, Son of Edwin Okonkwo Okpo, and Bridget Okpo (Uche) would like to marry Jennifer Louise Champion, of 29 Humphrey Davy Road, Bedworth, Daughter of Garry peter Albert Champion and Joan Louise Champion. If there is anybody who knows that they should not get married to each other, kindly come and inform the parish priest.

Coventry Nuneaton Deary Visitations will be concluded possibly at the end of May or the beginning of June. Christians from different parishes have greatly supported the visitation. Let us continue to pray and to work together to build the Church in our owl locality, as we look forward for the direction we shall be asked to take.

The Archbishop has written a Pastoral Letter for us on this Fourth Sunday of Easter 29/30 APRIL 2023

Vocations/Good Shepherd Sunday: Today Vocations Sunday or Good Shepherd Sunday and is marked as the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. The purpose of this day is to fulfil Jesus' instruction to "Pray the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest" (Matthew 9:38). While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates her attention on raising up shepherds for God's people - vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call.

Dona contactless device is now sorted, upgraded and now working well with new Wi-Fi and QR code. When you wish to make your Sunday offering or any payment for the Church on the contactless device you can pay directly using the device itself or scanning the QR code which is displayed at the back of the church. Thank you & God bless you all for your cooperation and generosity.

Governor Vacancies: the Boards of Directors and Local Governing Bodies of the Multi Academy Companies (MACs) and Voluntary Aided schools based in Coventry and North Warwickshire, are looking for volunteers to join the Local Governing Bodies of their highly successful catholic schools. There are 26 catholic schools in the area; 22 primary schools and 4 secondary schools. Foundation Governors must be practising Catholics who are interested in supporting catholic education and keen to make a difference to the education and future life chances of our young people. If you are a practising catholic and have the time, skills and energy and commitment for this rewarding and fulfilling role we would love to hear from you. For further information please contact Fiona McLintock at ctk.covty@rcaob.org.uk who will forward your email to the appropriate person. In your email please state if you would like to be considered for a particular school or area. We look forward to hearing from you.