

**“The Gift” A Life in the spirit seminar:** is going on these days at Christ the King parish bringing together Catholics from Coventry denary. It is meant for all of us to renew our faith and to deepen our love. Some parishioners have gone to the talks which take place every Thursday stating 7:00pm. The themes being covered are as follows:

Week 1 Thursday 27th April	The Father’s Love
Week 2 Thursday 2th May	The Gift of the Holy Spirit.
Week 3 Thursday 11th May	A personal Pentecost
Week 4 Thursday 18th May	The joy of the gospel
Week 5 Thursday 25th May	Unwrapping God’s Gift
Week 6 Thursday 8th June	Living in the Spirit

These talks are very important for renewal of the parish and of personal life. I encourage you to attend them if you can.

**Archbishop Bernard Longley** will visit Coventry Cathedral this Thursday 25th May at 7.30pm and have Evening Prayers with Bishop Christopher of Coventry. It will be the Ascension Day. It will be the official launch of the Prayer Initiative, “Thy Kingdom Come”. It will be good if many of us attend this Christian event in our city.

**GENERAL ELECTIONS JUNE 8th 2017:** The Bishops of England and Wales invite Catholics to play an active part in the General Election. While voting for any particular political party is a matter of conscience, the bishops encourage us to use our vote at this pivotal time for our nations, as we prepare to leave the European Union. Do you know where your candidate stands on the following issues?

**Refugees and Asylum Seekers:** The UK's committed to resettling at least 20,000 of the most vulnerable Syrian refugees by 2020. It is important that the next government keeps this commitment and explores options to expand the programme.

**Leaving the European Union:** This election will help to determine how the UK leaves the EU. Important factors include the rights of more than 3 million EU citizens in the UK, the rights of UK citizens in other EU countries, and the way new trade deals cover issues like human rights and the environment

**Protecting Life:** In 2015 Parliament voted overwhelmingly to protect society’s most vulnerable people, by preventing the legalisation of assisted dying. It is important that the new parliament upholds this decision and supports improvements to end of life care.

**Religious Freedom:** Across the world millions of people are being persecuted, imprisoned or killed because of their beliefs. It's important that the next government prioritises freedom of religion or belief in UK foreign policy.

**Prison Reform:** In a civilised society prisons should be places of redemption and rehabilitation. The next government faces a significant crisis in the prison system, with unprecedented levels of violence and suicide Please get out and vote. Make sure that you use your conscience. It is when you don’t vote that things go really wrong.



AJ Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeth

**Parish Newsletter—6th Sunday of Easter Year A - 21st to 28th May 2017**

**THEY KEPT THE FUTURE CONSTANTLY IN MIND**

I was in discussion with some priests in the course of the week trying to catch up with current affairs. Local elections have just ended and the general elections are few weeks away. As the United Kingdom prepares to leave the European Union (Brexit) I’m sure that politicians have little or no sleep at all in the night. No political leader is willing to go down into history as someone that destroyed the hopes of the nation. I’m sure they hardly enjoy their meals or their ivory beds with good sleep. Each one is searching for the best deal.

The Christians who lived before us in our parish were encountered with situations of such kind. They did not want to go into history as a people on whose watch the parish reached a tragic end. They felt obliged to find the best deal for the parish.

There are two major difficulties that every parish priest has:

1. the maintenance of vast parish buildings including the church itself
2. keeping the church warm.

Huge buildings of course mean huge insurance premiums. Our predecessors came up with ideas to help them raise funds that would give response to these inevitable needs; they included organizing annual ‘Christmas bazaars’, weekly or monthly ‘Bonus Ball’, ‘Family Draw’, ‘300 Club’ among others. Thanks to the recent development of the government’s plan to support charities chosen by tax payers through Gif Aid Scheme. Thanks to the parishioners who have supported these efforts from generation to generation. It is important that we do not lose them as numbers of participants get low. The weekly Bonus Ball at St. Marys costs £1.00 for entry, if you are lucky to win it you end up with £30.00 in cash.

The 300 Club is another initiative at St. Osburg which enters its 18th year. It has brought in £122,000.00 which partly financed the restoration of the Church. The entry charge is £2:00 every month if you are lucky to win it you might end up with £100. 1st prize, £50 2nd prize, £30. 3rd prize or with £20.00 4th prize. Family Draw, Bonus Ball and 300 Club are voluntary charitable support within the parish to support the church. What a great work that these have done to improve our church infrastructures! As numbers of entrants go down, I wish to encourage you to support the efforts made through them. It will be tragic if we lost any one of them.

Like our fore fathers we must keep the future of the church constantly in mind. The fund-raising efforts of the church is an ongoing process. I’m sure every priest, bishop or the Holy Father himself are never short of words to thank the people who support the cause of our faith through prayer and other material sacrifices

### 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

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama AJ

Mobile: 07906124756.

E-mail lutwajim@yahoo.com

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

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

Website: www.stelizabethcoventry.co.uk

Parish priest: Fr. Moses Pitya David AJ

E-mail: mospitya@yahoo.co.uk

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

### Parish development

Gift aid..... £62.00 Loose.....£336.57 Total..... £398.57

Sat. lunches....£ 100.46 Restoration.£ 74.70 Heating.....£16.16

Thank you for your generosity.

There will be a **second collection** next weekend for Catholic Communications.

**First Holy Communion** : This Sunday we welcome the Year 3 children from our school who will be making their First Holy Communion at 11.30 Mass. We also welcome their families and friends to celebrate this holy and special time. I wish in a particular way to thank the parents who have prepared their child to understand what the Holy Eucharist is and to long for it. Thanks to the teachers who have done such an excellent service. It is the prayer of each one of us that one day we may all be welcomed to the Lord's table in heaven.

**Piety Stall:** I'm looking for someone who can volunteer to help at the piety stall please talk to the priests if you can.

**Appeal for Aid to the Church in Need:** Deacon Tim Anthony from 'Aid to the Church in Need' will be speaking at both Sunday Masses on 4th June at St. Mary's and on Saturday 10th/Sunday 11th June at St Osburg's. There will be an opportunity to purchase prayer cards, Children's Bibles, books and religious artifacts. More information may be found on the website: [www.acnuk.org](http://www.acnuk.org)."

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

### MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEKS from 21st to 28th May 2017

Sat	20	11.45am	Fr. Jimmy (Spl.Int)
		5.30pm	Angela Jordan (RIP)
Sun	21	11.30am	Christy Byrne (RIP)
Mon	22	12.10pm	Vera Lynch (Spl.Int)
Tues	23	12.10pm	Mary O'Shea (Get well)
Wed	24	12.10pm	Victoria Hancocks (B/day)
Thurs	25	12.10pm	Eamon Mullally (Spl.Int)
Fri	26	12.10pm	Matthew Paul Kelly (RIP)
Sat	27	11.45am	Bernardette Cornish (Spl.Int)
		5.30pm	Bill Harrison (RIP)
Sun	28	11.30am	Owen O'Donnell (RIP)

### Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

#### 20th/21st May

#### 27th/28th May

5.30pm	Maggie, Ann F. (R)	Bernadette, Ann E. (R)
	Bernadette (E)	Maggie (E)
11.30am	School Readers	Janet, Charles (R)
	June, Charles (E)	Patsy, Catherine (E)

**Please pray for the sick of the parish:** Ted Rodgers 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 Riliott, 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:** Bardon Pauline Mary, Patricia McCarthy, John D., Mary Bridget Dooley, Angela Jordan, Darlow Margaret, Cusack Patrick, Kelly Peter, Long Patrick Noel, Parker Adam, Sullivan Con, Donnelly Robert.

**Retrouvaille UK** Are you: Disillusioned or Bored in Your Marriage? Unable to communicate with Each Other? Feeling Confused, Stressed, Unloved? Separated, Divorced, or thinking about it? Do you want to try again? Retrouvaille helps couples worldwide work through challenging times. The next Programme commences with a residential weekend 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> June 2017 in Birmingham (To register for the forthcoming retreat, follow the link - <http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk/apply.php>). To speak to someone in confidence please call: 07887 296983 or 0797 3380443 For more information visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)