

### MASSES 31st Jan to 7th Feb 2021

Sun	31	9.30am	Groogan family (Spl int), Patrick O'Neil (RIP), Dr. Zah Ngah (Good health)
		11.30am	Anthony Nwosu (RIP)
Mon	01	9.30am	Caetano & Cecilia D'Souza (RIP), Sean McCrave (Anni)
Tues	02	9.30am	Dylan D'Souza (B'day), Florence Kasibante (B'day)
Wed	03	9.30am	Judith & family (Spl int)
Thurs	04	9.30am	Mariulci Vettori (RIP), Josephine Scoles (RIP)
Fri	05	9.30am	Marina & Elena Bertossi (RIP)
Sat	06	9.30am	Barbara Bertossi (RIP) Frank & Florence Kasibante (Wed Anni)
Sun	07	9.30am	Adora & Kaylen (Good health)
		11.30am	Lolo Josephine Onye (RIP)

### Lectors

**31/01/2021**

9.30am Bakhita, Anthonia A. (R)  
11.30am Perpetua, Florence E. (R)

**07/02/2021**

Creshel, Philomena (R)  
Mary, Florence K. (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 Gwahirisa, Josephine Scoles.

**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.

### ***Moral story - A wise old owl:***

*There was an old owl who lived in an oak tree. Every day, he observed incidents that occurred around him.*

*Yesterday, he watched as a young boy helped an old man carry a heavy basket. Today, he saw a young girl shouting at her mother. The more he saw, the less he spoke.*

*As the days went on, he spoke less but heard more. The old owl heard people talking and telling stories.*

*He heard a woman saying an elephant jumped over a fence. He heard a man saying that he had never made a mistake.*

*The old owl had seen and heard what happened to people. There were some who became better, some who became worse. But the old owl in the tree had become wiser, each and every day.*

***Moral:*** *.Be more observant. Talk less and listen more. This will make us wise. Always listen to what the elders say. Question them, but do not defy them*



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

### **Parish Newsletter—4th Sunday in ordinary time - 31st Jan to 7th Feb 2021**

### **DOES YOUR AUTHORITY SERVE THE PEOPLE?**

One of the aspects that has made the Catholic Church to expand, to grow and to survive through centuries is the commitment to chastity by some of her members. From earliest time the Church saw a chaste life as an efficacious means of serving God. Chastity is not a state of not being married but a commitment to God with undivided heart.

The first reading has spoken about a prophet that God would raise from the people of Israel, from their own number, one who would act with integrity one who would minister to God and to his people with an undivided heart. In Jesus we have that promised prophet raised from the house of David, one who came not to do his will but the will of God and one who was a true shepherd to the people as today's gospel reveals. Jesus taught with authority; what does it mean? It means that his teaching was rooted in God, it was consistent with what he believed and formed one entity with what he practiced. As a rabbi, this is where his authority lay.

People have lost interest in leaders be it in politics or in religion because many of them speak words that have no authority. I remember a president who stole the national vote condemning vote rigging; nobody believed his word not even those he had helped to cheat. What example could he give! A thief cannot condemn theft. The authority of the church or indeed of every Christian is seen if he believes what he teaches, teaches what he believes and practices in his daily life what he teaches.

The authority of Jesus did not come out of who he was but out of what he was which proved who he was. To all the people, Jesus was an ordinary rabbi just like other rabbis, what made him different is that while other teachers said one thing and did the opposite, or said things simply to make people feel good without telling them the truth. Jesus on the other hand demanded from people what he gave away first. He loved them first before he asked them to love one another, he showed them compassion before he asked them to be compassionate, he served them before he asked them to become servants of one another.

Where does the authority of some of our leaders lie today? In weapons of war, in armies, in bribery, in creating gangs that chant their praises even when their social credibility is shameful. In forcing people to do or to say what they want to hear.

The second reading talks about giving undivided attention to God, it challenges our integrity of life, the coherence of what we do with what we say, the coherence of what we tell others and what we practice ourselves. St. Paul uses marriage and virginity which are both essential elements of human existence to demonstrate that we cannot as human beings more so as Christians live a double life. If we do so, then we cannot be that prophet talked about in the first reading neither can our word and our teaching have authority like that of Jesus. As you return home, go and be honest, avoid hypocrisy, be truthful, let your word not be contradicted, work for peace. This is a new teaching that the world longs for because it has authority behind it—Jesus Christ himself.

**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 : £ 200.00 SO (Dec) : £ 151.55 Non-Gift Aid: Total : £351.55**

*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: 111 Pious Devotions**

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

**Confessions:**

By appointment only

### **Feasts for February**

2. Presentation of the Lord, Feast
3. Blaise; Ansgar, Opt. Mem.
5. Agatha, Memorial
6. Paul Miki and Companions, Memorial
7. Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday
8. Jerome Emiliani; Josephine Bakhita, Opt. Mem.
10. Scholastica, Memorial
11. Our Lady of Lourdes, Opt. Mem.
14. Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Sunday
21. First Sunday of Lent, Sunday
22. Chair of St. Peter, Feast
28. Second Sunday of Lent, Sunday

### **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**

**The month of February** is dedicated to the Holy Family. This year the first 16 days of February fall during the liturgical season known as Ordinary Time which is represented by the liturgical colour green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the colour of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The remaining days of February are the beginning of Lent. The liturgical colour changes to purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

**The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of February** We pray for women who are victims of violence, that they may be protected by society and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**Presentation of the Lord:** This feast is a festival of light. The procession, in which the blessed candles are carried by clergy and faithful, recalls by its symbolism the manifestation of Christ, the Light of the world, received in the temple. "*A light to the revelation of the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel.*"

**Distribution of Ashes in Time of Pandemic:** the priest will bless the ashes and sprinkle them with holy water, without saying anything. Then he will say only once the formula as it appears in the Roman Missal, applying it to all in general: "Repent, and believe in the Gospel", or "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return". The Priest then cleanses his hands, puts on a face mask and distributes the ashes to those who come to him or, to those who are standing in their places. The Priest takes the ashes and sprinkles them on the head of each one without saying anything since he has already said it. This has been issued by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, 12 January 2021.

**Death announcement:** Mr Gerald Patrick McNamee of 52, The Bungalow Park, Lady Lane, Coventry died at his home on Wednesday 6th January 2021 aged 76 years. Requiem Mass will take place at St. Mary's RC Church on Thursday 18th February at 11.30am, followed by interment at Canley Garden Cemetery at 1.00pm.

**Death announcement:** I'm sorry to announce the death of Maria Hilda Vaz her requiem Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 24th February. 9:30 am followed by burial at Canley Garden Cemetery, at 11:15 am.

**Death is announced of Canon Giles:** ordained on the 14th July 1995. He served as Assistant Priest at Holy Trinity, Newcastle under Lyme from 1995 to 1996, appointed as Archbishop's Secretary from 1996 to 2000; Parish Priest at Our Lady Queen of Peace in Worcester 2000-2005; Our Lady and St. Anne Caversham 2005-2013; Pastoral Director, Formation Tutor and Director for the Permanent Deacon Programme at St Mary's College from 2013 to 2020. He was appointed as Rector of St Mary' College Oscott on 28th June last year

**Racial Justice Sunday, 31 January 2021:** This year Racial Justice Sunday (31 January) is more important than ever. The effects of the pandemic, the killing of George Floyd, and the powerful message on fraternity and equality by Pope Francis in Fratelli Tutti speak of the need to actively oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. We are all children of God.

**Baptisms:** *Due to Covid-19 baptismal preparation classes have been put on halt. Parents with children for need christening are asked to be patient until when the lock down situation is improved.*