

MASSES FROM 31st Mar to 7th Apr 2019

Sun	31	9.30am	Janina Skizypek (RIP)
		11.30am	Graine Smith (RIP)
Mon	01	9.30am	Eucharistic service
Tues	02	9.30am	Joe Cochrane, Sr. Santangela Serra (RIP)
Wed	03	9.30am	Sr. Teofila Sebastine (RIP)
Convention at 6.15pm to 9.15pm - Adoration, worship, talks by Fr. Michael Dolman			
Thurs	04	9.30am	Holy souls, Bride McAndrews (Get well)
Fri	05	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross (Children)
		7.00pm	Patrick & Michael Shanley (RIP)
Sat	06	9.30am	Nora Curristan (RIP)
Sun	05	9.30am	Sam & Anthonia Akhionbare (Spl int)
			Nuala Kelly (RIP)
		11.30am	Mama Magdaline Akenji, Mami Mary Mangwa (RIP)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

31/03/19

9.30am Anthonia A., Nicholas (R)
Barbara (E)
11.30am Petra, Honorine (R)
Vera, Patricia (E)

07/04/2019

Alex, Desma (R)
Bob H. (E)
Aimee, Mary (R)
Serso, Marcel (E)

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, John Curriston, Gerard Griffith, Jane Patalong, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear.

Anniversaries during this Week: 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, Joseph Macken, Thomas O'Maller, Patrick O'Neill, Ellen Cox.

Dates for your Diary :

Parish penitential service : 15th April at 7.00pm; **Confession for First H. Communion.** will be on April 8th at 6:00pm in the church; **School Confessions** will take place on Monday 8th April starting at 10.00am in school; **First Holy Communion - 18th May - Ss. Mary & Benedict School; 25th May - Polish parish children; 21st Nov - Confirmation.**

Novena to Divine Mercy will start on Good Friday 19th April. Divine Mercy Prayers will be held here on April 28th starting at 2:00pm followed by Holy Mass.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter– Fourth Sunday of Lent - 24th March to 7th April 2019

WHY DO WE VENERATE THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY?

As our Lenten season progresses, I wish to thank those parishioners who turn up for the Stations of the Cross every Friday. This walking in the footsteps of Jesus in his passion, reminds us of his love for each one of us. "I know my sheep and mine know me" he said

The scandal of the Cross in the life of Jesus Christ is a teaching that the Catholic Church safeguards, one, for which she will not create something parallel. The Cross and all the pain it meant to Jesus and his reaction to it will never be softened to make it become acceptable, instead the Church, like Jesus himself encourages us to take up our crosses and follow him.

The climax of the Passion of Jesus is echoed by Good Friday prayers. In the Roman Rite the first part of the celebration of the Passion of the Lord consists in the reading of the Song of the Suffering Servant of Yahweh Isaiah 52:13-53:12 and the Passion account from the Gospel of John. This is often taken by more than one reader. This part concludes with a series of prayers: for the Church, the Pope, the clergy and laity, those preparing for baptism, the unity of Christians, the Jewish people, those who do not believe in Christ, those who do not believe in God, those in public office, and those in special need.

On Good Friday, the Church will lead us in a solemn Act of Reparation. Veneration of the Cross takes a central stage. St. Paul remarked that 'the Cross is a stumbling block to the Jews, and foolishness to the Greeks (1 Cor 1:23); but to us who believe in Jesus it is the symbol of His victory, the instrument of the world's redemption. The Cross therefore is worthy of our deepest veneration, because of the honour conferred upon it by Jesus himself who consecrated it by his own blood. He won our salvation by his own death on the Cross. "By His wounds we are healed" 1 Peter 2:21-25.

The practice of publicly venerating the Cross on Good Friday was introduced in the 7th Century as a mark of veneration of Christ himself who gave up his life to save us. The Church encourages us to approach the wood of the Cross with veneration on Good Friday and to genuflect before it as though we were genuflecting before the Blessed Sacrament.

On Good Friday, your priest will take the Crucifix elevate it in three symbolic expositions: the first exposition represents the first preaching of the Cross, when, for fear of the Jews the apostles did not speak about the Cross except to a few followers of Jesus. The second exposition of the Cross signifies the Apostles preaching to the Jews, after the Holy Spirit came. The third and total exposition of the Crucifix represents the mystery of the Cross being preached to all the people when the Apostles rejected by the Jewish people, turned to the pagans, and preached Jesus crucified far beyond the limits of the Roman Empire. At every stage of exposing the Cross, the priest reminds us that it is a sacred "Wood of the Cross on which hang he Saviour of the world" Then we all answer in adoration: "Come Let us Worship."

I invite you to turn up in large numbers on Good Friday at 3:00pm so that together we venerate Jesus who saved us by the wood of the cross.

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: £298.05 **Non-Gift Aid:** £374.45 **Total :** £672.50

Counters : Agnes & Tom Ferris

Mass Attendance : 589

Bonus Ball : No. 21 Tony Smith

2nd collection :

2nd collection for the months of April & May : 19th April—Holy Places ; 12th May—Clergy Training Fund.

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 & 3.00p`m.

Parish Rosary group every Friday at 6.00pm

Choir practice every Friday at 7.30pm /Saturday at 3.00pm

Church cleaning: 8.00am to 9.30am

Confessions : Every Saturday from 10am to 11.00am

Mass in the University: Every Tuesday at 1.10pm in Hub

The Lady's Chapel is open from **8.30am to 4:00pm** throughout the week. You are all welcome to spend time in prayer before the Lord.

Feasts during the week :

Prayer for Lent : *Almighty God, You showed us through the life of your Son Jesus Christ, that You are willing to do something different for the sake of generosity. Please give us hearts of compassion like yours and help us to be alert to those in need of Your transforming love. Help us to be ready to be changed ourselves as we reach out to others. Show us ways to restore our relationships, our community and our world. Amen*

Please find the Easter programme on the notice board and parish website.

Matters of Importance

Parish Ministers of Holy Communion will have a moment of prayer and training on 13th April from 6.00 to 8.00pm in preparation for their recommissioning on Maundy Thursday. I request both old and new ministers to attend. Please put this date in your diary.

Diocesan Vocations Director Fr. Michael Dolman will visit the youth of our parish and meet Coventry University Catholic Students during the THREE HOUR prayer and praise convention called ENKINDLE to take place on Wednesday 3rd April 2019 at St. Mary's and Benedict's Church starting from 6:15-9:15pm. Do you want to know about your vocation? This can be a chance to come, see and listen.

GIFT AID claim for the tax year 2017-2018 has been claimed and passed on to the parish. Thanks to all who give your Sunday donation through Gift Aid Scheme. The parish received **£5,212.72** from HMRC. Thank you so much. If you have not collected your envelopes, please do so today from Sr. Leera as you leave the Church.

Polish Traditional Lenten reflection: has been organised to take place on Saturday 6th April starting from 6:00pm. There will be singing of Lamentations in Polish, Reading the Word of God and inspirational talks. Please come and join them if you can. There will be Blessing of food by Polish Community on Holy Saturday 20th April at 11.00am followed by 1hour of adoration at the 'tomb' of Jesus. All are welcome.

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Archbishop proposed a second Collection today: "Christine Allen, the recently appointed Director of CAFOD, has requested our parishes to hold a second collection on the weekend of 30/31 March or 6/7 April in the wake of the recent terrible emergency in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi caused by Cyclone Idai. I realise that this comes in the midst of many other demands upon you and your parishioners, but I would be grateful if you could look favourably on this particular request."

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: The diocese of Birmingham takes sick pilgrims to Lourdes every year. It is a pilgrimage that they cannot make without the support from the doctors and nurses who accompany them. There is acute shortage of doctors and nurses. If you are a nurse or a doctor you are being asked if you could help. The Pilgrimage runs from 25th-31st May. For more information about how you can help please visit the Lourdes Hospitalite website.

Palm Sunday: weather permitting procession with Palms will start from the car park and proceed into the church.

Citizenship Support Session : Is your child entitled to British citizenship but you are unsure how to go about it? The *MiFriendly Cities* project in partnership with the Law Centre will be holding a FREE session in St. Mary & Benedict school on **Friday 5th April between 1pm and 3pm** to help you get your papers in order, apply and secure your child's future. Please let the Office know if you are coming along.