

## **MASSES 24th 31st May 2020**

Sun	24	9.30am	Mabel Braganza (RIP) Patalong & Doyle family (Thanksgiving)
Mon	25	9.30am	Walter Scott (RIP)
Tues	26	9.30am	SSA, Frank Clarkson (Anni)
Wed	27	9.30am	Bill Flynn (RIP)
Thurs	28	9.30am	Mick & Rose Hogan (Spl int)
Fri	29	9.30am	All souls , John & Valana (Wed Anni)
Sat	30	9.30am	Patalong & Doyle family (Thnaksgiving)
Sun	31	9.30am	Malize & Theresa Anatuanya family (Spl int) Tom & Tori Clarkson (1st Wed Anni)

### **Lectors**

**Lectors :** 24.05.2020: Helena Wood & Naomi      Res:  
31.05.2020: Cynthia, Florence K.      Res:

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

**Anniversaries during the week:** Una Kelly, Tottie McHugh, Gerald Doyle, Michael McMillan, Margaret Murphy, Antony Nicholl, Ann Bridget Kavanagh, Mary O’Sullivan, Eugene Heavy , Sarah Furey, Ellen Heavey, Brenda Moles, Charles Russell, Brigid M Domican, John Brennan, Thomas Malone, Veronica Bridget Byrne, Bridget Bernadette Murphy.

### **Children's corner : Bible quiz**



1. Hebrews 10:26-31 speaks of a fearful thing to happen to a person. What is this fearful thing?
2. Hebrews 7:12-15 mentions the tribe of Israel from which Jesus came. Which tribe does Jesus belong to?
3. Titus 3:8-10 tells us to shun a certain kind of activity. What is this activity that we should avoid?
4. Acts 2:1-4 mentions a special religious festival day for the Jewish people. What is the name of this day?
5. Romans 1:14-17 tells us that Paul was not ashamed. What was it that Paul was not ashamed of?
6. 2Corinthians 9:6-8 describes the kind of person God loves. What kind of person does God love?

Please write your answers on a paper take photo of it and send it to **Fr. Jimmy or Sr. Leena.**

### **Congratulations to the winners of the Bible quiz :**

Ella & Joe, N & N Menezes; E & D Almeida; D & D Miranda; J. Soretis; C. Obanore; S. Aikhionbare; Ekene P & M Sam; K& K Kado.; Z & C Umeh; N & S Ihionu; Raphael. Thank you for your clearly thought-through answers. Check for another Bible quiz on page four of this newsletter.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

## **Parish Newsletter— SEVENTH SUNDAY 24th—31st May 2020**

### **PAIN ENDURED FOR DOING RIGHT, BRINGS NO BITTERNESS**

Martyrdom is described in a manner that leave hearers wondering whether the stories we hear about martyrs are true or fabricated myths. Before I came to learn that English martyrs existed, I was familiar with the life and courage of the 22 Uganda martyrs. I’m a descendant of the Uganda martyrs. These were young men who were burned to death some as young as 13 years old. This has come to be known as the ‘African Holocaust’. It took place between 1885-1887. It is said that these martyrs went to their death joyful, praying and singing, calling on their tormentors to join them in their hope for heavenly happiness!

When I came to England, I found myself at home when I listened and read the stories of the English martyrs. I have not found anywhere in their heroic stories any trace of doubt, retaliation, curse or not forgiving those who hanged them, drawn them and quartered their bodies! St. Thomas More for example writing to his eldest daughter Margaret said: *“nothing can come but what God allows: and whatever God wills however bad it might seem, it shall indeed be the best”*. To his executioners he said: *“I shall pray heartily that though your lordships have now here on earth been judges of my condemnation, we may yet hereafter in heaven merrily all meet together to everlasting salvation.”*

This is what the Word of God is speaking to us about today. The Second Reading is talking about suffering. There are two types: you can suffer for doing right, or you can suffer for doing wrong. St. Peter our first Pope and Vicar of Christ has told us that *“if you can have some share in the sufferings of Christ be glad because it will give you gladness when Christ is revealed”*. In some countries and in some organisations people are denied promotions, good wages or deprived of their rights because they are Christians. Although they suffer, in their souls they are not ashamed of being called one. The human spirit has never been broken by torture and suffering, when it is convinced that it is fighting and suffering for a just cause.

All of us suffer in one way or the other, sometimes for things we have not put our hands on to. Think of Coronavirus, people who have lost their family members, jobs and property. How can we endure the suffering that is inflicted on them? Prayer is the Key. Pray, pray and pray.

It was a painful experience for the apostles to live without the physical presence of Jesus, but they overcame their pain by joining *in continuous prayer with several women including Mary the Mother of the Lord*. Therefore, while we shall certainly suffer no matter how good we are to people, we shall not have real peace within ourselves unless we become men and women of prayer.

In the gospel today and throughout the week, we shall meditate on the priestly prayer of Christ *“Father the hour has come, glorify your Son... I pray for them”* and so on. When we pray, we learn to trust. When we trust we learn to hope and when we hope we learn to endure. With the Ascension of Jesus, we transcend in our relationship with him from the physical to the spiritual, from the earthly to the heavenly. Let us like the first disciples continue to persevere in prayer until we are filled with the Holy Spirit to proclaim the presence of the risen Lord among us until He comes.

**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 02477045457

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: **SO : Monthly : £1094 .83 (April)** **Non-Gift Aid:**  
**Total : £**

**Hall Hire:** **Bonus Ball :** No.

**Counters :** **Mass Attendance :** **Second Collection :**

**Pious Devotions**

**Prayer for priests**

**Divine mercy prayers**

**Rosa Mystica**

**Parish Rosary group**

**Choir practice**

**Church cleaning:**

**Confessions :**

**RCIA Sessions:**

**Catechism for FHC :**

**Church Cleaning:**

**Dates for your diary:**

**READ YOUR BIBLE:** How can we find direction in life under this quarantine? Where can we turn for some words of wisdom to endure? ***“You must keep to what you have been taught and know to be true: Remember who your teachers were, and how, ever since you were a child, you have known the Holy Scriptures— from these you can learn the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ Jesus....this is how the man who is dedicated to God becomes fully equipped and ready for any good work” 2 Tim 3:14-17.***

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Please if you have requests for Mass for your intentions forward that request by calling Tel. **07547242375** all the Masses you request will be celebrated on the day or as much close to the day as possible. The intentions will be mentioned at the beginning of each Mass.

**MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE**

Below are some resources you can use during the time of no public congregations at Mass.  
<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/cameras/county/west-midlands>

**The coming Sunday will be Pentecost:** it will be exactly fifty days after Easter, the end of the ‘lockdown’ of the early church and the opening up of the Church to the new frontiers of evangelisation. In the following seven days, please say some spontaneous prayers with your family asking for the gift of the Holy Spirit in your lives.

**This change might be necessary for us to move on:** we have started to hear good news that the lockdown will continue to be eased step by step. It will not take long before we come back to church, but I’m not so sure whether we shall be at liberty to accommodate an average of 600 people between two weekend Masses in the church. Social distancing will be an issue. If I will be asked about this matter, I will be ready to propose to the diocesan authorities that we have some extra Masses at the weekend to accommodate the number. This can succeed only if you too will be willing to change your Mass time while remaining part of the parish and worshipping in your beautiful church. Please drop me an e-mail or a SMS text to let me know your thoughts.

**Thank you for taking care of us** in various ways, we have received several calls asking how we are and some food has been brought to us. Thank you for such acts of generosity..

**Donations to the parish if wished:** there is a donate button (top right) on the home page of the diocesan website – [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk). Donations can also be gift aided and can be made to any parish via credit or debit card. 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.

**Encouragement from St John Henry Newman:** During the month of May, Saint John Henry Newman inspires us to follow the Blessed Mother’s example. Preaching at Oxford University, he reveals that Mary the Mother of Jesus continued to reflect upon the meaning of God’s will for her - step by step. She realised that the implications of her initial “yes” would only, gradually, unfold. This involved her free consent being given on a daily basis. Mary becomes, for Newman, the model for every Christian disciple. He clearly has her in mind when advising his friend, Mrs Froude:

*“I am quite sure you wish to please God, and would do anything He told you. On the other hand, I know well He does not tell us everything at once - but first one thing, and then, when we act upon that, another. No one ought to enter the Church without faith - no one can have faith for it by wishing or willing it, at the moment. Faith is a Gift of God; we gain it by prayer, we cannot gain it at once; but we can gain it at last. I will quarrel with no one simply for not entering into the holiest and happiest of states on the spur of the instant - faith must be preceded by reason - but I will quarrel with him much, if he does not earnestly and continually ask of God the illumination which leads reason to faith.”* (Letters and Diaries XV, p.307-8)

Newman recognised, from his own experience of conversion to Christ, that there are no shortcuts to Paschal joy. He taught that the path to eternal life needs to be carefully navigated - with the light of the risen Jesus shining in our conscience. His love encourages us to move forward, bit by bit.