

MASSES 16th to 23rd May 2021

Sun	16	9.30am	Dominic D'Costa (RIP), Abraham Okbakiristos (R)
		11.30am	Maria Scott, Doris Barnabal (RIP), Ikennna Dunu Bonaho (Good health)
Mon	17	9.30am	Ezban Almeida , Zikorah Umeh (B'day)
Tues	18	9.30am	Luisa Antao (RIP)
Wed	19	9.30am	Manual Antao (RIP), Zara Irianan (B'day)
Thurs	20	9.30am	Caolan Conconon (Spl int)
Fri	21	9.30am	Phil Kenney (B'day), Mathew Tanner (RIP)
Sat	22	9.30am	Austin Cairns (RIP)
Sun	23	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	People of the parish

Lectors

16/05/2021

9.30am Nicholas O., Naomi (R)
11.30am Nathali, Frank K. (R)

23/05/21

Bakitha, Felicia (R)
Joanne, Mary (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 Gwatorisa.

Anniversaries during the week : Sean Anthony Logan , Patrick Ward, Michael Stapleton, Bridget Theresa Ludid , William Morrissey, Michael McDermott, Mary Devlin, Edmond Patrick Flynn, James Anthony Domican, James Mullarkey .

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.

Prayer for the month of May

O Mary, You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people" you know our needs, and we know that you will provide,

so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and to do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. 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 - 7th Sunday of Easter- 16th to 23rd May 2021

DO YOU EVER WORRY BEING REPLACED?

The season of Easter is soon coming to an end. Next Sunday, it will be exactly 50 days since Easter, the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of Pentecost. This past Thursday we celebrated the Ascension of the Lord. Thanks to you all for marking the day with prayer.

Ascension means that Jesus has physically gone out of our sight, the duty to evangelize is now in our hands. Once Jesus ascended to heaven, the disciples realised that it was their mission to be witnesses to everything that he had done from the time they encountered him at the Baptism of John right to the time of his ascension. The first thing they did was to replace Judas the man who offered himself as a betrayer of Jesus and ended his life tragically. The manner of choosing a replacement has a lot for us to reflect on; "*We must choose someone who has been with us the whole time Jesus was travelling with us, someone who was with us from the time when John was baptising, until the day he was taken from us and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.*" What does this criteria tell us? It tells us that to be witnesses of Christ should not be a casual contact. We must know him personally, we must be familiar with him, we must have intimacy with him so that we can reflect him in our lives to others. This reading is a warning to every baptised that attending Easter, Christmas, Baptisms and funerals cannot qualify anyone to be a true witness of Jesus in the world.

Why was Judas replaced? Jesus had chosen him for a ministry so who ever replaces him had to carry it on, namely to be a witness to the resurrection of Jesus. Through Baptism God gave us a mission, just as he gave to the apostles, we must work hard such that we do not lose our God given ministry or be replaced.

To be replaced by somebody unless you are promoted is not a good thing. It means that there is something lacking in you, or that someone can do better than yourself. So whatever work you do, do it so well, such that finding a replacement to you becomes almost impossible. People who do not fear losing their jobs are not good workers. People who do not mind if their family breaks down are not necessarily good parents, good spouses or good children. Leaders who do not worry about their citizens become dictators. Judas betrayed Jesus because he did not worry about the consequences of his actions. We must be worried of losing our relationship with Jesus or the relationship of those who love us.

Let us place God in all things we do. Although the apostles saw Joseph and Mathias as able candidates it was God who knew who could do the job. "*Show us who you have chosen*". Sometimes we take matters into our hands and place people into positions of authority without praying to God to enlighten us, and we end in disaster.

As we look forward to Pentecost, we ask the Lord to send us his Holy Spirit so that as baptised, we may realise our Mission in this world. As you return home today, go and reflect on the dangers that can come to you or to your family if you make yourself easily replaceable because of your negligence. Ask for the guidance of the Holy Spirit to sustain you in what you do.

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

Gift Aid : £107.00 SO (Apr) : £ 2413.60 Non-Gift Aid: 478.04 Total : 2998.64

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 : No. **2nd Collection :** 16th May—Catholic communications

Mass Attendance : 126

Pious Devotions

Prayer for priests

Divine mercy prayers

Rosa Mystica

Parish Rosary group

Choir practice

Church cleaning:

Church Cleaning:

Confessions: By appointment only

It Couldn't Be Done

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle right in with a bit of a grin,
Then take off your coat and go to it;
Just start in to sing as you tackle the thing
That cannot be done, and you'll do it.
Move out of your comfort zone. You can only grow if you are
willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable
when you try something new.

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

Solemnity of Pentecost: on Sunday we shall celebrate the feast of Pentecost. Pentecost comes from 'pentekoste' which means fiftieth in Greek. The Christian holy day of Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ while they were in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. These events are described in the book of Acts, which comes directly after the four Gospels.

Today World Communications Day : The Pope's message for the 55th World Communications Day follows the theme "Come and See" (Jn 1:46). On this day communications day, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in Communications. To support this noble cause please give generously to the second collection.

Sunday Mass at the heart of Catholics post-pandemic lives: The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued a reflection on post-pandemic recovery and the challenges faced by the Church in encouraging people back to the Church and her Sacraments. The Bishops highlight stating that the greatest treasure we possess is the Sacramental life of the Church and at its heart, the Eucharist. Therefore, Bishops encourage Catholics to place Sunday Mass at the heart of their post-pandemic lives.

Marriage preparation Program: As lockdown is easing, I would like to start preparing those members of this parish community who are planning to get married in the church either in this country or abroad. The first meeting will take place in the parish hall on Monday **31st May at 6:00pm** prospective brides and bridegrooms are informed.

Pope Francis establishes the Ministry of Catechist intended to respond to an urgent need for the evangelisation of the modern world, and undertaken in a 'secular' manner. Every catechist, "must be a witness to the faith, a teacher and a companion who teaches for the Church." Catechists, "are called to be expert in the pastoral service of transmitting the faith," from the first proclamation of the kerygma to preparation for the sacraments of Christian initiation, and throughout the process of ongoing formation. In our diocese, Maryvale admits people who would like to take course in catechesis.. Talk to your parish priest.

We pray as people of peace for an end to the violence engulfing the Holy Land. Bishop Declan Lang, Chair of the Bishops' International Affairs department, has echoed calls for an end to "the occupation, discrimination and human rights violations that propagate violent attacks on civilians, standing in the way of a stable and peaceful future for Palestinians and Israelis."

Changes in funeral regulations: from Monday May the 17th, the number of people who may attend a funeral service will no longer be limited to 30 but will depend upon the safe capacity of the building. For commemorative events linked to a person's death, the limit is 30 people, not including anyone working at the event.

Death Announcements: Mrs. Ellen Hull a longstanding parishioner and member of our School governing body died on 12th May at her home. Funeral Mass ill be t St. Marys on **Monday 24th May at 12:00noon.**

Mr. Charlie Ekobe dad to Florence Ekobe died on 15th May 2021 in Cameroon. It is just only two years since her mother died. Florence is a lector and steward in our church. We extend our prayers to the families of the deceased.

Feasts during the week: Optional memorials 18th May— St. John I, Pope, martyr; 19th May— St. Dunstan, Bishop; 20th May— St. Bernadine of Siena, Priest, Religious & Missionary; 21st May— Ss. Christopher Magallanes priest & companions, martyrs; 22nd May— St. Rita of Cascia, Religious.