

## Matters of Importance

**Dinner for senior citizens:** Bishop Ullathorne Catholic Secondary School has organised a Community Christmas Party to take place on Thursday 14 December 2017. It is a Christmas Party in the school for senior citizens. Senior Citizens of St. Marys and of St. Osburgs are particularly invited. Starting at 1.15pm, the afternoon will be full of carols, food, games and more. The afternoon will finish at 2.45pm. Transport will be available, collecting from the parish church, at 12.45pm, if required. Please let Fr. Jimmy our Parish Priest know if you would like to make use of this service by calling him on 07906124756, or send him an e-mail [lutwajim@yahoo.com](mailto:lutwajim@yahoo.com). The Bishop Ullathorne Community Christmas party will be a great way to get into the festive spirit. Please note: you must call Fr. Jimmy to confirm your willingness to go so as to confirm your transport.

**Day of prayer for vocations** on Thursday 7th December, will be the turn of our Parish of St. Osburg to pray for vocations. In the diocese, each parish, chapel or religious community has a day to pray for vocations. On that day the Blessed Sacrament remains exposed throughout the day and the faithful are asked to come and spend some time in prayer. This custom runs throughout the archdiocese of Birmingham. I asked some people how it is done at St. Osburgs and they gave the impression that this is something never heard of before. Well, I consider it a great opportunity for us to fulfill this obligation. For that reason there will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament after the Mass and the Blessed Sacrament will remain exposed until 4:00pm when there will be Benediction. You are all very welcome to pop in the church to pray for more vocations and for the perseverance of those already called.

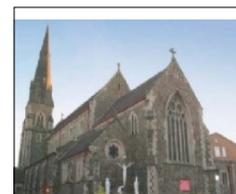
**May be you are being discriminated against:** Do you support Catholic Schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic Schools from allowing all catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it. Now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics. For more details please find this letter addressed to us by the Archbishop on the notice-board. The implication of what this move will mean to Catholics in this country can be found on <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools in this country.

**Coventry Winter night shelter at St. Osburg** is on every Wednesday night to Thursday morning. They need our help and support. One student Rose Mary donated quality items of food and toiletries to the homeless instead of holding a lavish party on her birthday. This act took me by surprise since many of us would find it spending so much on ourselves than on others. Thank you Rosemary and happy birthday. If you are wish to help the homeless with food, warm clothes etc.. please Call Bernardo 07450693897, or [cwmscoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:cwmscoordinator@gmail.com).

**PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES:** An opportunity is available to travel to Lourdes as a parish group on the Diocesan Pilgrimage 26th May – 1 st June 2018. The approximate cost is £650.00 per person. It is very important that decisions and bookings are made quickly. Please contact Tony Cawley if you are interested Tel: 07800 533 813 or Email: [ajcawley@btinternet.com](mailto:ajcawley@btinternet.com).



AJ Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeth

### Parish Newsletter - First Sunday of Advent -3rd to 10th December 2017

#### “UNCLE BOB WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH HAPPIER IF.....”

I'm sure some of us have been following the events that have taken place recently in Zimbabwe. Some people celebrated the departure of 'Uncle Bob' Robert Mugabe others looked back in his long administration of Zimbabwe and picked up the good things he did for the country. When you look at the positive side of things, you don't suffer ulcers or depression. There is no perfect government or a perfect leader otherwise there would be no parties of opposition. One famous news presenter on Radio 4 called Mr. Mugabe the worst dictator that ever lived. I think this was either ignorance or an exaggeration by the man with the microphone since we know there are dictators on every continent either in the person or in the manifestos. No government in power wants to lose it to the opposition.

As the new president of Zimbabwe was being sworn in, Mr. Mugabe and I stayed at home watching the events from the sofa. My eyes fixed on him a man not amused because he noticed that he he'd lost power and joined our group the powerless. The long years of struggle and the success he had achieved had made him to think that without him things would go wrong. He scorned whatever was being shown on the television.

As he ground his teeth, threw few punches in the air in agitation and stood up several times to break the television to pieces, Mr. Mugabe and I came to realise that the bitterness he had was of his own making: **First** of all he had stayed for so long in power. **Secondly** he thought that he was the only one who could fix the problems of the country, **thirdly** he never prepared others to take on his work when he retire and **fourth** those who criticised his efforts were treated as enemies. Some old friends felt it was time for him to go, but he thought they were simply jealous and ambitious. You see when you take a task to yourself and you never allow other people to share in your failures and success, you end up frustrated!

Well, I think some kind of apprenticeship is necessary in the church and in the parishes. It is good and healthy for someone to prepare somebody to take on the work he/she is doing because no worker is permanent, a time comes when someone else has to carry on what we are doing now. If you create within oneself the sense of team work by letting others to participate in what you are doing, you will feel glad to see them taking over what you are doing. The priest should prepare another priest, the altar server should train a younger one, a sacristan should train another one, a church cleaner should recruit a new helper. Mr. *Uncle Bob*' is not a happy man because he did not prepare a successor. In the church and particularly as a parish let us joyfully work as a team and prepare others who will carry on our work when we are no longer able to do it ourselves.

### 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....** £146.00. **Loose.....**£ 323.64 **Total.....**£ 469.64

**Sat. lunches....**£ 90.00 **Restoration.**£ 14.50 **Heating.....**£ 39.08

Thank you for your generosity.

**Second collection :** 26th Nov. Catholic Youth service £166.58

**The Parish Christmas Bazaar :** I would like to thank the Christians of St. Osburgs for organising a successful bazaar. We than our friends who supported us so much. A lot of hard work goes on behind the curtains so as to make the day successful. Thanks to everyone for your hard work whose sacrifices are only known to God. The following are the results: **Parish Main raffle £1,097.00, Bottle Stall £566.00 Food Stall £305.00 Food hamper £310.00** other contributing stalls including individual donations **£1,183.00 Total £3,461.00** A huge thanks to everyone who supported it either by organising, running stalls, contributing items, baking, washing up, or turning up to buy goods and enjoy the occasion. St. Mary's Parish bazaar will take place on Saturday 9th December starting at 1:00pm—4:00pm.

**Mission Boxes:** If you have a Red Mission box and want it emptied, please give it in at the sacristy or phone Paul on his mobile number, which is printed on the bottom of the boxes. Thank you.

**Church Heating System:** was switched off by the engineer who came to make the service. He said that a particular spare part was worn out, he had ordered for one which was to be delivered to their office. I hope this will not take long. I have tried to contact them on several occasions but I got no response. Please remember to keep the doors closed always just as you do at your homes during wither. Thank you.

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

### MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEKS from – 3rd to 19th Dec 2017

Sat	02	11.45am	Jaswand & Mrs Rayatt (Get well)
		5.30pm	Bridie Mullally & John Bateman (RIP)
Sun	03	1 1.30am	People of the parish
Mon	04	12.10pm	Martin Walsh (RIP) & Holy souls
Tues	05	12.10pm	John Rock (RIP)
Wed	06	12.10pm	Linda's family
		1.30pm	Requiem Mass—John Joseph
Thurs	07	12.10pm	Bridie Mullally & Martin Walsh (RIP)
Fri	08	12.10pm	Eamon Mullally (B'day), Margaret & Garry Hobbs
Sat	09	11.45am	John Joseph (RIP)
		5.30pm	People of the parish
Sun	10	1 1.30am	Fiona Lindsay (Spl int)

### Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

#### Weekend 2nd Dec 2017

#### Weekend 3rd Dec 2017

5.30PM

11.30am

**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 Riliott, Alan Davis, David Horley, Margaret Ghen, Bridie & Benny McAndrew. Christine Strong, Hilda Gibson, Sheila Biggs, Mary Maguire.

**Please pray for those whose anniversaries occur about this time :** Roche Antony, McKenna Thomas, Dolan Michael Thomas, Mannion E. Rose, O'Sullivan Christine Ann, Flood Joseph Anthony, Hanbury Joseph Leo, Sharkey Sheila, Flynn John, Kennedy Jimmy, Sedgwick Daniel, Townshend Kenneth, Tucker Rose, Carr John, Carey William Patrick.

**RCIA session** on Tuesday 5th December at 6:00pm in Lady's chapel.

**Burglary at St. Osburg:** following the burglary that took place at St. Osburg last week, it will not cost the parish less than £2,300 pounds to fix the damage. If the persons who did that are able to read this, let them reflect on what that means to the parish which does so much charity to the needy. It is a pity that this incident has pushed us deeper into debt as repairs will have to be carried out. Any parishioner should take interest in what strangers are up to at the church.

**Advent Penitential Services:** **St. Mary's** on Tuesday December 19th at 7:00pm  
**St Osburg** Friday 22nd December after 12:10pm Mass  
**St. Elizabeth** Thursday 6th December at 6.3'00pm.

**Blessing the Christmas Crib** takes place today afternoon at 4:00pm. I ask you to attend this function if you can. Please note that this year the crib is outside the Library in the Precinct and not outside Marks and Spencers.

**Death announcement of** Bernardin Theresa Dymna of 121 Mosley Avenue RIP.