

MASSES 29th Nov to 6th Dec 2020

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|-------|----|--------|--|
| Sun | 29 | 9.30am | Mark Mathias (RIP), Geraldine Clarkson (Spl int) <i>School Mass on Webcam</i> |
| Mon | 30 | 9.30am | Deceased members of Lobo family |
| Tues | 01 | 9.30am | Angela Cook (RIP) |
| Wed | 02 | 9.30am | Elizabeth Nyaruai (Spl int) |
| Thurs | 03 | 9.30am | Bernie Daddy (Get well), Goan Community (Thanksgiving) |
| Fri | 04 | 9.30am | Agnes Haffernan (Thanksgiving) |
| Sat | 05 | 9.30am | Richard McCann (RIP) |
| Sun | 06 | 9.30am | Ewaen Osagie (Spl int), Patsie Leslie (Thanksgiving) People of the parish |

Lectors

06/12/2020

9.30am Creshel, Nicholas (R)

11.30am

Please pray for the sick of the Parish: Lactitia Matemadumbo Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek, Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley.

Anniversaries during the week : Denis Doran, Rosaleen McAndrew, Thomas Howe, Nora Lucid, Paul Michael May, Elizabeth Reid, Mary O'Brien, John Heavey, Ellen Duffy, Rose Donagher, John Sheridan, Joseph Reid, Theresa Hickey, Francis Moloney, Eamon Lusty, Frank McSorley, Joseph Sheridan, Dennis Doran, Kathleen Wilson, Robert McGorman, Charles Ward, Ita Howe, James Gaffy, Margaret McSorley, Sean Kiely, Tony Mulroney, Bridie Collins, Michael Kapusta,



The four traditional Advent themes for the four advent Sunday's are:

- 1. God's people—candle of Hope : As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the hope we have in Jesus Christ.***
- 2. The Old Testament prophets—Candle of Peace : As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus.***
- 3. John the Baptist—Candle of Love : As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the love we have in Jesus.***
- 4. Mary Mother of Jesus—candle of Joy : As we look at the light of this candle we celebrate the joy we find in Jesus Christ.***

The fifth candle represents the birth of Christ. The flame of this candle remind us that He is the light of the world and that if we follow Him, we will never walk in darkness, but will have the true light of life.

Christmas Crib Blessing in the city: virtual blessing of the Crib which will be done live at 4pm on Sunday 29th November and will be made available on the Deanery website. This is not open to the public but will be done with safety and social distancing in mind.



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter—1st Sunday of Advent - 29th Nov to 6th Dec 2020

WHEN THESE THINGS HAPPEN STAND ERECT HOLD YOUR HEADS HIGH

The readings of the week that conclude the liturgical year of the church shortly before advent and the readings following the first Sunday of Advent, speak about the fall and distraction of Jerusalem and all that will happen at the end of time. Those readings, sound as though Jesus was preparing for war and telling his disciples what they had to do; *“those in Judea must escape to the mountains, those inside Jerusalem must leave it and those in the country districts must not take refuge in it.”* Jerusalem was where the heart and soul of every faithful Jew wished to be. For Jesus to talk about the destruction of this most cherished city, was beyond imagination. Jerusalem was the dwelling place of God. The destruction of the temple was like the destruction of God. When people would be dying for fear Jesus told his disciples not to be afraid instead to be on their guard and to stay awake. This call reminds us to be convinced that God is in control of whatever goes on in the world no matter how terrifying it might be.

When we were baptised, our bodies like the Jerusalem of old, became dwelling place of God. Like that Jerusalem, we decorate our bodies with jewellery, cloth them and feed them; but the only way by which we can share in the heavenly Jerusalem is through the destruction of our earthly Jerusalem through sickness and death. All of us long to go to the heavenly Jerusalem to make our home with the Lord, but the path requires that we go through terrifying and trying episodes of life. Moments of sickness and pain, when all hope seem to be found nowhere. When such a time come in life, no stone seem to be left on top of the other. It is in this context that in the Gospel today, Jesus tells us to be vigilant, to stay awake because we do not know at what hour our earthly Jerusalem can be shaken to its foundations.

The season of advent is not simply preparing us for the celebration of Christmas but a call on every person to prepare himself or herself for the return of the Lord at the moment of death. St. Paul in the second reading, thanks the Christians at Corinth for their preparedness for the return of the Lord by following the preaching of their teachers and preachers which had brought about strong witness among them.

Advent is re-tuning us to be men and women of hope. We are a pilgrim people, travelling from the earthly settlement to the heavenly settlement. We should not be afraid when our life is threatened, when death seem to be imminent. In this world we have been privileged to know God, to love him he calls us friends. *No ear has heard no eye has seen what God has prepared for those who love him.* Therefore Jesus tells us that *“when these things begin to take place, stand erect and hold your heads high because our liberation is near at hand.”* God of hosts bring us back let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

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 02477045457

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 : £ SO : £ Non-Gift Aid: £ Total :£

Thank you for your generous contribution during this pandemic. I'm particularly thankful to those who have set up Standing Orders with your banks which has enabled your parish church to continue receiving your support. May God Bless you.

Hall Hire: Bonus Ball : No.

Counters :

Mass Attendance for the week :

2nd Collection :

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.

Church cleaning:

RCIA Sessions:

God of hope, the rock we stand upon,

Catechism for FHC :

be the centre, the focus of our lives

Church Cleaning:

always, and particularly this Advent

Dates for your diary:

Confessions:

Mass Intentions

Please if you have requests for Mass for your intentions envelopes are available at the back of the church please pick one, write your intention, place it in the box provided with minimum £5 for each Mass or request by calling Tel. 07547242375. The Masses you request will be celebrated on the day or as much close to the day as possible.



MATTERS OF IMPORTANCE

Public Mass resumes: Please note that on Wednesday 2nd December the church will be reopened for public worship. Remember to use the sanitiser and to keep the distance while you are in church. Remember to book your Christmas Mass attendance as indicated below.

Planning for Christmas 2020: Booking for Mass has already begun, the sisters will help you with booking. Please call to the Parish landline 024 76258901 and register your place for one of the Masses: Vigil Mass - 6:00pm & 8.30pm; Christmas Day - 9:30am & 11:30am. Kindly be seated on the pew allotted to you. Also remember that for Christmas, entry through registration only. We are bound by law to keep Covid 19 regulations.

Sunday offerings: Dear parishioners if you would like to give your Sunday offerings or Gift Aid envelopes, please pass through the Presbytery letterbox or keep your offering until you can return or when you come for your private prayer on Saturdays. Thanks for your generous support to the church and to us. May God continue to bless you all.

Holy season of Advent : Today we begin the season of Advent. Advent invites us into a wondrous encounter in prayer in which we contemplate God made man, born in a stable, wrapped in swaddling clothes. We can but lift up our hearts in praise and thanksgiving to the Father for giving us his son and sending the Holy Spirit. Advent contemplates the great truths of our faith: the Incarnation, God made man, the Word made flesh and the Second Coming of Christ. Let these profound truths open up our hearts to receiving Jesus into our own lives as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Walk with me booklets are available at the back of the church, make use of them as they carry inspirational thoughts for your daily reflection.

Applications for St. Mary and Benedict School: the closing date for Reception Class Applications for September 2021 is 15th January 2021. To have the best chance of securing a place at your child's preferred school, it is essential that you submit your application before these dates, including giving a copy of your child's Baptismal certificate to the school if applicable. Any forms received after this date will be a late application. For any information and advice regarding your application go to www.coventry.gov.uk/ school admissions or speak to the School Office. Even if your child is in our Nursery, you have to apply for Reception Class.

Deacon David Palmer has decided to step back from the role of Treasurer for the Archdiocese of Birmingham with effect from the 31 December 2020. He is a hardworking man who enabled the Archdiocese to meet all that is increasingly expected of a charity in a professional way and he has been a wise and valued counsellor to the Archbishop's Council and the Diocesan Trustees. Deacon David supported me so much in the two years I was Parochial Vicar at St. Osburgs. He will be missed at the diocesan treasury.

Second collection for the Poor Mission Fund exists to help our poorer parishes, many of which have been particularly badly hit this year and the second collection is due to be taken in their support on 6 December 2020. Donations can be made directly and electronically to the fund via the diocesan website with the added advantage of Gift Aid for those who are eligible. If you wish to support the poor parishes of the diocese please use this link <https://www.mygiving.online/appdonation/DonateNow/197597ae-b53e-430f-be0a-a78281e94aa8> (After completing your details on the form, the donor will be taken to the next page which has the PMF preselected as the fund to donate to.)