

MASSES FROM 2nd to 9th Dec 2018

Sun	02	9.30am	Tony Mulroony (RIP), Lilly Sexton (Get well)
		11.30am	Theophilus Buwule & Felicity Nabyagala (RIP) Mary Mangwa (RIP)
Mon	03	9.15am	at School (no Mass in church) *
Tues	04	9.30am	Holy souls
Wed	05	9.00am	Doris Richards & Anselimo Richards *
Thurs	06	9.30am	Ikenna (Get well)
Fri	07	6.00pm	Prayer for priests
		7.00pm	Michael O'Shea (Anni)
Sat	08	9.30am	Joseph Clear (RIP), Leo Joanes (Anni)
Sun	09	9.30am	Kathleen Byrne, Teresa Tran (RIP)
		11.30am	Mama Magdaline Akenji, Mary Mangwa (RIP)


Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

02/12/18

09/12/2018

9.30am	Elena Wood, James M (R) Betty Osagie (E)	Margaret, Anthonia A. (R) Barbara (E)
11.30am	Florence E., Julie (R) Patricia, Serso (E)	Florence K. & Cynthia (R) Loveness, Vera (E)

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

Anniversaries during this Week: Dennis Doran, Kathleen Wilson, Robert McGorman, Charles Ward, Ita Howe, James Gaffy, Margaret McSorley, Sean Kiely, Tony Mulrone, Bridie Collins, Michael Kapusta, Breda Byrne, Jean Cartwright, Christine Fitzgibbons. 

Dates for your Diary :

Parish penitential service 11th Dec at 6.00pm
Baptism classes 15th & 22nd Jan 2019 at 6.00pm

Inspirational quote: "Believe in yourself, you are braver than you think, more talented than you know, and capable of more than you imagine"

If any parishioner is sick or in hospital, please inform the Parish Priest or one of the Sisters. It is important that Catholics on admission to hospital ask for their religion to be recorded and request a visit from the Catholic Chaplain.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish News letter– First Sunday of Advent 2nd to 9th December 2018

ADVENT WREATHS AND CANDLES

You notice that the Advent wreath is up again. It is one of the first symbols of Advent that was brought into the home. It has Northern European origins which were adapted by Christians a tradition that we still practice today. This evening in our city, all Catholic Churches will have Advent wreaths and at 4:00pm this afternoon a Christmas Crib will be unveiled in front of Marks and Spencer Store. Hmm Christmas is near!

Every aspect of the wreath has meaning: Evergreens represent eternal life. Laurel mean persecution and suffering. Pine and yew signify immortality. Cedar means strength and healing. Holly's prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns. Pine cones signify death and resurrection. The circular construction represents the eternity of God, for He has no beginning or end.

What is the meaning of Advent in the Catholic Church? Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the birth of Jesus the Saviour of the world at Christmas as well as his return at the end of the world. The term is a version of the Latin word meaning "coming".

What do the 4 Advent candles represent? The wreath is made of a circle of **evergreen** branches laid flat to symbolize **eternal** life. Four candles (traditionally purple in colour) stand in the circle and each one represents one of the four Sundays of Advent. In the centre of the circle is a fifth candle (traditionally white), the Christ Candle, which is lit on Christmas Day. As a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world. Each week of Advent on Sunday, a **different** Advent candle is lit.

Why is the advent Colour Purple? Purple is also the colour of royalty and the sovereignty of Christ, demonstrating anticipation of and reception of the coming King celebrated at Christmas.

Why do Catholic priests wear purple during Advent? It reflects hope in suffering. The Christian people await the arrival of the Saviour Jesus Christ and his suffering of 40 days in the desert (Lent). The colour also came to symbolize wealth, power and royalty because in antiquity **purple** dye was very expensive.

The reason for Christmas, is the coming of Jesus among us. Whether people confess him openly or deny him the fanfare of this season unites all them to realise that Jesus is Lord of lords and King of kings otherwise there is no any person in the whole universe past, present or in the future, who cheers the world as he does.

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 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

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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: £315.70 **Non-Gift Aid:** £ 302.89 **Total :** £618.59

Counters : Vera & Phil

Mass Attendance : 619 **Bonus Ball :** No. 38 Tony Smith

Second collection : Next Sunday 9th Dec - Poor parishes fund

Forthcoming Second Collections November—December 2018 :

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 & 3.00pm.

Parish Rosary group every Friday at 6.00pm

Choir practice every Friday at 7.30pm

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.

Feast day s during the week: 3rd Dec—Feast of St. Francis Xavier ; 7th Feast of St. Ambrose; 8th Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is open to everybody who wishes to deepen their faith. The meetings will take place on **every Monday in the Lady's Chapel** at 6.00pm. Kindly remember in your prayers **Edna and Michael & Adetutu** the RCIA candidates as she continues her sessions of faith.

Matters of Importance

Advent and Christmas Program:

Parish Penitential Service: 11th December 2018 at 6:00pm.

Parish retreat: Saturday 15th Dec. 10:00am followed by Mass at 1:00pm

Christmas Vigil Mass for children 6:00pm

Christmas Vigil Mass for adults: 8:00pm

Christmas Day Masses 9:30am and 11:30am

December 26th Boxing Day Mass: 10:00am

Advent Season Masses in School: there will be Masses for Children in the School on Mondays in the season of Advent starting at 9:15am. It will be good if parents can stay back and attend Mass with the children soon after taking them to school

Christmas Crib set up in the city centre: takes place today 2nd December at 4.00pm in the Precinct, by Marks & Spencer. Please try your best to turn up at this time when Christmas is officially launched in our city.

Season of Advent: The **1st Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Hope with the “Prophet’s Candle” reminding us that Jesus is coming.

The **2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Faith with the “Bethlehem Candle” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.

The **3rd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Joy with the “Shepherd’s Candle” reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The **4th Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Peace with the “Angel’s Candle” reminding us of the message of the angels: “Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.”

Parish Retreat: in preparation for Christmas will take place here at our church on **Saturday 15th December starting from 10:00am concluding with Mass at 1:00pm.**



The retreat is meant to help us to deepen our faith. We shall reflect on the words of Jesus “**I’m with you always**” I invite you all to come and reflect on what is going on in our busy lives and to discover God’s presence in it all.

Parish penitential service will take place on **Tuesday 11th December at 6.00pm.** There will be priests from the deanery to assist us with individual Confessions. Let us come together to experience God’s mercy and healing as we approach this Sacrament. Let us always live a reconciled life with God.



Walk With Me booklets and calendars are available at the back of the church. Make use of them for your personal preparation during Advent.

Coventry night shelter – at St Osburg December 2018-March 2019. Volunteers required to provide hot meals for 20-30 people on Wednesday nights. More information see Fr. Jimmy.

Rosary Group: was formed in our parish with the intention of families coming with their children to pray the Rosary in the Church. Members meet at 6:00pm every Friday in the Lady’s chapel and say the rosary. The group prays especially for families. Please come and join us. A family that prays together, eats together, stays together.