

MASSES 5th to 12th Sept 2021

Sun	05	9.30am	Almeida family ((Thanksgiving)
		11.30am	Felipe Yul & Doris Barnabal , Leo Dunnion (RIP)
Mon	06	9.30am	Caiti Kelly (RIP)
Tues	07	9.30am	Mevis (RIP)
Wed	08	9.30am	Jim & Phil Dunleavy (Anni remembrance)
Thurs	09	9.30am	Thomas Ferris (RIP)
Fri	10	9.30am	Elena Wood (Spl int)
Sat	11	9.30am	Edna March (RIP)
Sun	12	9.30am	Geraldine Clarkson (Spl int)
		11.30am	Terry Kimani (Thanksgiving) Felipe Yul & Doris Barnabal (RIP)

Lectors

05/09/2021

9.30am Alex, Naomi (R)
11.30am Angela K. Emmanuel (R)

12/09/2021

Stephnie, Desma (R)
Morgan, Georgina (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 Gwatarisa, Teresa MacCaffer.

Anniversaries during the week : Evelyn Russell, James Crone, Mark Stein, Kathleen Palmer, Leo Dunnion, Tony Shepherd, John Patrick O'Sullivan, Dorothy Wheeler, Winifred Kathleen Ward, Shirley Jolly, Kevil Foley.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) Program will start in October. If you are an adult from 10 years and above who has not been baptised or who was baptised in other churches but you would like to be received into the catholic church, you are warmly welcome. Please contact Fr. Jimmy or one of the sisters on **Tel 02476258901**.

Pope's Intention for September— *We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.*

Prayer for retired Priests of the Archdiocese of Birmingham:

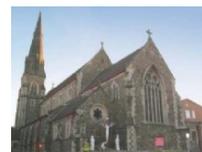
Rev. Fr. Kevin Lennon, Rev. Fr. Jacob Lewis, Rev. Fr. David Lloyd, Rt. Rev. Mgr Canon Daniel McHugh, Rev. Fr. David Mead



Lord Jesus, High Priest, we pray for the retired priests of our Archdiocese who still have a very important mission in the church, the mission of prayer and intercession. The mission of experience and wisdom. The mission of faithfulness and love. We pray with gratitude for their love and concern for us and for one another, ever mindful of their unity in you. We ask you to bless them for the countless years of service they have provided and continue to provide to your people throughout the Archdiocese of Birmingham, that they may experience peace and joy in their retirement, continuing to hold close the love of your Sacred Heart. Amen. St. John Vianney, patron saint of priests, pray for us.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter- 23rd Sunday in ordinary time - 5th to 12th Sept 2021

EPHPTHATHA - BE OPENED

In today's Gospel Jesus says to a deaf man: "Ephphatha"— "be opened." The opening of the man's ears and power to speak is an invitation and a sign. These words of the Lord remind me of the many times that those who truly love us have challenged us to see things as they truly are, to open our minds and hearts to the reality. The words of Jesus were not addressed to the deaf and dumb man alone, but they were addressed to the crowds as well, open your ears, open your eyes, open your hearts and recognise in your midst your saviour After all, Jesus had walked throughout Galilee telling the people "Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand".

After more than 2000 years of the gospel being proclaimed, there are many people who are deaf and dumb, in a sense that they can neither hear the Word of God, nor open their mouth to speak it to others. Try to think of those people who have never been evangelised or baptised! Try to think also of the people who have lapsed from the faith. In one way or the other such people are deaf and dumb!

The evangelists used sentences and words sometimes in allegorical manner. For example in Jn. 9:6, Jesus is said to have *spat* on the ground, *made* mud with the *saliva*, and spread the mud over the blind man's eyes! In today's gospel, he heals a deaf and dumb man by closing tight his ears and spitting saliva on the man's tongue! None of these healing procedures is hygienic and none of our contemporary doctors would even imagine or recommend them. Jesus used them to reveal his healing authority. "*Ephphatha*" be opened means be *converted, believe!* Jesus calls us to conversion, to change our deaf ear to hear the word of God and to change our dumbness by speaking to others about our faith. What a tremendous difference it could make in the world if all of us went and spoke to others about Jesus This is exactly what the deaf and dumb man did.

Ephphatha be converted must be part of every faith journey. In the early Church the Christians understood it as a total transformation of one's life. It was symbolized in the sacrament of Baptism. Before baptism was administered, the catechumens had to profess their faith and renounce their former way of life. Baptism opened their eyes to recognised Jesus as their light, Jesus as their Way and Jesus as their life. They proclaimed him everywhere.

On this Sunday the Lord speaks to us *Ephphatha*, if there are things in your life that you are blind to, or if there are things in your relationship that you have paid a deaf ear to, the Lord tells you *Ephphatha*; go pay attention to these things and change. Conversion is not to be handled lightly and should never be "skin deep but it must penetrate our entire life.

As you return home today, the Word of God gives us some homework to do. First go and open your eyes and ears to the good things God has given you to show his favour which you might be blind to.

Secondly go and bring healing by instructing the ignorant, counselling the doubtful, and admonishing the sinner. These are ways in which like Jesus we say *Ephphatha*—be opened to those who need God's mercy and favour.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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

Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: www.mcmedia.tv

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/EHEpr5IMocc>

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 : 132.00 **SO () : £ Non-Gift Aid:** 198.00 **Total:** £330.00

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.

Bonus Ball : No.

2nd Collection :

Mass Attendance : 223

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

Confessions: By appointment only

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. It is recommended to give a donation for your intention from £5.00. You can call Tel. 07547242375. The Masses you request will be celebrated on the day or as much close to the day as possible.

Gospel Reflection:

"Ephphatha!"— that is, "Be opened!"

We all are deaf and struggle with a speech impediment in the sense that we do not always hear the voice of God and we do not always speak His word and words of charity. For that reason, these words of Jesus must be spoken to us. We must let Him take us off to a quiet place alone and speak to us. We must let Him say those words to us. "Ephphatha!—Be opened!"

What is it that you are not hearing properly? What is it God has been saying to you for a long time that you refuse to hear? What is it you have allowed yourself to become deaf to? Let our Lord open the "ears" of your heart so that you can hear all that He wishes to say to you. Once that happens, Jesus will also help you speak His words of truth and love.

Mass Intentions

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Children back in school: After the long summer holidays children are ready to begin their new academic year. We wish them all the best, God's blessings filled with wisdom and safety.

City of Culture: On 11th September the Church will be open at the request of Coventry City Council for people who will be visiting our City. The Open Door Program will start from 10:00am– 4:00pm. You can come to pray or to tour your local church. Fr. Jimmy the PP will be here to welcome visitors and to give a guided tour of the church.

Choir Membership: the leaders of our parish choir and indeed every choir member appeals to whoever feels that he/she enjoys singing to join them as a choir member. There are many music instruments you can try on as well. Choir practice is every Friday at 7:30pm.

National Mass for the Guild of Saint Stephen: The Archdiocese of Birmingham is privileged to have been asked to host the National Mass for the Guild of Saint Stephen, on behalf of the Archconfraternity in Westminster. Archbishop Bernard Longley will be principal celebrant and homilist at the Mass, on Saturday 25 September 2021 at 12noon, at the parish of Ss. Mary & John, Wolverhampton.

Life in the Spirit course with the Archdiocese of Birmingham "An inspiring and practical series aimed at people of all ages to help them encounter the Holy Spirit and empower them to share their faith". For more information: <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Event/life-in-the-spirit-course-with-the-archdiocese-of-birmingham>

Vacancy, Chaplaincy Assistant Post Archdiocese of Liverpool: Are you interested in spending 9 months working with the Catholic Chaplaincy team in Liverpool from September 2021? Would you enjoy assisting with the running of the chaplaincy, supporting students and staff on their journey of faith, helping with retreats and other faith events? If so, this placement opportunity might be just right for you! This is a fixed term post working 28 hours per week for 38 weeks, with an annual salary of £9,735.60. You would be based at Philip Neri House, Catharine Street, Liverpool, L8 7NL. For an informal chat about the role, please contact Fr Neil Ritchie, Priest Chaplain on 0151 709 3858.

Nativity of Virgin Mary will be celebrated on 8th September. Let us thank our Mother for her constant assistance in our day to life and in our families. Each time we celebrate her birth, we can confidently hope for an increase of peace in our hearts and in the world at large. Let's celebrate her birth with love.

Hearty congratulations to Ebron Almeida son of Ben and Neetha Almeida who received First Holy Communion yesterday. We wish God's blessings and His presence in His life.

Catechetical bottom line:

Here you will find simple questions to help you to deepen your catechetical knowledge or to teach Catechism to your child at home:

Q 1. What is a Sacrament?

Ans. A Sacrament is a visible sign, signifying the gift of God's grace and given by Jesus Christ.

Q. 2. Which are the seven sacraments?

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. The Eucharist
4. Penance
5. The Anointing of the sick
6. Holy Orders
7. Matrimony