

MASSES 1st to 8th Mar 2020

Sun	01	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving), Neil McHugh (RIP)
		11.30am	People of the parish, Ursula Wanjiku Kibia (Anni)
Mon	02	12.00noon	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving)
Tues	03	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving), Jim Trill (Get well)
Wed	04	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving)
Thurs	05	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving)
Fri	06	6.30pm	Stations of the cross
		7.00pm	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving)
Sat	07	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving)
Sun	08	9.30am	Sam Haffernan, Griffith family (Thanksgiving)
			Catherine & Joseph Cuorry (RIP)
		11.30am	People of the parish

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

01/03/2020

9.30am	Nicholas, Elena A. (R)
	Anna M. (E)
11.30am	Cynthia, Patrick (R)
	Patricia, Marcel (E)

08/03/2020

James M. , Desma (R)
Elizabeth P. (E)
Rocheala, Mary (R)
Frank, Vera (E)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Patrick Tracey, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulronee, John Curriston, Gerard Griffith, Jane Patalong, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Thi Tran, Christopher Browne.

Anniversaries during the week : Mary O'Brien, Kevin David McCarthy, Colin Edward Read, Betty Heavy, William Mooney, Maureen Power, Josiah Morgan. John O'Driscoll , Tommie Doyle, Ada Ryan, John Gill, Ian Stuart McClean, Delia Sheridan.

The sick and housebound: *I would like to ask you to help the priests to locate the sick and housebound members of this parish especially those who might need a visit from a priest. Please let us make sure that they are never left out.*

Lenten prayer: Take hold of me with Your love, that same foolish love that knew no limits, and let me offer myself to the Father with You so that I may rise with You to eternal life.. Help me now, Lord, in my feeble attempts to make up for past sin. Bless my efforts with the rich blessing of Your grace. Amen.

Tea and Coffee available after 11.30am Mass in the Parish hall on every Sunday. *It's an opportunity to know one another.*



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter— 1st Sunday of LENT 1st –8th March 2020

IT IS TIME TO HIT BACK

The holy season of Lent began last Wednesday. This sacred time is given to us as a kind of “boot camp” an annual reminder that our bodies and souls are being contested for. Satan the Devil hates God’s work in the lives of the faithful; we are made on earth but we are meant for Heaven. St. Paul in his letter to the Romans 7:14-23 speaks of the inner struggle the war within our souls and bodies between good and evil, virtue and vice, faith and unbelief. This inner struggle has eternal consequences; the battle ground is in our hearts and in our minds.

You have probably met people who criticize you for believing in God or for putting into practice the teaching of the Church. You must also have come across someone who encourages you to think that the choices you made for the welfare of your family were wrong. I heard someone telling somebody in a troubled relationship: *‘you see, there could be a more perfect wife somewhere, a better manlike figure in your life than the one at home!’* You might also have met people who ask you to respond with cold feet, to put on a false smile or to speak empty words. All these are wiles of the devil. Lenten season is meant to awaken within us the presence of these dangers to our souls and to fight against them.

Passion for worldliness is a flame in the lives of many people. The popular culture, the arrogance of the states, the witting and unwitting pawns and puppets of idols seduce honest people to silence. It is good to recall the words of Jesus “You have heard how it was said.....but I say this to you” It is as if Jesus is telling us ‘you have heard what other people say and you have seen what they do but I say this to you.....’

Lent is a time to discover whether anything other than God has power over us. It is a time to see with clarity who sits on the throne of our heart. It’s a time to ascertain whether we have the humility, docility and desire necessary to “*enter through the narrow door*” (Matthew 7:13), which is the only passage into Heaven.

It is time to wake up and realize that we are at war with evil and things don’t look very bright for the home team right now as the world loses sense of the sacred and the profane. Jesus Christ through his Church has given us this holy season to make us fit for the battle we must fight to our very last breath.

Let us keep the three pillars of Lent in sight: **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.** A good number of people tend to focus on fasting but other two pillars are equally important. Attending daily Mass more often, spending time in adoration, praying regular family Rosary, changing your bad attitude are good ways of improving your spiritual relationship with God. Fasting is not dieting. It is time to hit back against evil by doing good, forgiveness not revenge, serving others without asking to be served.

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

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Anne of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02476550848

Safeguarding Rep: Veronica Carroll—Tel no. 07980506620

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: 277.00

Non-Gift Aid: 360.19

Total : £637.19

SO : Monthly : £523.02

Hall Hire:

Counters : Vera & Sr. Leena

Bonus Ball : No.

Mass Attendance : 532

Second Collection : 1st Mar—Cathedral maintenance

8th March: CAFOD

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests every first Friday of the month from 6 – 7pm followed by Mass

Divine mercy prayers every last Thursday of the month from 6 -7pm followed by Mass

Rosa Mystica on 13th of every month between 2.00pm & 3.00pm.

Parish Rosary group every Friday at 6.00pm

Choir practice every Friday at 7.30pm /Saturday at 3.00pm

Church cleaning: Saturday 8.00am to 9.30am

Confessions : Every Saturday from 10am to 11.00am

RCIA Sessions: Every Monday at 6.00pm

Catechism for FHC : Every Saturday at 11.00am

Church Cleaning: This week 07.02.2020 Group C. Thank you for your co-operation.

GIFT AID NOTICE : For the coming Tax year 2020 we advice you to pay by Stand-ing order. Please contact Sr. Leera today.

Dates for your diary: FHC— Parish & School children - 16th May at 10.00am

Polish children - 23rd May at 11.00am

Confirmation - 12th Nov at 7.00pm



Matters of Importance

Parish Penance Service on 25th March at 7.00pm. Kindly take this opportunity to be reconciled to God and to one another and to celebrate Easter worthily.

Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers, on Saturday, 28th March, 11.00—2.00 pm, in the Lady's Chapel, in preparation for renewal of their ministry on Maundy Thursday.

Coventry University Youth Mission: Catholic students of the University are calling you for their annual gathering of prayer and praise which will take place in our Parish Call on Tuesday 24th March starting at 6:00pm– 9:30pm. This event is meant to prepare our young adults for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter.

St. Patricks Annual Mass: will be celebrated on 16th March at 7.00pm at St. Marys Church 52a, Raglan Street Coventry.

Stations of the Cross on every Friday during Lent at 6.30pm this tradition will be observed here in the church followed by Mass at 7.00pm.

Legion of Mary: a good number of students are making enquiries about the presence of the Legion of Mary in the parish. If you have been a member of this pious group in your home country and you wish to continue inform the parish priest on 07906124756.

Archbishop's visit to St. Marys: His Grace Bernard Longley will celebrate Holy Mass here on Sunday 15th March 2020 at 11:30am and meet with the students and youth of the parish in the parish hall. This pastoral visit is particularly meant for the young people. I wish to ask students of the University to pass on this information to others and to prepare one another for this rare visit.

Job opportunity: the Birmingham Diocesan Trust is looking to appoint a Permanent Full time Finance Support Manager to its Finance Team based at Cathedral House, St. Chad's, Queensway. (35 hours per week £32,000 - £34,000 p.a.) The post-holder will be responsible for providing receiving, checking and inputting to sage year-end accounts received from over 200 parishes in order to help prepare the consolidated accounts for the Birmingham Diocesan Trust. Other duties will include providing support to parishes with their accounts preparation via an online accounts package known as OPAS (which is a simple cashbook system) and will also involve visiting parishes to perform internal audits and training. Closing date for receipt of applications: (noon) Monday 9th March 2020. Interviews are expect to take place during week commencing 23rd March 2020. Full details of this job offer are on the noticeboard.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day will be Friday, 6th March. During this Lent it's an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world who are affected by drought, floods and storms. There will be a second collection on 8th March for the same.

MARRIAGE MATTERS -First Sunday of Lent (Genesis 2:7-9; 3: 1-7 Romans 5:12-19 Matthew 4:1-11) Avoid independence Today, both Eve and Jesus are tempted to become independent, to turn away from the love of God. In marriage, we can think we have a right to fulfil our own desires without considering our partner, but we need to share these deepest hopes and dreams, and be prepared to hear the impact on our loved one and our relationship.