

**MASSES 26th Jan to 2nd Feb 2020**

Sun	26	9.30am	Mr & Mrs. Fernandes (Thanksgiving), Thi Tran (Get well) Ewaen Osagie (B'day)
		11.30am	SSA (Spl int), people of the parish
Mon	27	12.00noon	Bridie Kelly (Spl int)
Tues	28	9.30am	Rita Rose (Get well)
Wed	29	9.30am	Sandra (spl int)
Thurs	30	6.00pm	Divine Mercy prayers
		7.00pm	Tom Forde (RIP)
Fri	31	9.30am	Sr. Francis (RIP)
Sat	01	9.30am	Sick of the parish
Sun	02	9.30am	Sandra (Spl int), Thi Tran, Caroline (Get well),
		11.30am	Frank Kasibante (Thanksgiving) Florence K. (B'day)

**Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers**

**26/01/2020**

9.30am Noah, James M. (R)  
Barbara (E)

11.30am Julie, Maame (R)  
Serso, Lilian (E)

**02/02/2020**

Celia, Alex (R)  
Betty Osagie (E)

Morgan and Georgina (R)  
Frank & Patricia (E)

**Please pray for the sick of the Parish:** Patrick Tracey, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, John Curriston, Gerard Griffith, Jane Patalong, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Thi Tran, Christopher Browne.

**Anniversaries during the week :** Terrence Reily, John Ferry, Harold Rixon, William Michael Redmond , Bridget Teresa Chapman, William Molloy, Marie Macken, Teresa McSharry,

**Congratulations to the two families** who had their babies baptised yesterday Julia and Jonathan.

**The sick and housebound:** *I would like to ask you to help the priests to locate the sick and housebound members of this parish especially those who might need a visit from a priest. Please let us make sure that they are never left out.*

**Dinner for the Elderly** of Coventry who gave their names will be served today at 1.00pm in the Parish hall.

**Thought for the week:** *“Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better”.*



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

**Parish Newsletter—Third Sunday Ordinary Time Year A - 26th Jan - 2nd Feb 2020**

**HOW MINDFUL ARE YOU ABOUT THE FOUR LAST THINGS?**

Weeks have now gone by since people were worried about Christmas and the New Year. The questions about how they were to dress or of what they were to eat at Christmas and the manner of how they were to celebrate the transition into the New Year 2020 have long past. In answer to these worries, people made necessary preparations.

In some parts of the world where education is not subsidised by the church or by the governments, parents and guardians get worried about the children returning to schools. School provisions have to be met: uniforms and tuition fees have to be paid for. Good education is expensive. Business community is worried of the effects of Brexit on their businesses; a good number of them have put in place contingent measures. The driving attitude is to avoid being taken by surprise.

Jesus cautioned his followers not to be caught unaware: *“you must stand ready because you do not know either the day or the hour”* (Matt. 24: 42-44) Who does not remember the story about the foolish virgins who instead of keeping awake until the bridegroom arrived burned their lamps out feasting that when the bridegroom arrived they were not present (Matt 25:1-13)! Jesus told his followers to plan ahead of time because it would be foolish for a king with a handful of soldiers to march to war against another king with thousands of troops (Lk 14:31), or for a builder to put up a building without the plan to complete it (Lk 14: 28-30)? Jesus wants us to be wise.

It is surprising that people are able to anticipate things and to think ahead of time when dealing with worldly affairs but they have no will to be mindful of what happens after death. The Catholic Church notoriously teaches people to be mindful of the Four Last Things: **Death, Judgement, Heaven or Hell**. Death is a fact that the whole creation has to go through but what happens after it is a matter of divine revelation. Among all creatures only human beings have a belief that after death there are other things that follow; but even on this point not all agree. We know of some people who, like the ostrich, have chosen to hide their heads under the sand; they don't want to bother their consciences.

As a follower of Jesus Christ and faithful practitioner of the Christian faith, remember to put into place contingent measures about the salvation of your soul. As Christians, we believe that there is judgement after death; reward for virtue and punishment for sin. Heaven and Hell are not fiction made up by the Church; Jesus himself spoke extensively about both. Earthly life is so precious that we do not want to lose it, how much more precious is the eternal heavenly life promised by Jesus to those who are faithful! How mindful are you about the Four Last Things?

**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:** 353.70      **Non-Gift Aid:** 338.25      **Total :** £691.95

**SO : Weekly/Monthly : £380.00**      **Hall Hire: 350.00**

**Counters :** Pat & William Edwards.      **Bonus Ball :** No. 14 Ann Texiera

**Mass Attendance : 535**      **Second Collection :** Pax Christi—148.59

**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 13<sup>th</sup> 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 01.02.2020 Group A.** Thank you for your co-operation.

**Gift Aid :** Tax payers who make your contribution through GIFT AID advice you to pay by Standing Order instead of paying through weekly envelopes for the coming tax year2020. For further information please contact Sr. Leera .

**Feast of Presentation** of Jesus in the Temple will be celebrated on Sunday, candles used during Mass throughout the year will be blessed. If you have candles you wish to use in your home at prayer, please bring them with you at Mass for blessing.

**Matters of Importance**

**Annual Collection for Life:** there will be a Second Collection for the national charity Life on Sunday 16 February. Life upholds the Gospel of Life by providing positive alternatives to abortion for 70 people every day. Thank you for your support.

**MARRIAGE MATTERS Third Sunday** in Ordinary Time (Isaiah 8:23-9:3 1 Cor 1:10 -13, 17 Matt 4:12-23) God has a stake in marriage. Today, we see two aspects of God's plan for marriage: '... (I will make) their joy increase' (Isaiah) and 'I will make you fishers of men' (Matthew). God wants us to make our love for each other as close to Jesus' love for us as possible, that all whose lives we touch might experience the depth of God's love for them.

**Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage** on Saturdays May 9th & 16th 2020 12 noon at St Chad's Cathedral Birmingham B4 6EU Celebrant Bishop David McGough (May 16th) followed by refreshments in the Grimshaw Room If you are celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, whether it is your 1st anniversary or every 5th year up to 60th (and every year after 60), please contact Lianne Pap [lianne.pap@rc-birmingham.org](mailto:lianne.pap@rc-birmingham.org) All are invited including those planning to get married in 2020.

**Crib money:** I wish to thank those who visited the Crib during Christmas time and for the donations that you left in the basket for the needy during this time. The donations amounted to £332.00. This will be sent to Fr. Andrew Ssali AJ a missionary priest who is establishing Katovu Parish from scratch but with hundreds of small children. I believe it will be of great help to them.

**Baptism classes** families that have been blessed with babies during this time and wish them to be baptised are reminded that the next baptism preparation classes will take place on **3rd, 10th 17th** February in the Lady's chapel. Starting at 6:00 to 7:00pm These classes are mandatory for parents and Godparents. You are expected to keep the time please.

**Increase in Parish Levies:** The parish levy is the amount of money transferred each year from a parish to the Archdiocese, in order to fund the wide range of services it provides. These include the Kenelm Youth Trust, Maryvale Institute, the Diocesan Education Service supporting the Diocese's 237 Catholic schools, poor parishes, Fr Hudson's Society, chaplaincies in prisons, hospitals, ethnic and disability groups, and universities, commissions for ecumenism, interfaith, justice and peace, and overseas development, the offices of the Vicar General, Safeguarding Team, Marriage Tribunal, Property, Fundraising, Finance (including Gift Aid), Communications, Diocesan Archives and Historic Churches Committee. That's a lot, and it's not even a complete list, and they cost a lot. There has been a change in the way the levy for each parish is calculated, and this has meant that every parish, including us, is now expected to contribute considerably more from now on. The quarterly levies have increased by 28% for example in 2018, the parish paid £11,344.76, in 2019, £12,123.20 and in 2020 the parish will be charged £30,937.48. This is an increase of £18,814.28 from what was levied last year! In all this I thank you all for your generous heart towards the church.