

### **Matters of Importance**

**A day workshop** has been organised by the diocese to take place at 6 venues within the diocese one of which is Christ the King here in Coventry. The Theme is “Eucharist and the Family” . This is in preparation for the “World Meeting of Families 21-26th August in Liverpool and “*Adoremus* Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress 7th-9th September 2018 in Dublin. The workshop at Christ the King takes place on 3rd February starting at 10:00am– 3:30pm. Please take a packed Lunch with you.

**Pastoral Letter for Advent:** the Archbishop has written a Pastoral letter to us which will be read to us today. Please let us pray for all the leaders of the church for good health at this busy time of the year.

**The Sacrament of Penance:** reveals the holiness of the parish. My experience as a priest has been that Holy People go to Confession but sinners do not. We are greatly encouraged to seek reconciliation with God and with one another. Please find below the time, places and the priests who will be available for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confession in our denary.

#### **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December – St Thomas More’s parish @ 7.00pm**

Fr Gnosill, Fr Norton, Fr Day, Fr Curtis.

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Our Lady of the Assumption parish @ 4.00pm**

Fr Louis, Fr Sunday, Fr Pontius.

#### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December – All Souls parish @ 4.00pm**

Fr Norton, Fr Brandon, Fr Jimmy.

#### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December – Christ the King parish @ 7.00pm**

Fr Brennan, Fr Norton, Fr. Tom, Fr Day, Fr Moses, Fr Sunday, Fr Brandon.

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Sacred Heart (with SJF and St Patrick’s) @ 7.00pm**

Fr Tony Norton, Fr Pat Brennan, Fr George Bennett.

#### **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – St Mary’s and Benedict parish @ 7.00pm**

Fr Louis, Fr Moses, Fr Pontius, Fr Sunday.

#### **Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – St Osburg’s Parish @ 12.30pm**

Fr Jimmy, Fr Louis, Fr Sunday, Fr Pontius, Canon Farrell.

#### **Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December – St Elizabeth’s Parish @ 11.30am**

Fr Moses, Fr Sunday, Fr Jimmy.

### **Masses over Christmas time:**

**St. Marys** December 24th. 10:30am . Vigil Mass 6:00pm & 8:00pm

Christmas Day 9:30am and 11:30am

**St. Osburg** December 24th 11:30am, 5.30pm and 12:00am Midnight Mass.

Christmas Day 11:30am.



AJ Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeth

### **Parish Newsletter - Third Sunday of Advent 17th to 24th December 2017**

#### **‘LIKE HIM WE SHOULD LOOK BACK AND RETURN’**

Luke the evangelist reports a massive healing incident which took place unexpectedly. Jesus was walking with his disciples and they stumbled into a lepers’ colony. In Israel at the time of Jesus leprosy was a dreaded disease without cure. When a person caught leprosy, he was isolated from the family and from the village. To prevent others from catching the disease the sick person was encouraged to have the good will to let others know that he was a patient not to be approached. The Law of Moses directed that:

*A man infected with leprosy must wear his clothing torn and his hair disordered; he must shield his upper lip and cry ‘unclean, unclean. As long as the disease lasts, he must be unclean and therefore he must live apart, he must live outside the camp’ Lev13:45 & 46.*

So when Jesus and his group were walking towards people who suffering from leprosy and therefore deemed unclean they started shouting to let him know of the danger. Jesus healed them not in his presence but as they retreated to their colony. The reaction of one of them has something to teach us as we come to the end of the year 2017. *Finding himself cured one of them turned back praising God at the top of his voice, he threw himself at the feet of Jesus and thanked him’ Lk 17:16 & 17.*

As we come to the end of the Year, many people are thinking of making big parties, eat, drink, dance and blast fireworks. Good idea but irrelevant. Is it by your power that you completed the year and welcoming a new one? Celebrations to mark the end of the year are good but we should not forget by whose favour, by whose power and by whose mercy we have come to such a moment. All the lepers in the colony were cured, nine went home to make party only one man realised that it was not by his power, he ran back to where he had met with God’s favour and thanked him. I hope on Christmas and New Year there will be more people in churches than in shops and pubs.

This year let us be like that man. Let us conclude the year reflecting on what we have passed through and how God has guided us. Let us praise him and be thankful through prayer then we can party afterwards. This is the program at St. Mary’s for the Eve of the New Year 2018:

**31st Dec 2017 at 10:00pm exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & adoration  
11:05 Holy Mass of thanksgiving to God  
12:00am singing Thank you for giving me the morning.**

Please come and join us in this prayer. I'm sorry that it is not a party but a prayer to recognise what God has done for us be thankful. Remember that Jesus was taken for granted and never thanked. Let us surprise him just as the Samaritan leper did.

### The Most Holy Sacrament and St. Osburgs

Barras Lane, Coventry, CV1 4AQ. Tel 024 76220402

Fr. Jimmy Mobile. 07906124756 Home 02476258901

Fr. Pontius 07424553529 and Fr. Sunday 07448029184

Parish Sisters: Sr. Philomena and Sr. Theresa (PBVM)

(St. Osburgs Primary School, Upper Hill Street Coventry CV1 4AP. Tel 02476227165

Headteacher Mrs Nicola Rynott.

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Ann Collins 02476670304

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

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

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

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama AJ

Mobile: 07906124756.

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

### St. Elizabeth's R.C. Church

St. Elizabeth's Road, CV6 5BX Tel.:024 76688536

Website: [www.stelizabethcoventry.co.uk](http://www.stelizabethcoventry.co.uk)

Parish priest: Fr. Moses Pitya David AJ

E-mail: [mospitya@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mospitya@yahoo.co.uk)

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

### Parish development

Gift Aid.... £78.00. Loose.....£ 185.98 Total.....£ 263.98

Sat. lunches....£ 100.55 Restoration.£ 73.88 Heating.....£ 14.02

**Second collection** : Poor Parishes Fund **£154.95.**

Thank you for your generosity.

**Christmas and Easter Collections:** please note that the archbishop has authorised the priests to take that collection as the people's personal gift to their priests. Envelopes are available at the back if you need one. Thank you for your generosity.

**Flowers for Christmas:** Christmas is round the corner and we need to receive the new born king with nice flowers round the Altar and in the church. Today we have second collection for Christmas flowers please.

Offering Hope when the Cradle is Empty

What can religious couples do when their desire for the gift of a child is left wanting? So much of what is on offer in reproductive medicine; which puts couples in conflict with their treasured Faith. At **Life Fertility Care** we show that integration between Faith and medicine is possible. In fact it's better. As manager Ira Winter says: "Working with nature will always triumph over bypassing nature. NaProTechnology is not a quick fix, but it is a true fix. The couples really appreciate that they remain the co-creators with God and the child remains a gift of God within the marital union." To find out more see [www.lifefertilitycare.co.uk](http://www.lifefertilitycare.co.uk) or contact Life FertilityCare on 01926834654.

### Hearing Aid Users—Please switch your hearing aid to 'T'

### MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEKS from 17th to 24th Dec 2017

Sat	16	11.45am	Joan Fitzgerald (RIP)
		5.30pm	Rita Jordan & Mary Hayes (RIP)
Sun	17	11.30am	People of the Parish , Kirkwood Family (Sp Int)
Mon	18	12.10pm	John Christopher Byrne (91 <sup>st</sup> B'day) , Corcoran Family (Sp Int)
Tues	19	12.10pm	Nuala Kelly & Ann Boland (Sp Int)
Wed	20	12.10pm	Rose Thornhill (Sp Int) , Veronica McMorro (Get well)
Thurs	21	12.10pm	Evelyn Evans (RIP) Michael McGrane (Anni)
Fri	22	12.10pm	Nancy O'Donnell & Family , Peter, Margaret & Family (X'mas int)
Sat	23	11.45am	The Whitney Family (Christmas int)
		5.30pm	People of the Parish, Pat Fallon (get well)
Sun	24	11.30am	Teresa, Eamon & Family (Christmas int)
		5.30pm	Ann, Sean & Family (Christmas int)

### Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

#### Weekend 16th Dec 2017

5.30PM Maria (R),  
Zen (E)

#### Weekend 17th Dec 2017

11.30am Janet & Charles (R),  
June & Teresa (E)

**Please pray for the sick of the parish:** Eileen McHugh, Laurence Gallen, Garry Hobbs, Teresa Ryne, Cameron Reilly, Carla Lawrence, Terence Harris, Patrick Connolly, Mark Correvisgandis Anne, Bacia, Colin Hipperson, Kathleen Tierney, Diane Cunningham, Kieran Connell, Ahmed Musa, Carol Sparks, Ruth Clithero, Jan Carusso, Nadia Faruk Hannah, Tom McDermott, Winnie McDermott, Gerald Douglas, Shirley Hartnett, Stephen Bayliss, Jackie Buckley, Dave Rillott, Alan Davis, David Horley, Margaret Ghen, Bridie & Benny McAndrew. Christine Strong, Hilda Gibson, Sheila Biggs.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time :** Bunn John William, Forde Marjorie Cumberridge Gerald, Gaffney Gerald, Chappell Ann Catherine, Monaghan John, Mannion Michael Sandbrook Victor, Sullivan Mary.

**You can save your Marriage:** Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. There is no group therapy or group work. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Is your marriage or that of a relative or friend heading for divorce? Do you know how to save that marriage? Or do you feel helpless? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. Divorce and separation is not the answer. It is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health as it helps spouses to uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples that have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about Retrouvaille or to register for the next program commencing with a residential weekend on 16th -18th March, 2018 in Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire email [info@retrouvaille.org.uk](mailto:info@retrouvaille.org.uk); call or text 0788 729 6983 or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)