

## MASSES 7th to 14th Mar 2021

Sun	07	9.30am	Sandra family (Spl int), Maria Hilda Vaz (RIP) Adora D'Souza (4th B'day)
		11.30am	Fidelis & family (Spl int), Dominic Karundu (RIP)
<b>Mon</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>Robert Hancock—Requiem Mass</b>
Tues	09	9.30am	Fremlin Savio Farias (B'day)
Wed	10	9.30am	Walter Scott (RIP)
Thurs	11	9.30am	Robert Hancock (RIP)
Fri	12	6.30pm	Stations of the cross— <b>ONLINE</b>
		7.00pm	Fr. Connell A. Harkin (Anni) Chimaobi Nwadirichi Augustine (Spl int)- <b>ONLINE</b>
Sat	13	9.30am	Kath & Bill Spalding (B'day remembrance) Mary Rollen & Thomas Gallagher (Anni)
Sun	14	9.30am	Osagie family (Thanksgiving)
		11.30am	Feliciana Teresa (RIP)

### Lectors

07/03/2021

9.30am Anthonia A, Nicholas O. (R)

11.30am Mary, Angela (R)

14/03/2021

Bakitha, Neetha (R)

Maame, Perpetua (R)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatorisa.

Anniversaries during the week: Tommie Doyle, Ada Ryan, John Gill, Ian Stuart McClean, Delia Sheridan, Joe Clark, Anthony Nicholl, John Murphy, Margaret Stapleton, Patrick Stapleton, Lena Fitzgerald, Edward Brennan, Fr Harkin, Nora Woods, **Margaret Dunne, Ivy Elsie Lucas, Jim(James) Crean.**

**Pope's intention for March:** Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

"Apart from the cross, there is no other ladder by which we may go to heaven."

"Lenten practices of giving up pleasures are a good reminder that the purpose of life is not pleasure. The purpose of life is to attain a perfect life, all truth and undying ecstatic love—which is the definition of God. In pursuing that happiness, we find happiness."

Feasts for the month of March:

8th March— St John of God; 17th

Mar— St. Patrick's day, Patron of Ireland; 19th Mar— Solemnity of St. Joseph; 25th

Mar— Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; 28th March— Palm Sunday—Passion of the Lord; 29th Mar— Holy Week



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

## **Parish Newsletter - 3rd Sunday of Lent - 7th to 14th Mar 2021**

### **HOW MUCH PASSION DO YOU HAVE FOR THE THINGS OF GOD?**

On this third Sunday of Lent we are presented with an image of Jesus that we could hardly imagine. Did I hear you say that Jesus is a prince of peace, that he is meek and humble in heart? Well try also to imagine Jesus with a whip in hand, beating men, women and children without exception scattering money changers tables, letting loose cattle, sheep and pigeons. What a commotion and loss to business, the son of a carpenter from Galilee must have caused! As he does so, he shouts "*take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.*" This behaviour must have upset his own disciples apart from the temple officials who benefited from such trade.

Jesus with a whip in the hand shows us how much passion he had for the house of God. The temple was a place for prayer, praise and thanksgiving to God not for anything else.

I'm sure Jesus would today take a whip and drive away gospel merchants from places where they carry out their vile business. We know that there are so many churches and pastors who literary turned religion into business, they sell prophecies of prosperity create fake miracle sessions in exchange for generous offerings. Some of these religious men live a very luxurious life, flying private planes, living in fortified mansions. How do they make their money? Just by building a church and sell Jesus as a commodity!

By baptism we became temples where God dwells. There are things we do in this temple which are not worth. Jesus with a whip in hand tells us to take from the temple of our lives things that does not fit for God. Jesus with a whip in hand reminds us of the sacredness of the place of worship. It is sinful to come to church and we do not behave properly. How many Christians are mindful of the dress they are putting on as they go to Sunday Mass? How many are mindful of the way they sing or respond to the prayers properly? How many are mindful to make sure that the church is not a place for discussing missed holidays, dog expenses at the veterinary or upcoming date? Well we may not have sheep, cattle or pigeons in the Church, but still there are many things people do today that would make Jesus to take out his whip.

Lent is a beautiful time to take out the broom and clean our souls. Our family relationships, our prayer life our attitudes need some good cleaning. Let us clean them up.

The first reading has given us the road to perfection and holiness: the Ten Commandments. Children did you hear what the 4th Commandment say? *Respect your father and mother so that you may have long life.* Do you like to live long and to be happy in this world? Just obey your parents. A young man one day asked Jesus what he should do to go to heaven. Jesus told him to keep the commandments. So the ten commandments are sure means to holiness and road map to heaven. Worship God, Keep the Sunday obligation, Do not kill, do not steal, do commit adultery, do not bear false witness against your neighbour. If parents wish to be happy with their children, it is not myriad of toys and expensive holidays that will bring this about, just teach them the Ten commandments. Jesus was concerned with the things of God. Because we are not, he takes out His whip and he himself cleanse the temple of our life.

**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**

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 : £ 134.00 SO (Feb) : £ Non-Gift Aid: 271.30 Total : £405.30**

*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. 13 Sue Darrock **Counters :** **2nd Collection**

**Mass Attendance for the week :**

**Pious Devotions**

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

**Confessions:**

By appointment only

**Give thanks...**

**We thank you, O God, for the saints of all ages;  
for those who in times of darkness**

**Kept the lamp of faith burning; for the great  
souls who saw visions of larger truth and dared  
to declare it; for the multitude of quiet and gra-  
cious souls whose presence has purified and  
sanctified the world; and for those known and  
loved by us who have passed from this earthly  
fellowship into the fuller light of life with you.**

**Amen.**

### **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**



**Fr. Connell A. Harkin & Norah Woods 36th Anniversary:** on 12th March 1985 our former parish priest was in a gas explosion on the site where the present presbytery stands. We shall have a special Mass for them on Friday.



**We fondly remember Fr. Bob Wright** Parish Priest of St. John Fisher who was called to the heavenly abode 1 year ago on 5th March 2020. We pray for him, may he rest in peace. We pray for his family and for the parishioners of St. John Fisher

**Lenten Prayer:** *Lord God, With all our hearts we beseech you: have mercy on your people; spare your people; strengthen all people in the struggle against the havoc of this pandemic. Lord our God, without you we are so weak and our courage so limited. Give us your strength; give us your love; give us wisdom and skill to continue this fight. Spare your people, O Lord we pray. Comfort those who mourn and gather into your kingdom all who have died. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, who died and rose to life, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever.*

**The Diocesan Vocations Office** has launched our all-new website. With a fresh, new look, simplified navigation, and improved, inspiring and relevant content, we hope it will be an invaluable resource for those all across the Archdiocese of Birmingham and beyond in helping the beauty of God's plan for each and every one of us be revealed. With clear information and signposts to useful resources and people to contact, the Diocesan Vocations Office website should be the first port of call for those discerning a vocation to the priesthood or permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and also for those considering the religious life, marriage or apostolic celibacy (a committed single life). You can find the all-new website of the Diocesan Vocations Office at [www.vocations.org.uk](http://www.vocations.org.uk)

**Birmingham Walsingham** Pilgrimage 2021 is Cancelled due to Covid 19 pandemic. The safety of all pilgrims is our primary concern, and after consultation with Archbishop Bernard, the ongoing uncertainties surrounding the continuing Covid 19 pandemic make it difficult to plan. We look forward to gathering, once more, in 2022.

**Donations to the parish if wished:** there is a donate button (top right) on the home page of the diocesan website – <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>. Donations can be made by setting up a regular donation or making a single donation. There are transaction charges levied by the card processing company which amount to 20p + 1.9% of the value of the donation – so for a £10 donation this will amount to £0.39 which will be deducted from the amount we receive. Please do note therefore that Standing Order remains the most cost effective way for our parishioners to donate.

**Gift Aid envelopes:** As the financial year coming to an end your new Gift Aid envelopes are ready to be picked up at the back of the church. Kindly remember your envelope number to reduce the congestion at the counter. *Note: only those who use the envelopes.*

**St. Patrick's day:** or the **Feast of Saint Patrick** is a cultural and religious celebration held on 17 March, the traditional death date of Saint Patrick the foremost patron saint of Ireland. Let us pray with St. Patrick: *'Power to guide me, might to hold me, wisdom to teach me, watching over me, ear to hear me, hand to guard me. Love to conquer every fear.'*

**Offertory collections:** put your offerings in a Basket provided at entrance. Thank you.

**Dementia Prayer Week,** the annual Dementia Prayer Week initiative takes place this month on 12th - 19th March .