

MASSES 22nd to 29th Dec 2019

Sun	22	9.30am	Emmanuel & Betty Osagie (Wed Anni), Maura Lawler (RIP)
		11.30am	Emmanuel Eguogwu (Thanksgiving)
Mon	23	9.30am	Holy souls,
Tues	24	6.00pm	Childdrens Mass
		8.00pm	Carols
		8.30pm	People of the parish
Wed	25	9.30am	People of the parish
Thurs	26	10.00am	Kathleen Cadogan (RIP)
Fri	27	9.30am	Michael O'Shea (RIP)
Sat	28	9.30am	Michael Kelly (Spl int)
Sun	29	9.30am	Rose Trill, Mary Mulrooney (Spl int)
		11.30am	Terry Kimani (Thanksgiving)

Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

22/12/2019

9.30am	Antonia A., Veronica C. (R) Barbara (E)
11.30am	Maame, Mary (R) Marcel, Frank (E)

29/12/2019

Naomi, Elena W (R) Sophie (E)
Morgan, Georgina (R) Vera, Serso (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, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Thi Tran, Christopher Browne.

Anniversaries during the week : Rose & Jim Hogan, Mary McCullough, Hughie Gill , James McDonald, Gerald McGoran, James McEnery, Len McCoy , Joe Dunleavy, Patrick Flynn, John Allen, Paul Allen , Thomas Travers, Teresa Mawn, Denis McGrath, Pat Kinsella, Mary McClean, Patrick Joseph Wright, Bridget Margaret Theresa Sloan , John Ferry, Patrick McLaughlin , Margaret Moore, D. Stafford ,Michael Murphy, Eddie Branfield, Myra Scott.

Lectors on 24th/25th/31st Dec 2018

24 th Dec	6.00pm	Alex, Demisha
	8.30pm	Caroline, Patrick
25 th Dec	9.30am	Elizabeth H., Julia H.
	11.30am	Florence E., Frank K.
31 st Dec	11.00pm	Perpetua, Mapuranga,

Eucharistic Ministers

Sr Leena, Betty, Barbara
Elizabeth P. Patricia, Lilian
Frank K., Serso



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

4th Sunday of Advent -Year A Parish Newsletter: 22nd to 29th December 2019

THE NATIVITY STORY IS A GOSPEL AS PREACHED BY MARY

We have entered the second and final part of Advent, whatever plans and preparations we are making, are at their advanced stage because Christmas will soon be here. The world is excited, business stores are fully stocked, our roads are again busy with fast moving vehicles; why—It is Christmas!

The incarnation of Jesus, his childhood and parental care were not known until he started to preach after he was baptised by John the Baptist in the River Jordan. His first potential followers cynically dismissed Nazareth the village where he was brought up as a place where nothing good was thought to come forth ((Jn. 1:45-47)! Although the Twelve Apostles were close to him, they constantly asked themselves with amazement: who he could be (Matt 8:27)! It did not take long before the Pharisees and temple officials in Jerusalem questioned his authority.

The four Gospels present us with detailed report of the teaching of Jesus of his miracles and of the conspiracy among the Jewish leaders that led to his crucifixion and death on the cross; but only two speak to us about how he was conceived, the confusion of his mother since she was already promised in marriage to Joseph, the resignation of Joseph to the message of the angel and all that happened after he was born at Bethlehem. The appearance of the angel Gabriel to Mary and Joseph took place separately and in private, so where did the stories come from?

There is no doubt to believe with certainty that the details about the conception of Jesus, the visitation of the Angel Gabriel to Joseph and all other stories we read about the baby Jesus until the time when he appeared on the River Jordan where he was baptised by John, are based on what Mary his mother told the early Christians possibly after Pentecost when Christianity took a definite shape.

Christmas stories are much about Jesus as they are about Mary. The story of Christmas is a story of Mary as she taught it. She bids us to hold in belief what happened away from public gaze. Without Mary we have no explanation for the source of the story that cheers the whole world as the story of Christmas.

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 at 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

52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel **02476258901, 07906124756**

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: 348.17 **Non-Gift Aid:** 374.34 **Total :** £722.51

SO : Weekly/Monthly : £175.92 **Hall Hire:** £200

Counters : Vera & Phil

Mass Attendance : 488

Bonus Ball : No.

2nd collections :

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 /Saturday at 3.00pm

Church cleaning: Saturday 8.00am to 9.30am

Confessions : Every Saturday from 10am to 11.00am

RCIA Sessions: Every Monday at 6.00pm

Catechism for FHC : Every Saturday at 11.00am

Church Cleaning: This week Group C Thank you for your co-operation.

Altar Servers will renew their commitment to serving at the Altar on 26th December Feast of their Patron Saint, St. Stephen.

Christmas Offerings. Traditionally the collection at the Christmas Masses is your personal offering to your priest. There are envelopes at the back of Church to use if you wish. Thank you.



Matters of Importance

Advent & Christmas Programme:

24th Dec Vigil Mass for children 6.00pm followed by Carol singing at 8.00pm

24th Dec Vigil Mass for adults 8.30pm

25th Dec Christmas Day Masses at 9.30am and 11.30am

26th Dec Boxing day Mass : 10.00am

31st Dec Thanksgiving adoration at 10.00pm followed by Eucharistic celebration at 11.00pm

01st January New year day Mass : 10.00am

New Year's Eve: there will be prayer and adoration on Tuesday 31st Dec at 10.00pm thanking God for the year 2019. We shall ask for his blessings and mercy upon us as we usher in the New Year 2020.

Are you interested in applying for a leadership post in a Catholic School? The Diocesan Education Service are offering a one-day course on Saturday 11th January 2020 at Don Bosco House in Coleshill for aspiring and existing school leaders presently working outside the faith sector, who are interested in applying for a leadership post in a Catholic School. Please contact Charlotte Kirby c.kirby@bdes.org.uk to book a place.

MARRIAGE MATTERS : Fourth Sunday of Advent— Taking courage from love.

The Gospel relates how Joseph overcame his serious doubts about Mary – and married her! She too had faced her own fears about the future – and said “Yes!” We too can have doubts and lack confidence in the future, but like Mary and Joseph we can take courage from our love for each other and God’s love for us too.

End note message from Archbishop Bernard: I am most grateful to all those who were able to join me and the Metropolitan Chapter on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception at the Cathedral. I was pleased for this opportunity to offer thanks for the ten years I have been able to serve you as Archbishop. I wish to thank you for the many Masses offered and for the kind gifts, cards and messages I received from our clergy, Religious and parishioners. Please convey my thanks to all. As we look to 2020 there are new challenges for us to face together, but we do so trusting in Our Lord and relying upon the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We have the wonderful example of St John Henry Newman to inspire and teach us. I know that you will continue to pray with me for the Canonisation of Blessed Dominic Barberi, whose priestly ministry was so central to Cardinal Newman’s reception into full communion with the Catholic Church. We give thanks for the many blessings of the year now coming to a close. Among those I count on your prayers and support for me in many different settings. May you have a blessed and happy Christmas ahead, with some time to rest after your labours.

FR JIMMY AND ALL THE SISTERS WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR 2020. WE THANK YOU FOR THE SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED FROM YOU THROUGH OUT THE YEAR.

