

## MASSES 28th Mar to 4th April 2021

Sun	28	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	29	9.30am	Hannah Lynch (B'day), Ann Lanigan (Get well)
Tues	30	9.30am	Bartholomew Rodrigues (RIP), Robert Hancock (RIP) Dr. Joseph Lukong Banadzem (Anni)
Wed	31	9.30am	Ken Clear, Ebude Njumbo (RIP)
Thurs	01	7.00pm	People of the parish
Fri	02	10.00am	Stations of the cross
		3.00pm	Passion of the Lord
Sat	03	7.00pm	People of the parish
Sun	04	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	People of the parish

### Lectors

#### 28/03/2021

9.30am Alex & Naomi (R)  
11.30am Florence K. & Mary (R)

#### 04/04/2021

Anthonia A., Nicholas O. (R)  
Perpetua & Maame (R)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatorisa.

Anniversaries during the week : Aloysius Patalong, Emma O'Brien, Marie Concepta Garner, Walter roach, John Molloy, Michael Cox, Bob Brolly (Sr), James Herbert, Patrick McHugh, Eric Donnelly, Mary Ellen Allen, Mick Fitzgerald, Seamus Mulrooney, Phelena Seaman, Anne Brennan, Thomas Brophy, John Dunning, John Dunnion, Mary McSorley.

### Holy Week Readers Rota

Maundy Thursday	7.00pm	Pilomena & Kisaneth
Good Friday	10.00am	Stations of the cross
	3.00pm	Frank K. & Laetitia Wamala
Easter Vigil	7.00pm	Ashley, Florence E., Nicole & Desma

Please prepare yourself to proclaim the Word of God. Readings will be sent to you in advance.

Dates for your Diary: Confirmation on 30th June at 7.00pm and First Holy Communion on 10th July at 10.30am at St. Mary and Benedict's church.

Baptismal preparation sessions will be on 12th and 19th April at 6.00pm—7:00pm in the parish hall. I request parents and God parents to be present. I notice that children can take the whole attention of parents or God parents during the talks. I ask those with toddlers to leave them at home with a relative or a friend please. Remember that each session takes 1 hour, so there is not much time at hand.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

## **Parish Newsletter - Palm Sunday - 28th Mar to 4th April 2021**

### **BE CAREFUL OR ELSE YOU MIGHT ASK FOR BARABBAS.**

It is now more than 2000 years ago since two men were paraded on that infamous balcony. One man who had fresh wounds, was brought to that balcony covered in sweat and blood. He showed signs that before he was brought to the governor, he had been tortured terribly. He seemed not to have slept the previous night at all. His name was Jesus from Nazareth.

The other man who was paraded at the balcony had been in prison for a while, his wounds had long healed, he showed signs that he was settled in prison content with serving his sentence. He told the governor that his name was Barabbas. The only thing that the two prisoners shared in common was that they were under the custody of the Roman governor but in other aspects they were miles apart.

The crimes committed by the two prisoners puzzled the governor. One prisoner had been convicted of causing several bloody riots in Jerusalem, he had organised successful assassinations of important people. Several peasants among them women and children were murdered to create fear among the people of the countryside. He preached hatred everywhere.

The second prisoner was known to have preached the love of God and showed it in action. He healed the sick, he fed the hungry, he gave hope to the oppressed. He befriended the poor and even consoled the bereaved by raising their dead back to life. No perjury had passed on his lips, he was such a great man that everybody knew him as a Rabi.

At every Passover, the governor released some prisoners as a customary favour to the citizens as a sign of good will. To his amazement when the two prisoners were paraded before him the people demanded for the murderer and ring leader of insurrections to be freed. For the other man who loved them so much, who had healed their sick, raised their dead back to life and fed them when they were hungry, they demanded that he be crucified! The governor could not understand this, he could not believe his ears, thus he conducted the trial by leaping in and out of his court to interrogate the man while he moved out to plead with the violent crowds. "Give us Barabbas, the murderer, the rioter, the assassin!" Crucify Jesus, crucify him' they howled.

Why did people demand for the freedom of Barabbas and cried for the death of Jesus? The answer is that the life of Barabbas reflected the kind of life they lived themselves while the life of Jesus was an affront to their sinful life. Dishonest men are never comfortable in the company of honest men, just as saints are not at home in the company of sinners!

As a Christian, you will be asked to make choices or to give your opinions or to cast your vote. Be careful when you are making choices because the actions you take reflect on your personal life. There is a saying: "tell me who your friends are and I will tell the kind of person you are". Evil intentioned people (the Pharisees and Scribes) wanted Barabbas freed because that was what they were. They wanted Jesus crucified because that is what they were not. Next time be careful in your choices because you might demand for the freedom of Barabbas instead of the freedom of Jesus.

## St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901, 07906124756

**Parish email:** [stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com](mailto:stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com)

**Website:** [www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk](http://www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk)

**Web cam:** [www.mcmedia.tv](http://www.mcmedia.tv)

**Youtube:** <https://youtu.be/EHEpr5IMoc>

**Donations to the parish :** <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>.

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

**E-mail :** [lutwajim@yahoo.com](mailto: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

**Collection: Gift Aid : £ 174.00 SO (Feb) : £ Non-Gift Aid: 320.67 Total : £494.67**

*Thank you for your generous contribution during this pandemic. I'm particularly thankful to those who have set up Standing Orders with your banks which has enabled your parish church to continue receiving your support. May God Bless you.*

**Hall Hire: Bonus Ball: Counters: 2nd Collection Mass Attendance for the week:**

### Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

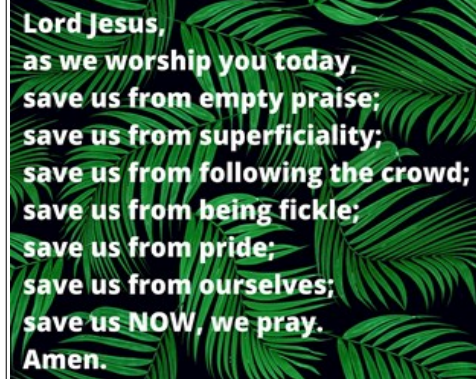
Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

**Confessions:** By appointment only



Lord Jesus,  
as we worship you today,  
save us from empty praise;  
save us from superficiality;  
save us from following the crowd;  
save us from being fickle;  
save us from pride;  
save us from ourselves;  
save us NOW, we pray.  
Amen.

### Mass Intentions

Please 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 with minimum £5 for each Mass or request by calling Tel. 07547242375. The Masses you request will be celebrated on the day or as much close to the day as possible.

## MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE



**Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday** commemorates Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event mentioned in each of the four canonical Gospels. Palm Sunday marks the first day of Holy Week, the last week of the Christian solemn season of Lent that precedes the arrival of Eastertide. Palm Sunday is celebrated by the blessing and distribution of palm branches. This year no procession will take place. The palm branches blessed during the celebration of the liturgy will be distributed by the stewards, as you leave the church after Mass.

**Chrism Mass at St. Chad's Cathedral:** Wednesday of Holy Week, 31 March at 11.30am.

This important annual Mass of the Blessing of Holy Oils for the coming year and the renewal of priestly promises will take place but will be livestream only for most of the clergy and for the Religious and the Lay Faithful this year. Each Deanery of the Archdiocese will be represented by the Dean. Please join the Chrism Mass via the livestream and pray for our priests and for the many blessings that God will give his people through the Sacraments in the coming year.



**Maundy Thursday**, also known as "Holy Thursday," is the Thursday of Passion Week. Maundy Thursday is the name given to the day on which Jesus celebrated the Passover with His disciples, known as the Last Supper. Two important events are the focus of Maundy Thursday. First, Jesus celebrated the Last Supper with His disciples and thereby instituted the Lord's Supper, also called Eucharist. Second, Jesus washed the disciples' feet as an act of humility and service, thereby setting an example that we should love and serve one another in humility. In remembrance of how Christ humbled Himself and washed the feet of the disciples is a powerful reminder of how we are to live the Christian life (Philippians 2:1-11). Let's just make sure we are observing Maundy Thursday in a way that truly honours what happened at the Last Supper.



**Good Friday**, also known as "Holy Friday," is the Friday immediately preceding Easter Sunday. It is celebrated traditionally as the day on which Jesus was crucified. It is the day God made it possible for people to be forgiven and know him in a new and special way through his Son Jesus Christ. Let us look on the Crucified Jesus and be saved.

**Novena to Divine Mercy** will start on Good Friday 2nd April. Divine Mercy Prayers will be held here on 11th April starting at 3:00pm followed by Holy Mass at 4.00pm.

**Trinity Catholic Secondary School** in Leamington Spa (part of the Our Lady of Lourdes MAC) are seeking an inspirational, collaborative and outward-facing Headteacher for September 2021. Full details can be found on the website: <https://www.lourdesmac.org.uk/vacancies/>. The deadline for applications is 26th March 2021.

### Easter programme 2021

28/03/2021	- Palm Sunday	9.30am/11.30am
01/04/2021	- Maundy Thursday	7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper (Booking)
02/04/2021	- Good Friday	10.00am - Stations of the cross in the morning 3.00pm the Passion of the Lord (Booking)
03/04/2021	- Easter Vigil	7.00pm (Booking)
04/04/2021	- Easter Sunday	9.30am & 11.30am (Booking at both Masses)
11/04/2021	- Divine Mercy Sunday	3.00pm Prayers ; 4.00pm—Holy Mass

**Note:** Please observe those services whereby entry will be by booking only. Kindly call the office number 024 76258901 or you can send an email at [stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com](mailto:stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com) Thank you for your cooperation.