

MASSES 25th April to 2nd May 2021

Sun	25	9.30am	Peter Miranda (RIP)
		11.30am	Maureen Stewart (Spl int), Rony Ngunjiri (RIP) Cecile Nzanda (RIP),
Mon	26	9.30am	SSA, C. Almeida (Thanksgiving), Cecile Nzanda (RIP)
Tues	27	9.30am	Cecile Nzanda (RIP), Michael Duffin (Getwell)
Wed	28	9.30am	Cecile Nzanda (RIP), Departed souls of Alin Jose family
Thurs	29	9.30am	Cecile Nzanda (RIP), Lawrence Fernandes (RIP)
Fri	30	9.30am	Agnes & Thomas Ferris (RIP), Cecile Nzanda (RIP)
Sat	01	9.30am	Angela Meqher (RIP), Cecile Nzanda (RIP)
Sun	02	9.30am	Filomena D'Costa, Kieran Amphlett (RIP)
		11.30am	Fr. Arul Swami (Spl int), Cecile Nzanda (RIP)

Lectors

25/04/2021

9.30am Creshhel, Bakhita (R)
11.30am Angela, Kisanet (R)

02/05/2021

Anthonia O., Noah M. (R)
Maame, Perpetua (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.

Anniversaries during the week : Meta Stretton, Michael Kavanagh, Bridie Durkan, Mario Giampaglia, Minnie Noonan, Mary McCarron, Nada Stojanovic, Mary Margaret McGlynn, Eric Maurice Goulden, Roseleen Killen, Brendon Noel Gilroy.

Prayer for Vocations Sunday 2021 - 25th April



God our Father, you call each of us to follow Jesus, your Son, on the path he has marked out for us—the way of charity, service and fulfilment.

May the homes and parishes of the Archdiocese of Birmingham be blessed with ever-renewed dedication to the work of building up your kingdom here on earth.

May those whom you call to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life faithfully give themselves to the service of your Church. Prompted and strengthened by your Holy Spirit, may I respond generously to the call to follow you each day and live out my vocation, to give you glory, for the good of those around me and for my own happiness. We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pope's intention for May: *The World of Finance—Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.*



A.J. Missions



St. Osburg



Ss. Mary & Benedict



St. Elizabeth

Parish Newsletter - Good Shepherd Sunday of Easter- 25th April to 2nd May 2021

ARE YOU A SHEPHERD OR A HIRED MAN?

For the years the people of Israel spent in Egypt, they seem to have engaged in mixed farming. The book of Numbers 11:5, tells us how they recalled enjoying pots of meat, fish, leeks, melons and cucumbers in Egypt. When they entered desert life, they lost crop agriculture and became animal keepers. In the desert, it was easy to lose your animals to wild beasts, to marauding thieves, or to your neighbours because of mix-up. Therefore it was important that the shepherd knew his sheep and that the sheep knew their shepherd's voice when he called them one by one. Above all the shepherd had the willingness to lay down his life in defence of his sheep. These qualities lacked in the hired man, he would certainly not be willing to lose his life defending sheep that did not belong to him. He would not know the names of every sheep and the sheep would not know his voice. Thus such sheep would be in constant danger.

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday. Apart from Jesus letting us know who he is to each one of us, he is also telling us what we ought to be to others. I'm the Good Shepherd to you, I'm not a hired man to take care of you. You belong to me, I know you by name and I lay down my life for you. These are powerful statements.



All of us are shepherds of God's people and we are sheep of his flock. We need to ask ourselves: What kind of shepherd am I? and what kind of sheep am I in God's flock? To be a shepherd implies responsibility. Are you a husband or a wife? Are you parents to these children? Then you are shepherds – so what kind of shepherd are you to your wife, to your husband, to your children, to your family? As a priest and above all as a Parish priest, I must ask myself every day, what kind of shepherd am I to my people?

Some priests and pastors have ceased to be good shepherds and behave like hired men in the church. Some married men and women behave like thieves and brigands abandoning their children to be attacked by wolves and torn apart. Children – (sheep) do not know who to turn to, either to dad, or to step dad or to step, step dad! Some children do not know who is their real mother, is it dad's girlfriend or dad's partner. What a sad world we are living in? Many of us will not go to heaven because of neglecting our duties, behaving like hired men, thieves and brigands while occupying positions of trust.

In the first reading St. Peter has given us the name of him who tells us that he is the Good Shepherd: Jesus, the key stone rejected by the builders, the only name by which we can be saved. As you return home today, thank God that through Jesus Christ, he knows you by name and that he has given up his life for your sake.

Go home fully aware that you are a shepherd, God has placed people in your life to take care of. Go and behave like a true shepherd not like a hired man. But above all in your dealings ask yourself: "According to the way how I'm behaving what kind of shepherd would I take myself to be? Am I behaving as a Good Shepherd or am I acting as a hired man?"

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: www.mcmedia.tv

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/EHEpr5IMocc>

Donations to the parish : <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online>.

Parish Priest. Fr. Jimmy Lutwama, AJ

E-mail : lutwajim@yahoo.com

Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence

Leena, and Leera 02477045457

Safeguarding Rep: Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko

Parish School: St Mary & St Benedict's, Leigh Street CV1 5HG

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline McDonald

The Parishes are part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham Reg. Charity No. 234216

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.

Parish Development

Collection: Gift Aid : £128.50 **SO (Mar) : £ Non-Gift Aid:** 261.50 **Total :** £390.00

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.

Bonus Ball : **2nd Collection :** 25/04/21- Clergy Training Fund **Mass Attendance :** 213

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

Confessions: By appointment only

I am the good shepherd. I know each of My sheep by name, and My sheep know Me.

We are like the sheep and Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We need to understand that our good shepherd loves us and will protect us. We need to watch out for others who would try to lead us away from our shepherd Jesus. Jesus' voice is familiar to us. As His sheep, we know Him and walk with Him. We should always listen to our Shepherd's voice. Only by asking Jesus to be our shepherd, can we be one of God's sheep. There is no other good shepherd but Jesus. When we have Jesus as our shepherd, we are safe. He will lead us to Heaven. Jesus is the Good Shepherd.

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

VOCATION SUNDAY: This Sunday, 25 April, is Vocations or Good Shepherd Sunday, the dedicated annual day for Catholics around the world to offer special prayers to encourage vocations from families and parishes to the priesthood and to religious life. In his message for Vocations Sunday, Pope Francis is focusing on Saint Joseph. He tells us that Saint Joseph suggests to us *three key words* for each individual's vocation. The first is *dream*, the second is *service* and the third is *fidelity*.

Employment opportunity at Princethorpe Foundation- there are number of exciting teaching posts that are currently recruiting starting from September 2021. Vacancies available are IT infrastructure and Network Manger, IT Engineer, Carpenter, Events Assistants, investigators, Teacher of Art, Teaching assistant Etc. For more details and application form for all posts are available on the Foundation website- www.theprincethorpefoundation.co.uk/join-us

Are you able to help?

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has continued to donate to the Archdiocese during the pandemic. Whether you have donated to your parish, or a specific diocesan fund, made a single donation, or regular contribution, we thank you. Regular giving is the financial bedrock of your parish. It also minimises risk and costs the parish less to manage, so your money goes further. If you have online banking you can set this up online, or you can print the standing order form and post it to your bank or parish. Instructions as to how to set this up are here: NB: If you have internet banking you don't need to fill in the standing order section of the form, please obtain your parish's bank details direct from the parish and set up a new standing order online. Otherwise:

1 Download the form and print it.

2 Fill in your bank account details and how much you wish to give etc. and sign it.

Death Announcement: I'm extremely sorry to announce to you the death of Maria Scott a prominent member of the church and beloved friend of Padre Pio. She died on Tuesday 20th April 2021 about 2:00pm. Maria will be greatly missed by all those who cherished catholic values, by those who are devoted to Padre Pio and by all who are devoted to the Divine Mercy.

The month of May is the "month of Blessed Virgin Mary which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Catholics both in church and in the family, offer up to Mary loving homage of prayer and veneration. May of 2002 Pope John Paul II said, "Today we begin the month dedicated to Our Lady a favourite of popular devotion. In accord with a long-standing tradition of devotion, parishes and families continue to make the month of May a 'Marian' month, celebrating it with many devout liturgical, catechetical and pastoral initiatives!" " Therefore, as a family come together to recite the Rosary in honour of Blessed Virgin Mary. Family Rosary helps us to know the mystery of Christ and brings the family together. I



Feasts during the week: 28th April— St. Peter Chanel was noted for his fervent and enthusiastic preaching and apostolate.; 29th April—St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin, Doctor of the Church..

Dates for your Diary: Confirmation on 30th June at 6.00pm and First Holy Communion on 10th July at 10.30am at St. Mary and Benedict's church.

