|       |    |           | MASSES— 5th to 12th Feb 23                |
|-------|----|-----------|---|
| Sun   | 05 | 9.30am    | Jimmy Ferry (RIP)                         |
|       |    | 11.30am   | Deceased members of Eric & Preethi family |
| Mon   | 06 | 12.00noon | Ben McAndrew (RIP)                        |
| Tues  | 07 | 9.30am    |   |
| Wed   | 08 | 9.30am    |   |
| Thurs | 09 | 9.30am    |   |
| Fri   | 10 | 9.30am    |   |
| Sat   | 11 | 9.30am    |   |
| Sun   | 12 | 9.30am    | People of the parish                      |
|       |    | 11.30am   | People of the parish                      |
|       |    |           | <b>Lectors</b>                            |

05/02/2023

## 12/02/2023

Stanley, Nicholas O. (R) 9.30am Cath Slater, Cosmos (R) 11.30am Privin, Elena (R) Morgan, Sharon (R)

# **Eucharistic Ministers**

11.30am Lilian, Patricia (E) **9.30am** Felix M. (E)

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

Anniversaries during the week: Elizabeth Hoey, William, Antony Braganza, Peter Montague, Elizabeth Hugh, Frank & Maura Corrigan, William Mulroney, Leslie Burke, Bridget Agnes Clisham, Bridget Molloy, Teresa Langan, Harry Hone.

Saint of the week: St. Josephine Bakhita: was born around 1869 in the village of Olgossa in the Darfur region of Sudan. Historians believe that sometime in February 1877, Josephine was kidnapped by Arab slave traders. A young student once asked Bakhita: "What would you do, if you were to meet your captors?" Without hesitation, she replied: "If I were to meet those who kidnapped me, and even those who tortured me, I would kneel and kiss their hands. For, if these things had not happened, I would not have been a Christian and a religious today".

# **A Star Thrower**

One day, a man was walking along the shore. As he looked down the beach, he saw a young person reaching down to the sand, picking up something and very gently throwing it back into the sea. As he got closer, he called out, "Good morning! What are you doing?" The young person paused, looked up and replied, "Throwing starfish into the sea." Why are you throwing starfish into the sea?" he asked. "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in they'll die." "But, don't you realize that there are miles of beach here and starfish all along it. You can't possibly make a difference!" The young person listened politely. Then knelt down, picked up another starfish and threw it into the sea, past the breaking waves and said..."Made a difference to this one."









A.J. Missions St. Osburg Ss. Mary & Benedict St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter -5th Sunday in ordinary time — 5th -12th Feb 2023

### SO THAT SEEING YOUR GOOD WORKS

It is said that actions speak louder than words, and other people say: tell me who your friends are, and I will tell what kind of person you are. For people to know what kind of persons we are, they need not listen to what we say, but they can know us from what we do. We are being given away in different ways, for example the way we are dressed, the places we visit or the company we keep, all these tell others what kind of people we are or what kind of party or man we stand for.

This is exactly what Jesus speaks about, but he goes further to teach us that the action of our life can bring good taste just as salt does to food, it can enlighten others just as light does when we are in darkness. Jesus does not tell us to go and preach, he does not say that we should not do it either, but what he tells us is to go and live, to go and do, so that seeing your good works they may give praise to your Father in heaven.

Jesus reminds us that as his followers, whatever we do should not be intended to earn us praise but to help other people to acknowledge God who is at work in us. It is natural to feel that we should be appreciated or acknowledged for what we have done. But in doing so, we turn attention to ourselves other than God who is working in us.

In the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah, the power of actions is emphasized, share your bread with the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the man you see naked, do not ignore your family. The consequences of these actions is that our light shines and our differences are quickly reconciled.

The setting and composition of our parish is providentially designed by God. We come from different nations with diverse cultural values. We have been brought up in Christian communities where some elements of Catholic teaching are emphasised more than in other places. We are also lucky that the cultural differences among us is a great source of strength and admiration of one another. So, we are called to become light and salt to one another in the building up of God's kingdom.

In the second reading, Paul tells us not to exaggerate or to modify facts of our faith in order to make it attractive. When he preached to the Corinthians, he did not change facts about Jesus to make them believe in him, but spoke about him as the crucified Christ. It is not hard to find preachers watering down the gospel or the teaching of the Church so that people may accept it. In other words, we do not believe what we believe because the majority has voted that we believe it, but we believe because we know that it is revealed to us by God. As you return home today, go and be a light to your people, speak words of kindness, give them hope. Let your light shine, so that seeing your good works, they may give glory to your Father in heaven.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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

Parish email: stmarvandbenedictch@vahoo.com Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

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

Youtube: st mary and benedicct church coventry

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

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

E-mail: lutwajim@vahoo.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: 183.00 SO (Jan): £ Non-Gift Aid: 613.59 Total: £. 796.59

Thank you for your generosity.

**Readings:** Is. 58.7-10; 1Cor: 2:1-5 Mt.: 5:13-16

2nd Collection :

Bonus Ball:

Mass Attendance: 420

**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 a 6.00pm followed by Mass.at 7.00pm

## **Gospel Reflection**

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. (Mt. 5:14)

One of the primary missions we have all received in life is to allow the light of God's grace to "shine before others." The result of fulfilling this mission is that others will see our good deeds that were inspired by God, and they will, in turn, glorify the Father in Heaven. Thus, your mission of radiating the light of Christ for others results in God being praised and glorified.

With that being said, the beautiful thing about God being glorified is that God often wants us to share in that glory. That means that if you were to do an act of charity for another, and they were deeply grateful to you and thanked you, their "thank you" is an act of glorifying God

Reflect, today, upon two things. First, think about those upon whom God has called you to shine His light.

Second, think about those who have shone the Light of Christ upon you.



DONA CONTACTLESS: You can now give your Sunday collection, donation, buy articles of piety etc. using your credit or debit card.

## MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

**Pope Francis in DR Congo and South Sudan** 31 January – 5 February. The Holy Father arrived at Kinshasa's Ndjili Airport shortly after 13:45 UK time on Tuesday, 31 January. Touchdown marked the first time a Pope had set foot in the Democratic Republic of Congo since Pope Saint John Paul II visited 37 years ago. On Friday, 3 February, he arrived in Juba to start the South Sudan leg of his Apostolic Journey.

**Religious Christian Instruction of Adults (RCIA):** If you would like to be baptised or to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church, you are requested to let the Parish Priest know so that you can be enrolled into the program that prepares you to become a member of the Catholic Church. The sessions will begin on Sunday 12th Feb after the 11.30am Mass in the Lady's chapel.

Baptismal preparation sessions will take place on Wednesday 8th & 15th February at 6.00pm in the Lady's Chapel. Parents with babies to be baptised are invited to attend these sessions. For more information please meet one of the sisters.

**Divine Mercy prayers:** St. Mary's is a centre for Divine Mercy in Coventry. Before the pandemic, prayers used to take place on every last Thursday of the month. Now that the Lord has had mercy on us it is time to resume the Devotion prayers on every last Thursday of the month at 6.00pm in the Lady's Chapel followed by Mass at 7.00pm.

Funeral Announcement: Canon Garrett (Garry) Byrne Priest of the Archdiocese died on Saturday 21st January, 2023 at St Joseph the Worker Parish, Bidford-on-Avon. Reception of the Body and Mass at St Joseph's Church, Quinney's Lane, Bidford-on-Avon, B50 4JL on Monday 27th February at 6.30pm. The Funeral Mass will be at Christ the King and Our Lady of Lourdes RC Church, Westhill Road, Coventry, CV6 2AA on Tuesday, 28 th February 2023 at 12 noon. Archbishop Bernard Longley presiding.

**Diocesan Annual Intercultural Mass** will be celebrated on Saturday 18 February at 12 noon at Holy Trinity Church, Newcastle-Under-Lyme. The Ethnic Chaplaincies, Eparchies and Missions will gather in collaboration with the local deanery, parishes and schools to celebrate our unity with the Chair of Peter. Mass, celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright, will be followed by a social time in the Parish Centre.

Knock Pilgrimage: led by Mgr Daniel McHugh, I take place from Monday 27 March 2023. Cost £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

**Birmingham Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** will take place from Saturday 27 May 2023 to Friday 2 June 2023. We are delighted that the Pilgrimage to Lourdes will return in 2023 after we returned to Lourdes in person for the 80th pilgrimage this year (2022). Pilgrimage planning is in progress at the moment and more information will be available soon. If you would like to travel or would be interested in travelling, then please contact Kath White via email: admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk or by phone: 0121 230 6288. If a parishioner with disability wishes to make this pilgrimage, please talk to the Parish priest Fr. Jimmy.

**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