Sun 26		9.30am	MASSES— 26th Feb to 5th Mar 23 Jimmy Ferry (RIP), Zygmunt Drabik (Anni)		
~			Mapuranga family (Thanksgiving)		
		11.30am	Christy Abeyratne (RIP)		
Mon	27	12.00noon	Maureen (Get well)		
Tues	28	9.30am	Sr. Ernestina (RIP)		
Wed	01	9.30am	Sr. Delphine (RIP)		
Thurs	02	9.30am	Sr. Carmela Miceli (RIP)		
Fri	03	6.30pm	Stations of the cross		
		7.00pm	Holy souls		
Sat	04	9.30am	Sick of our parish		
Sun	05	9.30am	Zygmunt Drabik (Anni), Jimmy Ferry (RIP)		
		11.30am	Fr. Bob Wright		
			Lectors		
	<u>26/02/2023</u>		<u>05/03/2</u>	2023	
9.30am		Elizabeth H., J	James M. (R) Marij H	K., Stanley (R)	
11.30a	am	Children (R)	Makah	, Florence E. (R)	
	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>				

9.30am Cath Slater (E)

11.30am Serso, Sr. Leena (E)

<u>The sick of the Parish:</u> Rose Hogan, Norah Griffith, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Andrea, Chinasa Okosisi, John, Mr. Tran, Damian Curristan, Owen Darroch.

<u>Anniversaries during the week</u>: Thomas Francis McDonald, Rose Elizabeth Browne, Kevin Andrew Flynn, Francis Joseph McClule, Patrick James Ward, Gussie Stapleton, Michael Joseph Connors, Mary O'Brien, Kevin David McCarthy, Colin Edward Read, Betty Heavy, William Mooney, Maureen Power, Michael Joseph Lanigan, Josiah Morgan, Fr. Bob Wright

**DONA CONTACTLESS:** You can now give your Sunday collection, donation, buy articles of piety etc. using your credit or debit card.

Next Sunday 5th March the Second collection is for the Cathedral maintenance.

# Thought for Lent:

'Have confidence in prayer. It is the unfailing power which God has given us.

By means of it you will obtain the salvation of the dear souls whom God has given you and all your loved ones. "Ask and you shall receive," our Lord said. Be yourself with the good Lord.' **St. Peter Julian.** 



A.J. Missions	St. Osburg	Ss. Mary & Benedict	St. Elizabeth
Parish Newslette	er –First Sunday of	Lent 26th Feb to 5th Ma	r 2023

## SEEDS PLANTED OVERSEES

I'm extremely pleased o celebrate the first Sunday of Lent with a brother priest, Fr. Toby Jaspher Omong who arrived on Wednesday to start his missionary work in this country. For me it is a very special moment, because as you know, I have spoken to you time and again the necessity to support the training of a missionary priest, but I never knew that one day, I will stand here at the Alter of God with one, among many seminarians that we have, as a parish, supported in his training to become a missionary priest.

As you know, I have never asked you to take a collection for this cause, but I asked you to sponsor those who volunteered charity walks to raise money, I asked you to support those who volunteered cake sales and I reminded you of the small box at the back of the Church wall to deposit your donations if you wanted to support the training of a missionary priest. Here, at this altar in this church, we have that priest sent to us. Thanks be to God.

The Word of God today has spoken about the beautiful world created by God but destroyed by sin. We are reminded that we bear within us the image of God which is his very life. "God fashioned man out of the soil and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and thus man became a living being". But this image, is disfigured in us because of sin or when we give in to temptations, just as Adam and Eve did. Sin is attractive and many times it is the easier option, so Jesus in the gospel reminds us that we can fight temptations and overcome them. When we give in to our personal indulgence, we run into trouble.

The three temptations of Jesus characterise the areas in our life where the devil puts his trap for a quick catch, Power, Money and Fame. For power, men and women have destroyed each other. For money men and women have ravaged the earth, and for fame men and women have lost their conscience. Jesus teaches us that worshipping these things or placing them in our life instead of God, is empty. "You must instead worship the Lord your God and serve him alone"

Throughout the Lenten season, we shall hear the Lord calling on us to change our lives and our attitudes. The Lord will invite us to love others more, to do good to them, to fast and to pray. Above all, he will ask us to forgive other people, as we need the forgiveness of God ourselves. Let us try our best to benefit spiritually from this season of grace. It is not enough to stop eating cakes, chocolates or eating beef, if you do not change your arrogance, your anger or your malice. Lent is more to your soul than to your body. Come close to God, and he will come close to you.

As you return home today, let us be a people of action, first by being vigilant against the devil and the actions he inspires in us, and also by being cautious of the devil inside our lives. I wish you all a fruitful Lenten season. And let us thank God for the gift of a new priest in our midst.

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church 52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901, 07906124756 Parish email: <u>stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com</u> <u>Website</u>: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk <u>Web cam</u>: www. mcnmedia.tv/camer/st-mary-and-st-benedict <u>Youtube: st mary and benedicct church coventry</u> <u>Donations to the parish :</u> <u>https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online</u>. Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ <u>E-mail : lutwajim@yahoo.com</u> Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence Leena, and Leera 02477045457 Safeguarding Rep: Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Ernest 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

**SO (Feb) : £** Gift Aid : £174.50 Non-Gift Aid: £525.04 Total: **£ 699.54** Thank you for your generosity.

**Readings:** Gen: 2:7-9, 3:1-7; Rom: 5:12-19; Mt.: 4: 1-11

2nd Collection : 26th Feb—Turkey Earthquake 5th Mar.— Cathedral Maintenance

Bonus Ball :

Mass Attendance : 393

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm

Church cleaning: 7.30am

Confessions: Saturday– 10.10–11.00am.

Pious Devotions : Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6.00pm

(RCIA): sessions : every Sunday after 11.30am Mass in the Lady's Chapel.

### **Gospel Reflection :**

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. Matthew 4:1-2

The "forty" that we commemorate today is the forty days and forty nights that our Lord spent in the desert being tempted by the devil while He fasted and prayed.

Reflect, today, upon the importance of embracing the virtue of temperance with courage throughout life. Throughout life's many ups and downs, joys and sorrows, blessings and crosses, we must allow ourselves to be led by the Spirit, confronting every circumstance with courage and self-control. Reflect upon any ways that you struggle with the crosses you endure or excessively cling to the consolations of life. Seek to embrace the road of virtue this Lent in imitation of Jesus' forty days and nights in the desert.

## **MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE**

Parish Penitential service 27th March at 7.00pm, come on let us seek God's mercy together.

**Devotion to Divine Mercy:** has resumed after interruptions due to Covid19. Please join us every last Thursday of the Month. Prayers start at 6:00-7:00pm followed by Holy Mass. You are all welcome to join our voices to invoke the mercy of the Lord.

**Day for Eucharistic Ministers Fr Stephen Fawcett** is organising a day for Eucharistic Ministers at Christ the King on Saturday 25th March. The day will start with mass at Christ the King at 9.30am followed by Holy Hour and two talks given by Fr Cecil Rogerson and Fr Stephen Fawcett. The day will finish with a light lunch at 1pm.

<u>Appeal to Turkey earthquake:</u> CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance, and winter kits for survivors. Your donations in recent months have made that quick response possible. There is a Second collection today o assist the victims of this natural calamity.

<u>Change of Friday Mass time</u> during Lent Mass will be celebrated at 7:00pm preceded celebration of the Stations of the Cross at 6.30pm. The Stations of the Cross is an ancient Catholic tradition which I encourage you to attend. It is important to meditate on the Passion and death of our Lord.

<u>Confessions for First Holy communicants</u> will be on 20th March at 6.00pm in the Church.

**International Women's day**: will be celebrated on 8th March and the theme for is, "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality". This theme is aligned with the priority theme for the upcoming 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67), "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls".

<u>Confirmation classes</u> children who go to non catholic schools and are in in year 6 please contact Sr. Leena to arrange Confirmation Catechism classes.

St. Patrick's Mass : The annual St. Patrick's Mass will be on

<u>Walk with me booklets</u> are available for you to take to aid you in your prayers during Lent at the back of the Church. Pick up your copy today. £1:00 is recommended towards the printing.

<u>Sacrament of Confession</u>: Fr. Jimmy is available during Lent at any time for anybody who wants to have the Sacrament of Confession. Please give him a call on 07906124756. to arrange the time. Confessions take place also every Saturday from 10:00-10:50am.

The Chapel of Unity is hosting an on line 20-minute Poem Reflection at 6.00pm each Monday evening during Lent.

ady evening	s uur mg	g Lent.			
Week 1	27th	February	Lent	Jean M Watt	
Week 2	6th	March	Late have	I loved you	St Augustine
Week 3	13th	March	The Meeti	ng House	U A Fanthorpe
Week 4	20th	March	The Trees	-	Philip Larkin
Week 5	27th	March	Rublev		Rowan Williams
Week 6	3rd	April	Love		George Herbert
Zoom deta	ils M	eeting ID: 8	11 1671 178	6 Passe	ode: 800860