

MASSES FROM 6th to 13th March 2016

Sun	06	9.30am	Zygmunt Drabik (Anni), Ngalula & Semahimbo Family (Thanks giving)
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	07	12.30pm	Holy Souls, Sue McAllister (Spl Int)
Tue	08	9.30am	Requiem-Harry Hone
Wed	09	9:30am	Patrick Murray (RIP) Rasa (Spl Int)
Thurs	10	6.30pm	Adoration
		7.00pm	SSA (Thanks giving) Emeka & Maryfrancis (Spl Int)
Fri	11	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
		7.00pm	Nora Lucid (RIP)
Sat	12	9:30am	Gerald Griffith (Spl Int)
10.00 –11.00am Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions			
Sun	13	9.30am	Bernadette Doran (Spl Int) Emeka & Maryfrancis (Spl Int)
		11.30am	People of the parish

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

Weekend 6th March 2016

Weekend 13th March 2016

9.30 am	Asipita, Julia Bridie Kelly (E)	Nazareth, Sr Leera Elizabeth (E)
11.30am	Kingsley, Victoria Serso, Vera (E)	Kumbirai, Emmanuella Serso, Vera (E)

RIP: Harry Hone Etna Bannon, Theotonia Vaz, Robert Stevenson, Brendan Hanbury.

Anniversaries during this Week: John O'Driscoll, Tommie Doyle, Ada Ryan, John Gill Delia Sheridan, Joe Clark, John Murphy, Margaret Stapleton, Patrick Stapleton, Lena Fitzgerald, Edward Brennan, Fr Harkin, Nora Woods, Margaret Dunne.

Please pray for the sick of the Parish:, Eileen McHugh, Tony McKiernan, Mary Mulroney, Philomena Dunleavy, John Currison, Gerard Griffith, Paul Kordes, Diana Best, Jim Crean, Tess Pearkes, Sheila McElaney, Sheila Clear, Janie Patalong, Tom Dui-gnan, Thomas Murtagh, Job Giles, Maria Drabik, Danny Diver, Michael Clear, Anne Creed, Mary O'Sullivan, Max Gorman, John Kerrigan, Nora O'Brien, Sean Harte, Eamon Finlan, Phyllis Mulvey, Kath Muldoon.



A.J Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeths

Parish Newsletter Fourth Sunday of Lent 6th to 13th March 2016

WE HAVE NO SECRETS

In the film of Mahatma Gandhi Ben Kingsley starts his crusade against white minority rule over majority black south Africans which resulted into apartheid by declaring **“we have no secrets”** It was during his first convention in Pretoria. Representatives of colonial powers are visibly present in the scene not to mention the police who stood by, with their batons ready to hit the peaceful crowd calling for equality and freedom. The reason why Kingsley starts the convention with the words **“We have no secrets”** is because he was talking about a historical situation known to all; it was not fabricated or an invented myths!

There is no time in our Christian calendar that Kingsley's statement is applicable to us Christians than during this time as we approach Easter. We Christians speak boldly too that **“we have no secrets.”**

The good news proclaimed by the first Christians about Jesus Christ was not his victory, but his humiliation. He was humiliated in the garden of Gethsemane, humiliated before Caiaphas the High priest, humiliated before the Roman Governor Pontius Pilate and finally humiliated at Calvary as he died on the cross possibly naked and in public view of everyone! The humility of Jesus was great news for Christians against Adam's pride in the garden of Eden. These events formed the foundation for the glorification of Jesus by God the Father raising him from the dead.

St. Paul writing to the Christians at Philippi reminded them that *“Though he was in the form of God, Jesus did not count equality with God instead he emptied himself taking the form of a servant being born in the likeness of men; and being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death even death on the cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him.....Phil2:6-11.*

As we approach Easter we shall be reminded of the historical events that led to the joy that Easter brings. The first Christians did not make up the Jesus story soft so as to be accepted instead they were adamant to call a spade a spade because that is what it is. I'm quite sure that you have met people who are trying to simplify Christianity denying the **“cross”** in our life as Christians. Our faith is rooted on history. St. Peter reminds us in his letter, *“It was not any cleverly invented myths that we were repeating when we brought you the knowledge of the power and the coming of our lord Jesus Christ”* 2Pt. 1:16. Lenten liturgy might scare us and in some cases look like drama, but you know what: it is because that is what happened; we are not ashamed of it, we tell the same story again and again. **WE HAVE NO SECRETS.**



The Most Holy Sacrament and St. Osburgs

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The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg. Charity No. 234216

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid: £242.10 Non-Gift Aid £ 559.28 Total: £ 801.38

Thank you.

Counters 6th March Elizabeth Hancock, Patsy Sproul

Bonus Ball : No 20 Sr. Lydwin

Mass Attendance 28th February 665

Second Collection: 6th March Cathedral Maintenance

Pious Devotions

Divine Mercy prayers every last Thursday of the month 6.30 – 7.30pm.

Prayer for priests every first Friday of the month from 6.30 – 7.30pm.

Rosa Mystica on 13th of every month between 2.00pm & 3.00pm.

The church is open from 8:00am to 7:00pm throughout the week. You are all welcome to pass through the Door of Mercy and spend time in prayer.

Dates for your diary

7th March Training of Extra ordinary ministers 6.00pm

15th March St Patrick's Day Mass at 7.00pm

21st March Parish penitential Service at 7.00pm

24th March Recommissioning of the Eucharistic Ministers

3rd April Divine Mercy Sunday

What a wonderful experience! Pope Francis asked all the Christians all over the world to dedicate 24hrs of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament and to go to Confession. In February 2014 Pope Francis said: "Do not be afraid of Confession. When someone finishes Confession he leaves free, grand, beautiful, forgiven and happy. I was very pleased to see Christians from around the city of Coventry who came and spent 24hrs of continual prayers in response to the request made by the Holy Father Pope Francis.

Easter Monday Mass is traditionally held at St. Osburg's. The priests of the deanery agreed that there will be no morning Masses in their parishes on that day, but they will come together with their parishioners to celebrate that Mass at 10.00am on Easter Monday.

Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday 23rd March at 11.30am in St Chad's Cathedral. Mass at St. Mary's and at St. Osburgs will be at 9:00am to allow the priests to go for the Holy Mass at which they renew their priestly vows and consecrate together with the archbishop the holy oils.

Marriage Banns: Nnanyelugo Chukwunonso NGWU son of Simeon Chijioko Ngwu and Elizabeth Kanayo Ngwu of Umualeke village, Enugu— Nigeria of St. Peter Catholic Church, Ukehe, would like to marry Susan Nneoma Unogu, daughter of Eze Vitus Unogu and Ann Nnenna Unogu of Umunogu village Eugu - state, Nigeria. If anybody knows why they should not be married to each other please inform the parish priest.

CAFOD: In the course of the week I had a meeting with a young CAFOD volunteer who shared with me some interesting information for which I'm so grateful. Since 2010, St Osburg's have donated **£50,295.45** to CAFOD. Since 2014, have donated **£16,691.49**. There is no doubt that this ongoing support has helped transform the lives of many people in need around the world. The generosity you show points to your willingness to support a good cause. Almost all the people I talk with ask me whether our parish debt will ever be paid off. While my answer is always "yes" the means to solve the parish debt crisis is a thorn in the flesh. I have received several letters from our creditors demanding their payment which has not been met. Thank God it is interest free. Recalling the fact that we do not have any other party to turn to, to solve our debt crisis other than ourselves, I would propose that we take into consideration greater generosity in servicing the parish debt.