

MASSES— 23rd to 30th Jan 22

Sun	23	9.30am	Maria Hilda Theotonio Vaz (Anni)
		11.30am	Thomas & Mary Helen Gallagher (RIP)
Mon	24	12.00noon	Mary Ekanem (RIP) & Monday Club Helpers
Tues	25	9.30am	Dickie Deinne (RIP) Norma & Mary Smith (RIP)
Wed	26	9.30am	Neil McHugh (Anni)
Thurs	27	9.30am	Mariam Osagie (B'day)
Fri	28	9.30am	Beatrice Njoki Mwangi (RIP)
		1.00pm	Requiem Mass—David Walters
Sat	29	9.30am	Teresa Claufiled (RIP)
Sun	30	9.30am	Pauline and Ted Atkinson (good health)
		11.30am	People of the parish

Lectors

23/01/2022

9.30am Desma, Demisha (R)
11.30 am Scarlett, Morgan (R)

30/01/2022

Elizabeth H., Anthonia A. (R)
Perpetua, Sharon (R)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulrone, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Teresa M^cCaffer, Andrea.

Anniversaries during the week : Kathleen Waters, William Peyton , Denis McGrath, Caroline Alexandra Gorman, Felich Goucher, Alice & Michael Moran, Lynn Hand, Maria Hilda Vaz, Terrence Reily, Fame (Mabel) Braganza, Neil McHugh, John Ferry, Harold Rixon, William Michael Redmond, Walters, Bridget Teresa Chapman.

SPIRITUAL QUOTES :

"When you love, Love as if the person is a God, not less than that."
"With everything that has happened to you, you can either feel sorry for yourself or treat what has happened as a gift. Everything is either an opportunity to grow or an obstacle to keep you from growing. You get to choose." *Wayne Dyer*
"Each one of them is Jesus in disguise." *Mother Teresa*
"You can read books without ever stepping into a library; and practice spirituality without ever going to a temple." *Anthony de Mello*



A.J. Missions

St. Osburg

Ss. Mary & Benedict

St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter—Word of God Sunday—23rd to 30th Jan 2022

“IF MY WORDS REMAIN IN YOU” (Jn 15:7)

The Babylonian exile was one of the most painful experiences the people of Israel had. Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon not only carried people away from Israel making them his slaves, he also destroyed their temple in Jerusalem. As their captors stopped by the rivers of Babylon to quench their thirst and to get fresh supply of water, they turned to their captives, the men, women and children of Israel in chains and asked them to sing and to dance for them. This was terribly heart-breaking.

After 70 painful years the people of Israel returned; in the ruins of their temple they found a book whose contents struck the hearts and consciences of the people. As they listened, they realised that all the misfortunes they suffered was because they had deviated from the contents of the book. The people realised the central place that the Word of God had in their life. They listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

How attentive are you to the Word of God, how often do you read your bible, do you seek guidance of your life by reading the scriptures? St. Jerome once said that “*ignorance of scriptures is ignorance of Christ*”. Jesus himself teaches us that “*man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God*” Mat.4:4. The Word of God is therefore so necessary in our life just as the food we eat is necessary.

In the gospel we are reminded of the authenticity and carefully researched information that comes to us from the gospels about Jesus Christ. The world will always have spurious preachers and writers, some people might also think that the Bible is a Book of fiction like Harry Potter but the gospel writers especially Luke, tells us that what we read in the bible is not invented myths, instead some biblical stories were handed down by eyewitnesses, and those who wrote them down, carefully created an ordered account so that the men and women of our time may learn how well founded the teaching is that we have received.

I asked you to bring your Bibles to have them blessed, but it was also for us to see how blessed we are that we have the Word of God in our homes, at our places of work or beside a hospital bed. I ask you that as a parish and as Catholic families we learn how to pay special attention to the Word of God. It is that evangelical seed that God plants in our hearts. It gives us power, and makes our life wholesome. If it finds good ground in our souls, our life can become a blessing to every person we meet.

As you return home today, having reflected on the power of the Word, I ask you to reflect on the good word that people give to you and probably we neglect it. It might be a friend, parents, teachers work colleague or anybody who makes a comment of concern. People who refuse to listen to the words of others will always live a miserable life. If you are a husband and you do not listen to your wife, your happiness will never be. If you children do not listen to the words of your parents, you are doomed to failure. You learn nothing from life if you think you are right all the time. As a priest, I must listen to what my people say to me, if I'm to find joy in my ministry. So, is the Word of God, if we keep it, we shall find our true happiness and peace.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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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 : **SO (Dec) : £** **Non-Gift Aid:** Total: £

Thank you for your generous contribution May God Bless you.

2nd Collection :

Bonus Ball : No.

Mass Attendance :

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice : Fri- 7.30pm

Church cleaning:

Confessions: Saturday- 10.10
-11.00am.

Word of God in our lives

‘A profound bond links Sacred Scripture and the faith of believers’ Pope Francis

‘The relationship between the Risen Lord, the community of believers and sacred Scripture is essential to our identity as Christians’ Pope Francis

‘Christ Jesus knocking at our door in the Words of Sacred Scripture. If we hear his voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then he will enter our lives and remain ever with us’ - Pope Francis

‘When we listen to the Word of God, we obtain the courage and perseverance to offer the best of ourselves to others’ -Pope Francis

Mass Intentions

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.

MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Sunday of the Word of God (23rd January): to be held on every Third Sunday in Ordinary Time. Pope Francis issued the apostolic letter entitled, “Instituting the “Sunday of the Word of God: for all dioceses and churches throughout the world” on September 30 of 2019. The first celebration of the Sunday of the Word of God was celebrated on January 26, of 2020. The Pope’s intention is that through this celebration, Catholics will study, learn and love the Holy Scriptures. Therefore enthrone the Bible in your homes and let God’s Word come alive in your families and life as an instrument that awakens our faith. Coming Sunday I encourage you to bring your personal Bibles with you to be blessed during the Mass. Also all the Lectors of 9.30am & 11.30am Mass will come forward to be recommissioned as parish proclaimers of the Word of God.

Updates on Covid 19 restrictions: as you might have heard the UK Government is lifting the majority of the Covid-19 restrictions over the course of the next seven days.

What is changing: working from home guidance ended on 19th January. From 20th January face masks ceased to be required in any classrooms. From next Thursday 27th January, face masks will not be mandated anywhere and Covid passes will no longer be needed at large events. What isn’t changing: people who test positive for Covid will still have to self-isolate for up to five days. I urge you to take great care,, remember that health is your wealth.

Romance fraud is on the increase targeting Catholics and unsuspecting elderly people. Romance fraud is when you are convinced to make a payment to a person you may have met through social media platforms, dating websites and Apps, or Gaming sites. Fake profiles are used by criminals in an attempt to build a relationship with you – this is often known as “Catfishing”. Criminals use information found on social media to create fake identities to target you with the scam. They will go to great lengths to gain your trust and convince you that you have found a genuine relationship before appealing to your compassionate side to ask for money. Criminals use language to manipulate, persuade and exploit so that requests for money do not raise any alarm bells. These requests might be highly emotive, such as criminals claiming they need money for emergency medical care, or to pay for transport costs to visit you from overseas.

If you are speaking to someone online that you have not met in person, stop and think. It could protect your heart and your money. Never give your bank details to someone online that you have never met, and if you are in any doubt about the person’s honesty, speak to a friend or family member.

New WhatsApp Fraud: rising number of similar Frauds using WhatsApp. The suspect will send the victim a message via WhatsApp claiming to be their relative: son/daughter/friend and that they have had to change their phone number. The suspect then asks for money for debt repayment / to buy a new phone/asking to pay outstanding bills. The victim then ends up sending money to the fraudster believing this is going to an actual relative or friend. This type of Scam is becoming more frequent.

Saints we celebrate this week: St. Francis de Sales bishop, St. Paul conversion, Timothy and Titus, Bishops, St. Thomas Aquinas, priest and doctor of the Church.

First Holy Communion: Emilyan and Emmilienne will receive their first Holy Communion on Saturday 29th January 2022.

Change of Mass time: Monday 31st Mass will be at 9:30am Requiem for Sheila Redfon RIP