

## MASSES 29th Mar to 5th Apr 2020

Sun	29	9.30am	Thi Tran (RIP)
		11.30am	Julie & family (Thanksgiving)
Mon	30	9.30am	Patsy Lesly , Dennis Cooper (Get well), Aikhionbare family (Spl int)
Tues	31	9.30am	Neil McHugh (RIP)
Wed	01	9.30am	Lizz (RIP)
Thurs	02	9.30am	Oliver Muldoon (RIP)
Fri	03	6.30pm	Stations of the cross
		7.00pm	Rose Trill & family (Thanksgiving)
Sat	04	9.30am	Eddie Gratten (RIP)
Sun	05	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	People of the parish

### Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers

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

**Anniversaries during the week :** Walter roach, John Molloy, Michael Cox, Bob Brolly, James Herbert, Patrick McHugh, Eric Donnelly, Mary Ellen Allen, Mick Fitzgerald, Seamus Mulrooney, Phelena Seaman, Anne Brennan, Thomas Brophy, John Dunning , John Dunnion, Mary McSorley , Joseph Macken, Thomas O'Maller, Patrick O'Neill, Ellen Cox, Cath Molloy, Janet Cassidy, Patrick Bernard Ward, Kitty Howel, Annie Lyons, Mary Clark,

**Pope's prayer for protection from Corona virus:** O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

### **Parish Newsletter— 5th Sunday of LENT 29th March to 5th April 2020**

#### **IF WE KEEP ON PRAYING GOD WILL SHOW US HIS MERCY:**

People around the world have had different reactions and interpretation of the Corona virus pandemic. I remember someone who called it a 'hoax' but we all know that it is real. I remember watching a WhatsApp video clip that showed so many bats in China living in residential house roofing, but we all know that the people who are dying now of this virus might not have ever seen a bat in their lives. There has never been a moment in human history when the whole world is brought on its knees than this one; not even the detonation of nuclear bombs regrettable as it was!

The Bible reminds us that plagues are some of the means that God used to beacon on people to change their lives plagues came as a consequence of disobedience and idolatry.

Exodus 32:35 "On the day of my visitation I shall punish them for their sins. And Yahweh punished the people for moulding the calf that Aaron had made."

Whether Corona virus is man made by somebody in the laboratory, or it is an accidental development out of our changed, damaged and polluted planet, we should remember that God's hand to discipline us is not far from us:

Revelation 15:1 "Then I saw another sign in heaven, great and amazing, seven angels with seven plagues, which are the last, because they exhaust the anger of God."

But the Bible also teaches us that when people change their behaviour God extends his mercy to them.

Exodus 15:26 "If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer."

The Bible teaches us that if we call on God he will heal us and restore our fortunes: Exodus 23:25 "You shall serve the Lord your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you."

It's no stretch of the imagination to believe that God will send the same sort of plagues today upon a world that wallows in sin and ultimately rejects him as Lord and Saviour. *If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.* (2 Chronicles 7:14) Please keep on praying.

**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**

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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:** 204.90

**Non-Gift Aid:** 305.77

**Total :** £510.67

**SO : Monthly :** £520.02

**Hall Hire:**

**Counters :**

**Bonus Ball :** No.

**Mass Attendance :**

**Second Collection :** 10th April : Holy places

**Pious Devotions**

**Prayer for priests**

“Be assured of my prayers for you all during these difficult days. We are called to be model citizens in protecting the most vulnerable and I thank you for the example that you are giving to society by staying at home. We are still called to be prayerful ministers of hope. As Pope Francis reminded us on Friday evening the Lord is with us in our storm tossed boat and the glory of His Resurrection will shine through this crisis. In our private prayers, in the private celebration of Mass and in the limited ways we have to exercise our pastoral ministry let us be reassuring, authentic ministers of Christ’s hope.” *Archbishop Bernard Longley.*

**Divine mercy prayers**

**Rosa Mystica**

**Parish Rosary group**

**Choir practice**

**Church cleaning:**

**Confessions :**

**RCIA Sessions:**

**Catechism for FHC :**

**Church Cleaning:**

**Dates for your diary:**

**Gift Aid envelopes:** Some parishioners had not got time to pick up their envelopes, you can pick them from the parish office any time. Please make sure that you call before hand. Thank you again for your generosity towards the Church.

**Matters of Importance**

**The closing of churches and chapels:** offers us Christians a wonderful opportunity to congregate as families within our homes to say our prayers together. God is telling us that prayer is not an activity we do in a building we call a church, but that going to church, is a fruit that blossoms out of the faith practiced at home.

In the early Church when Christians were faced with persecution, they shifted the church from the synagogues into the homes where they continued to pray and to break bread (the Lord’s Supper). The homes of suspected Christians attracted attention of the persecutors and they were targeted. The Christians did not give up the faith instead they dug up caves (catacombs) where they hid for 300 years! They tried whatever means they could to keep the faith. Their sufferings were by no means deterrents to believe and to trust in God.

As we remain locked down we come to realise how much we need each other and how much we depend on one another. We realise that we are vulnerable since the fate of one of us, can be the fate of all of us! In your homes please continue to persevere in prayer like the Apostles in the Upper Room, eventually a new Pentecost will dawn on us.

**Supporting the church:** the Corona pandemic has made life a bit difficult for everyone. I wish to ask you to think of the new ways through which you can continue supporting the parish to meet those inevitable expenses of day today maintenance. The best way is to set up a Standing Order Mandate, if you would like to do so please give me a call on 07906124756 to give you the parish bank details. Below are some resources for following Mass online during the time of no public congregations at Mass.

<https://www.mcnmedia.tv/cameras/county/west-midlands>

**Dispensation from Easter Duties** In their letter of Dispensation 18th March 2020, the President and the Vice-President of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of England and Wales said “in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed. This is, without doubt, the teaching of the Church (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2181). This pandemic is the 'serious reason' why this obligation does not apply at this time.” Many of the faithful will be aware of their Easter Duties; that is to receive Holy Communion during the Easter Season and by custom, to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation beforehand. The Code of Canon Law (CIC 920) says each of the faithful is obliged to receive Holy Communion at least once a year. This precept must be fulfilled during the Easter season unless it is fulfilled for a just cause at another time during the year. The requirement for the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation comes from the need to be in a state of grace to receive Holy Communion (CIC 916). Since it is not possible for the faithful to receive Holy Communion at this time, and into the future, the Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed the Easter Duties for the year 2020.

**Our Faith ought to grow stronger:** when people think of the Catholic faith, or the Catholic Church, some ideas come to mind of her beliefs, her history, her architecture, her art, her charity, her saints and her sinful members. However, the Church’s deepest identity is to be found in Jesus Christ and her faithfulness to Him. The Church is the communion of those whom God is saving through Christ. Whatever happens in the world, it has God’s salvific plan. Who could think that Joseph’s tears being sold by his brothers could eventually save their lives? Who ever imagined that the wood of death could become a wood of life? Do not be afraid for God is with us.

**Death and Funeral Announcement:** Death is announced of Mrs Jane Patalong a longstanding member of our parish who died in Charnwood Care Home on Saturday 21st March 2020 aged 92 years. Funeral Mass will take place at St. Marys on 9th April at 1:00pm it will be live streamed and burial will take place at London Road at 2:00pm. The parish has lost a faithful witness of Christ in this world. Requiescat in pace!