

## MASSES 28th Feb to 7th Mar 2021

Sun	28	9.30am	James Ferry (Anni), Neil McHugh (RIP)
		11.30am	Terry Kimani & family (Thanksgiving)
			Members of St. Teresa group (Thanksgiving)
Mon	01	9.30am	Ursula Wanjiku Kibia (Anni)
Tues	02	9.30am	Sandra & Maureen family (Spl int)
Wed	03	9.30am	Zygmunt Drabik (Anni)
Thurs	04	9.30am	Michael Lanigan (Anni)
Fri	05	6.30pm	Stations of the cross— <b>ONLINE</b>
		7.00pm	Dominic Karundu (1st Anni) - <b>ONLINE</b>
Sat	06	9.30am	Maria Scott (Spl int), Rose Somerville (RIP)
Sun	07	9.30am	Sandra family (Spl int), Maria Hilda Vaz (RIP)
		11.30am	Fidelis & family (Spl int), Dominic Karundu (RIP)

### Lectors

28/02/2021

9.30am Alex, Noah (R)  
11.30am Florence K., Mary (R)

07/03/2021

Anthonia A, Nicholas O. (R)  
Mary, Angela (R)

**Please pray for the sick of the Parish:** Norah Griffith, Tony Groogan, Mary Mulroney, Gerard Griffith, Maria Drabik, Kath Muldoon, Michael Clear, Maria Clear, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Jarek , Benny MacAndrew, Patsy Lesley, Gabriel Gwatarisa. Josephine Scoles.

**Anniversaries during the week:** Mary O'Brien, Kevin David McCarthy, Colin Edward Read, Betty Heavy, William Mooney, Maureen Power , Michael Joseph Lanigan, Michael Joseph Lanigan, John O'Driscoll, Tommie Doyle, Ada Ryan, John Gill, Ian Stuart McClean.

"Lent stimulates us to let the Word of God penetrate our life and in this way to know the fundamental truth: Who we are, where we come from, where we must go, what path we must take in life."

"Lent is like a long 'retreat' during which we turn back into ourselves and listen to the voice of God, in order to defeat the temptations of the Evil one."

**Feasts for the month of March:** 1st Mar– Feast of St. David, patron of Wales; 2nd Mar Feast of St. Chad– Patron of our Archdiocese; 8th March– St John of God; 17th Mar– St. Patrick's day, Patron of Ireland; 19th Mar– Solemnity of St. Joseph; 25th Mar– Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord; 28th March– Palm Sunday— Passion of the Lord; 29th Mar– Holy Week



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

**Parish Newsletter—2nd Sunday of Lent - 28th Feb—7th Mar 2021**

### **TRUST IN GOD EVEN BEYOND THE LAST MINUTE**

It is said that ignorance is bliss. This is true. It is easy to bear a sickness or to go through a situation as long as you do not know what it is but once you are told the kind of disease you have or the person behind your suffering, few of us will contain their composure.

Abraham had given birth to Isaac in his old age as the son of the promise. God asked him to offer this very son as a burnt offering sacrifice! Taking the wood laying it on his son, then the fire and the knife, Abraham walked behind his son, every step was painful because he knew what God had asked of him. Isaac did not know of the plan, like any boy he was in a jovial mood; dad, here is the wood, the fire and the knife but where is the lamb! You can imagine what thoughts went on in the mind of Abraham at that time. The only answer he gave was "My son God will provide the lamb." In this answer we are taught to trust that God knows best. To trust God even when we do not know the outcome. To remain hopeful when we are faced with critical moments. Abraham himself must have wondered where the lamb was to come from until he laid his own son onto the wood.

In the prayer of the Our Father, we say " *do not put us to the test or do not lead us into temptation*" Some people are being scandalised by this phrase, they want it to be changed. It sounds as if God himself leads us into temptations. This is not the case, we pray that weak as we are, we may be preserved from situations that can challenge our relationship with God.

In the second reading St. Paul writing to the Romans reminds us that God loves us so much that he offered his son as a sacrifice for our sakes. God is on our side, therefore like Abraham we must have profound trust in him because when we do so, he himself provides for those things that cause us anxiety. When we trust in God, God himself provides the answer.

Today's gospel takes us to the Mt. of Transfiguration, Jesus is revealed and declared as the beloved son of the Father. A Divine call is made that we listen to him, trust him and obey him. When we obey God just as Abraham did and when we listen to Jesus and trust him as the voice of the Father directed, it gives us a sense of security, joy and inner peace. What we may consider as tragedies become sources of blessings. "It is wonderful for us to be here", we may not necessarily enjoy the situation, but trusting in God gives us inner peace. The trust Abraham put in God gave him inner peace even in the face of the incredible request of God. All the Martyrs put their trust in God, this gave them inner peace despite their sufferings.

Trust is very important in life. Nelson Mandela trusted in democracy so he spent 27 years in a prison cell. Martin Luther Jr. trusted in the equality of man it gave him courage to advocate for it. Mother Theresa trusted in the power of love, so she gave it to every person great or small.

I know many of us carry silent crosses in our life. As you return home today, take this thought in your hearts that if you put your trust in God, at the 11th hour he will give the answer. At the last minute God provides the lamb. We should learn to believe, to hope and to love. God is on our side nothing can be against us.

**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](http://www.mcnmedia.tv)

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

E-mail [lutwajim@yahoo.com](mailto:lutwajim@yahoo.com)

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Anne of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

Safeguarding Rep:

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 : £ 433.00 SO (Feb) : £ Non-Gift Aid: 319.01 Total : £752.01**

*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. 13 Sue Darrock **Counters :** **2nd Collection**

**Mass Attendance for the week : 177 Pious Devotions**

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

**Confessions:**

By appointment only

**Reflect...**

**'Read ceaselessly the Holy Gospels so as to have before your mind the actions, words and thoughts of Jesus, In order to think, speak and act like him.**

**Read ceaselessly the Holy Gospels so as to follow the examples of Jesus and learn ways of behaving of the world. We fall into worldly attractions so quickly as soon as we take our eyes off the Divine Model.'**

**St. Charles de Foucauld (1858 - 1916).**

**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**

**Fourteen Ordained to Sacred Priesthood:** The Institute of the Apostles of Jesus presented 14 young men on 14th February for sacred ordination. I wish to thank the people of this parish for the support you give in support of the formation of a missionary priest.

**Offertory collections:** put your offerings in a Basket provided at entrance, this will help us to maintain expenses of the Parish during this difficult time. Thank you for your generosity which is highly appreciated.

**Lenten Prayer:** Lord God, With all our hearts we beseech you: have mercy on your people; spare your people; strengthen all people in the struggle against the havoc of this pandemic. Lord our God, without you we are so weak and our courage so limited. Give us your strength; give us your love; give us wisdom and skill to continue this fight. Spare your people, O Lord we pray. Comfort those who mourn and gather into your kingdom all who have died. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord, who died and rose to life, who lives and reigns with you, for ever and ever.

**Baptisms:** Due to Covid-19 baptismal preparation classes have been put on halt.

**The Diocesan Vocations Office** has launched our all-new website. With a fresh, new look, simplified navigation, and improved, inspiring and relevant content, we hope it will be an invaluable resource for those all across the Archdiocese of Birmingham and beyond in helping the beauty of God's plan for each and every one of us be revealed. With clear information and signposts to useful resources and people to contact, the Diocesan Vocations Office website should be the first port of call for those discerning a vocation to the priesthood or permanent diaconate in the Archdiocese of Birmingham, and also for those considering the religious life, marriage or apostolic celibacy (a committed single life). You can find the all-new website of the Diocesan Vocations Office at [www.vocations.org.uk](http://www.vocations.org.uk)

**Father Oliver Kemp RIP** for those who have been in Coventry for so long, might remember Fr. Oliver Kemp . He died on Tuesday, 23rd February aged 82. Fr Ollie was ordained on 19th March 1966 and served at All Souls, Coventry from 1966 to 1968; Hands-worth from 1969 to 1970; Holy Family, Coventry from 1970 to 1977; Headington from 1977 to 1980; St John the Evangelist, Chesterton from 1980 to 1985; St Joseph, Darlastan from 1985 to 1986; St Bernadette, Fegg Hayes from 1987 to 1999; Mother of God and Guardian Angels, Castle Bromwich from 1999 until his retirement in 2004. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

**Diocesan Newsletter:** to keep up-to-date with all the latest news, information and online events from across the Archdiocese and beyond please sign up to the newsletter, issued every few weeks via email. Please visit [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/e-news) to sign up.

**Death announcement** Mr. Robert Hancock husband of Elizabeth Hancock died on he 13th February 201 aged 80. Requiem Mass will take place at St. Mary and St. Benedict Church on 8th March at 10.00am, followed by cremation at Canley Crematorium. Our hearty condolences to Elizabeth and family.

**Pope's intention for March:** Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.