

MASSES 23rd Feb to 1st Mar 2020

Sun	23	9.30am	Thi Tran, Jane Patalong (B'day)
		11.30am	Lanigan family (Thanksgiving)
Mon	24	12.00noon	Holy souls, Miss Almeida (thanksgiving)
Tues	25	9.30am	SSA (Spl int)
Wed	26	9.30am	Ash Wednesday
		6.30pm	People of the parish
Thurs	27	5.00pm	Divine Mercy prayers
		6.00pm	Neil McHugh (RIP)
Fri	28	6.30pm	Stations of the cross
		7.00pm	Mable Braganza (RIP)
Sat	29	9.30am	Holy souls, Lobo family (Thanksgiving)
Sun	01	9.30am	Sam Haffernan (Thanksgiving), Neil McHugh (RIP)
		11.30am	People of the parish, Ursula Wanjiku Kibia (Anni)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

23/02/2020

9.30am	Veronica C. , Naiomi (R)
	Barbara S. (E)
11.30am	Bimi, Julie (R)
	Lilian, Loveness (E)

01/03/2020

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

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

Anniversaries during the week : James Gerard Hearty, Cardelina Pinto, Hannah Crone, William Busby , Thomas Francis McDonald, Rose Elizabeth Browne , Francis Joseph McClule, Gussie Stapleton, Mary O'Brien, Kevin David McCarthy, Colin Edward Read.

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.*

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—7th Sunday in ordinary time - 23rd Feb.—1st March 2020

THE BIBLE IS AN ANCIENT LIBRARY

On the first Sunday of Advent last year 2019, the Church responded to an invitation by the Supreme Pontiff Pope Francis to focus her attention on “The God who Speaks”. He named 2020 as a Year of the Word. Here at St. Marys, we inaugurated this year with some solemnity; the Book of the Gospels was taken in procession and enthroned at the threshold of the sanctuary where it will remain open throughout this year for everyone to read and for veneration.

The Bible is not a single book but a collection of books. Let us call it a library of Books which are different in themes and in content. The books in our library have different authors; they were addressed to different communities (sometimes to individuals) and they were intended to respond to particular issues or to give direction. The Bible is 100% Word of God and 100% words of men.

The determination and listing of the number of books that form the Bible is called “Canon” From earliest time, our Library (the Bible) contained **73** Books. If you ask any child in a catholic school or any baptised person on the streets of England to tell you the number of books in the bible, the answer you are likely to get is that there are 66. This is a wrong answer with a history behind it. The Catholic Church precedes all other Christian churches for hundreds of years. The Bible that existed until the emergency of the Protestant Church contained **73** Books **46** in the Old Testament and **27** in the New Testament. It was technically known as the **Septuagint**. In 1604 the (Protestant) Church in England started to put together its own Bible it was completed and published in 1611 under the sponsorship of James I. This Protestant Bible also called ‘the Authorised Version’ has **66** books (**39** in the Old Testament and **27** in the New Testament). The Jewish Bible has only 24 books.

The Protestant Bible excluded seven books which were contained in the Catholic Bible. These are Baruch, Judith, 1 Maccabees, 2 Maccabees, Sirach, Tobit and the Book of Wisdom. They referred to them as Apocrypha or deuterocanonical. Why did the Reformers reject these books? The short answer is that when Martin Luther was cornered in a debate over Purgatory, his opponent, Johann Eck, cited 2 Maccabees against Luther’s position. Luther was forced to say that Second Maccabees could not be allowed in the debate because it wasn’t canonical since it was not inspired. The Councils of Carthage, Hippo, and Florence all included rejected books as part of Holy Scripture).

The Jewish Bible contains only 24 Books, the selection of these was based on the fact that they had to have been composed in Hebrew Language, written on Palestinian soil and venerated from ancient past. Thus the Hebrew Bible excludes all the books of the New Testament and other OT books written in other languages not Hebrew. Does your Bible contain 73 books? If not, then you know which text you are reading.

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: 405.00

Counters : Elizabeth H. & Patsy Sproul **Bonus Ball :** No. 10 John Curristan

Mass Attendance : 562

Second Collection : 1st Mar—Cathedral maintenance

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 29.02.2020 Group B. Thank you for your co-operation.

GIFT AID NOTICE : For the coming Tax year 2020 we advice you to pay by Standing 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

Year of the Word: Thank you for bringing your home Bibles to be blessed today as part of our celebration of the Year of the God who Speaks. Thank you for letting the word of God speak to you in your homes and for making it a guide for your footsteps. The priests of our deanery are preparing talks to share with us the deep meaning of the Word of God. You will be told when and where the meetings will take place and of the speaker for that day.



St. Patricks Annual Mass: will be celebrated on 16th March at 7.00pm at St. Marys Church 52a, Raglan Street Coventry. You are welcome to join in celebrating the great missionary to Ireland. There will be some light food and entertainments in the parish hall.

Mabel Fame Braganza: the family wishes to thank you for the support the parish provided for Mabel for the many years she was an active member of the parish. They thank you for your messages of condolences and for your prayers a £402.00 donation was given to the parish by the family, for which I'm very grateful.

Season of Lent: We begin this holy season with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on 26th Feb. There will be two Mases at 9.30am and 6.30pm. In this Lenten journey of prayer and grace the Walk With Me booklets have been produced and provided. Please pick your copy from the back of the church and use it in your prayer and reflection. A donation of £1.00 is suggested to subsidize their printing costs.

Stations of the Cross during Lent the catholic faithful all over the world pray the Stations of the Cross. You are reminded that on every Friday during Lent at 6.30pm this tradition will be observed here in the church followed by Mass at 7.00pm. The **Stations of the Cross** remind us of the sufferings of Jesus for our salvation. Therefore I invite you to come to reflect prayerfully upon Jesus' suffering, Death, and Resurrection for you. *Dying you destroyed our death, rising he restored our life, we hope for his return in glory.*

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.

Winter Night shelter: St Osburg's and All Souls house the homeless for a night each week (Mon and Wed). They require items such as coffee, long life fruit juices, biscuits, cup-a-soups, hygiene items, new socks, hats, gloves, sugar etc. Cash is always welcome.

MARRIAGE MATTERS - Finding the joy in our sacramental relationship: The joy of courting couples is obvious for all to see. Over the years, excitement can lessen, our independent attitudes strengthen; competition and jealousy creep in. Today Jesus calls us to "...turn the other cheek...". In confidence share. In trust, listen. In faith, forgive. May all spouses grow in self-worth and the sparkle of joy be reignited.