

**Midnight Mass at St. Chad's Cathedral** you may like to know that the BBC are broadcasting this year's Christmas Midnight Mass from St Chad's Cathedral. Some of our sick or housebound parishioners may appreciate being able to record and/or view this broadcast.

**Christmas Masses at St. Osburgs:** there will be only two Masses at St. Osburgs for Christmas the usual Saturday 5:30pm Mass which will serve as our vigil Mass for Christmas and the Sunday 10:30am Mass. There will be No Midnight Mass. Wishing you a blessed preparation for Christmas

**Fr. Michael Stack:** after ten years as full-time chaplain to University Hospital, Coventry and Warwick, at Walsgrave, Coventry and St Cross Hospital, Rugby Health Service Trust, Fr Michael Stack has retired. We the people of this denary thank him for his ministry among us. He wants to be near his sister in Norfolk. He has also kindly offered to be on loan to the Diocese of East Anglia. His contact address is 59 Millfield Ashill, Thetford, Norfolk IP25 7BQ, email: stack3@gmail.com. Please remember to drop him a line especially during this Christmas time.

**Week of prayer for Christian unity January 2017** - 24 hours of Prayer will be held at St Chad's Cathedral. This initiative has been held at St Philip's Cathedral and Carrs Lane Church, and now St. Chad's Cathedral is looking forward to hosting it in January 2017. Rather than going through the night it will be on Friday 20 January (7am to 10pm) and on Saturday 21 January (10am to 4pm). During these times, different Christian denominations within the city including schools will visit the Cathedral and pray for Christian unity. If the people of Coventry can join in that prayer it will be greatly appreciated.

**Christmas Bazaar:** Thanks to all who worked hard for the celebration of our Christmas Bazaar. The event takes a full year to organise, thanks to our dedicated team that work all the year round. It is a very hard work. My sincere thanks to everyone who has brought in some stuff to be sold on the day. Remember that the bazaar is not a time to get rid of what you don't want, but to offer to God through the church what you consider dear to you.

**Fr Paul Moss has recently** been appointed by the Holy See to work in the English section of the Secretariat of State. If you remember he served as curate at St. John Fisher few years ago and he was the diocesan vocations director before he went to teach at St Mary's College, Oscott. Please pray for Fr Paul as he prepares to take up his new responsibilities in Rome at the beginning of March 2017.

#### **Advent Penitential Services:**

**St. Mary'** on Monday December 19th at 7:00pm

**St Osburg** Friday 16th December after 12:10pm Mass

**St. Elizabeth** Thursday 22nd December at 7:00pm.

May I ask those who take communion to the sick and housebound to ask those brothers and sisters of ours if they need a visit by the priest during this time. If any one needs a priest, please let us know. It is the responsibility of each one of us to prepare other people for the birth of Jesus Christ. Please if you know of any Catholic who is abandoned during this time especially the sick and elderly, let the priest know.



AJ Missions



St. Osburgs



St. Marys



St. Elizabeth

#### **Parish Newsletter—2nd Sunday Advent YEAR A - 4th to 11th Dec 2016**

##### **YOU TOO ARE MAKING HISTORY**

Some four years ago, I visited the Holy Land, the place where Jesus was born. This week I was in Rome for a meeting concerning my Religious Order of the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries. When you visit these two places you return home greatly strengthened in the Christian faith. The land of Israel and the city of Rome both tell a great story namely the triumph of Jesus Christ and of his reign in the hearts of mankind.

Today Rome is congested with right hand driven speeding traffic, thousands of speeding small motorcycles and slow walking tourists. They come from all over the world to try to capture a story that was written thousands of years by Christianity. Much of what draws tourists to Rome however goes unnoticed. About 2000 years ago two prisoners were brought to the city. No written material has survived to tell us the crime they had committed either against the empire. All that we know is that the two prisoners were faithful followers of Jesus Christ, so convinced that they could not change their story even in the face of death. I'm talking about Peter the fisherman and Paul a fanatic Pharisee. The city of Rome is adorned with memories that testify to Christian witness most of which is written in the blood of the martyrs.

When you stumble upon some historical facts the best reaction should be to become more curious. It would be stupid to dismiss the story or to behave as if nothing ever happened. Christianity is not an invented myth! There are also those who think that the Catholic church is "**ONE OF THE CHURCHES**" historical facts and witness of the martyrs evidence that there is one church the one that descended from the faith of Peter.

Some people say that history is written by the victors. In the case of the Holy Land and the city of Rome, what has shaped their history is the defeated man on Calvary, the executed Peter and Paul in Rome and hundreds of thousands of men, women and children who were devoured to death in the Colosseum to the amusement of onlookers!

As Christians more so Catholics, we shall not live as victors in this world; far from it. We shall be at the edge of persecution and extinction, even from our own numbers but let us remember that we too are making history. Many people no longer differentiate sin from virtue. Like the first Christians of Rome, we might end up apparently defeated but our courage and fidelity is what will make a history never to be forgotten.

**The Most Holy Sacrament and St. Osburgs**

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

Fr. Jimmy Mobile. 07906124756 Home 02476258901

Fr. MosesTel.:024 76688536

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 gift aid..... £ 79.00 Loose.....£334.64 Total..... £413.64

Heating our Church: £ £ 42.68 Thank you for generosity.

2nd collection..... Catholic Youth Services.

Gift aid.....£ 18.26 Loose..... £ 152.30 Total..... £170.56

4th December 2nd collection for poor parishes of the diocese.

**Walk with Me booklets** for Advent are available for us to take and use them for our daily prayers during this season. Over the years I have found them to be very useful with good short reflections to help me to begin the day and to keep me focussed.£1.00 is suggested per copy towards their printing which will be appreciated. Whatever the case please take your copy today.

**Christmas Mass Timetable:**

**St. Osburg** Vigil Mass 5:30pm Christmas day Mass 10:30am

**St. Mary's** Vigil Mass for families with little children 6:00pm  
Vigil Mass for adults 8:00pm preceded by carols at 7:30pm  
Christmas Day 9:00am and 11:30am

**St. Elizabeth** Vigil Mass 7:00pm and **Midnight Mass**  
Christmas Day 9:00am and 11:30am

December 26th (Boxing Day) we shall celebrate together Mass at St. Osburg as we did last year at 12:10pm. It was commonly known as Men's Mass. **There will be No Mass at St. Mary's** and possibly in other parishes too as the priests together with their people will come to attend this Mass. More information will be given by your priest

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

**2nd Sunday of Advent**

**MASS TIMES DURING THE WEEK from 4th to 11th Dec 2016**

Sat	03	11.45am	Rose De La Cruz (RIP)
		5.30pm	Mary Dooley (RIP)
Sun	04	10.30am	Tom Creagh (RIP) Alan James Goodwin (Get well)
Mon	05	12.10pm	Roddy & Towey Family (RIP), Lian Collins (Get well)
Tues	06	12.10pm	Kath Cunningham (RIP), Chris Kathleen Byrne (Get well)
Wed	07	12.10pm	John Flynn (RIP)
Thurs	08	12.10pm	Margaret McGee (RIP)
Fri	09	12.10pm	Tony Walsh (RIP)
Sat	10	11.45am	Mary McCarthy (RIP)
		5.30pm	Mark Glynn (RIP)
Sun	11	10.30am	Michael Mchan (Get well)

**Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers**

**Weekend 3rd/4th Dec 2016**

**Weekend 10th/11th Dec 2016**

5:30 pm	Ann F., Maggie (R) Bernadette	Bernadette, Ann E (R) Maggie
10.30am	Scholl Readers Charles, Patsy	Charles, Janet (R) Catherine, Zen

**Please pray for the sick of the parish:** Josie Kennedy, Eileen McHugh, Laurence Gallen, Ron Hamilton, Garry Hobbs, Teresa Rynne, Cameron Reilly, Carla Lawrence, Josie Kennedy, Terence Harris, Patrick Connolly, Mark Correvisgandis Anne, Bacia, Colin Hipperson, Kathleen Tierney, Diane Cunningham, Kieran Connell, Ahmed Musa, Carol Sparks, Ruth Glithero, 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 anniversary occur about this time :** Dohan Michael Thomas, Mannion Elizabeth Rose, O'Sullivan Christine Ann, Joseph Anthony, Hanbury Joseph Leo, Sharkey Sheila Martina, Kennedy Jimmy, Flynn John, Sedgwick Daniel, Townshend Kenneth, Carr John, Carey William Patrick, Gough Joan.