

Important Notices

Cautious welcome to 'Freedom Day.'

Following the announcement that step 4 of the Government's Covid-19 response roadmap will come into effect on Monday 19th July; the Archbishop Bernard Longley, has forwarded us a latest guidance from the Bishops' Conference. The Catholic bishops in England & Wales say that at this stage, it is important for all to remember that although legislation is being relaxed, the pandemic is not yet over and there continues to be a duty of care for all who use our churches and other facilities. Their guidance therefore, seek to ensure that, where opportunity permits, there is some degree of relaxation but there remains a cautious approach that encourages the continuation of social distancing, mask wearing and daily cleaning where these help to minimise risk and provide comfort and confidence to worshippers. The bishops emphasis that what is important now is the corporate endeavour of all involved in our church life to maintain the exemplary good practice that has been exhibited over the past 15 months in our churches whilst moving into a freer expression of our church life, worship and mission. Though circumstances may now vary from parish to parish.

Here at St Elizabeth's, unfortunately, due to the ongoing rise of infections in our area, and to safeguard the health and wellbeing of worshippers; we shall cautiously relax only some parts of the restrictions and keep the essentials during all our services -

What is Kept? Masks/face covering, 1 metre +plus social distancing, one-way system movements, hands sanitising, and cleaning after Mass.

What is allowed? Communal singing—while wearing masks, Bidding prayers, Kneeling, and Holy Communion back to its normal time at Mass.

Those without masks due to medical conditions are encouraged to continue to sit at Lady Chapel.

Finally, the **parish halls** in the Archdiocese can now be used more extensively after carrying out their particular risk assessments.

Statement from The Catholic Bishop's Conference on Sunday Obligation.

"It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God. It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church."

Pray for the Sick: Caroline Dickinson, Dina Kuczynski, Mary Kean, Mary Gallagher, Rohith De Silva, Mr/Mrs Peters, Julian and Martine. **Get Well Soon.**

Death Anniversaries this Week: Michael Judge, Teresa O'Connor, Mary C Farrell, and Ronal C Desnousse. **May they rest in eternal Peace.**

This Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: **Registered Charity No: 234216**

Church's Live-streaming: www.mcnmedia.tv/camera/st-elizabeths-church-coventry



Apostles of Jesus Serves:

St. Osburg's

St. Mary's

St. Elizabeth's

St. Elizabeth's Roman Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Rev Moses Pitya David. AJ.

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Parish Schools (Heads)

St. Elizabeth's

Mr Michael Doyle

Good Shepherd

Mr Andy McConville

Parish Church

Parish Co-ordinators:

Parish Office

Sr Joan Wafula

Parish Maintenance Leader

Joe McCadden

First Holy Communions

Mrs S Moran & Sr Olivia

Confirmations & RCIA

Miss A Harkin & Sr Olivia

Church Flowers

Children's Liturgy and

Parish Hall Booking

Mr Richard Swift

Safeguarding Officer

Miss Laura Srodon (Solicitor)

Church Music/Liturgy

Miss Laura Srodon

Gift Aid Scheme

Mr Stan Milewski

Chair of Parish Finance

Mr Tony Ashby

Sacristan

Miss Ann Harkin & Sr Joan

Altar Servers

Sr Joan and Aloysa Embate

CAFOD/SVP

Mr Kevin Vaughan

Justice and Peace:

Maria

Red Boxes

Mr Bob Ayliffe

Parish Notices

New Parish Hall Project

What is Next? We have arranged for a Zoom meeting with all the stakeholders on 21st July to look at the project, to see what we need to do to move the project forward, and to get estimated dates etc. to answer the queries from the funder:

- **Date tenders will go out,**
- **Date contractor will be appointed,**
- **Date contractor will start,**
- **Date of practical completion**

What can we do as a parish? We need to raise more fund to add on to the £400,000 already secured. As a parish we need to continue with our own fundraising effort and not to be scared off because of the amount it is going to cost to build. I am pleased to let you know that, we have already received donations from individual parishioners totally to nearly £1,500. As we move on, I am sure, more will come. Thank you.

Applying for more grants: One application for small grant was submitted last week through the diocesan's fundraising office, and awaiting its result.

A project site visit meeting: has been agreed on 6th August with stakeholders and **Allchurches Trust**, a potential co-funder for the project. Paul Playford who is representing the organisation has agreed to visit the site before we submit a formal grant application. This will be our opportunity once again to talk through our plans and to ascertain what level of funding support might be available for us.

If we can secure something from these grants, then that will give us more guarantee of building a better and standard parish centre for our community and ease some of our anxieties.

Mass Times and Mass Intentions: Week 16 Ordinary Time Year B

Sunday 18th July

9:15am T. Stronach's Family - Sp. Int
Special Intention

11:15am Consolata Nyambura - Birthday
Special Intention

Mon. 19th 9:15am Patricia & Nora O'Donnell R.I.P **Public Mass**

Thur. 22nd 9:15am **Public Mass**

Friday 23rd 6:30pm M. Stronack - Special Intentions **Public Mass**

Sat. 24th 9:15am **Public Mass**

Sunday 25th July

9:15am Mary - Special Intentions

11:15am Peggy Miller R.I.P

**16th Sunday
in Ordinary
Time Yr. B**

**17th Sunday
in Ordinary
Time Yr. B**

Weekly Offertory and Collections

Gift Aid Scheme: 356.00 Non Gift Aid: £339.56

New Parish Hall (Donation, fund box & buy a brick): £231.01

Wednesday 21st July: There will be no public Mass on this day. Please join St Osburg's at 12:10pm if you can. But there will be a public Mass on Thursday 22nd at 9:15am. Mass on Thursday now open to all.

"Buy a Brick": The leaflets are at the back of church with the stewards, please take and support the initiative. There are also parish fundraising boxes available to put in your change. Collect one please if possible.

Sponsor a Bicycle-Ride: On the 31st July. Fr Moses on his birthday, will, together with a group of parishioners go on a bicycle ride from St Elizabeth's to Berkswell and back to parish garden for a BBQ. This is to restart our fundraising drive for the New Parish Hall. All donations for the hall. The sponsorship's forms are available in church or get one from the sisters.

Updates for 200 Club: Monthly membership is only £2 (Or £24 a year). Remember only adults are registered. Thank you all for supporting this scheme. Next draw is Sunday 27th after Mass. Contact. **Sr. Joan or Tony.**

Job Opportunity: Lunchtime Supervisor – Good Shepherd School. Closing date: Wednesday 1st September 2021. <https://romeromac.com/vacancy/lunchtime-supervisor-good-shepherd-catholic-primary-school/>

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Readings: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ps. 22; Eph. 2:13-18; Mk. 6:30-34

Building Bridges

Buddha was once threatened with death by a bandit. But Buddha told the bandit to be good enough to fulfil his dying wish. He asked the bandit cut off the branch of that tree, one flesh of the sword. Which he quickly did. **"What next?"** asked the bandit. **"Put it back again,"** said Buddha. The bandit laughed. **"You must be crazy to think that anyone could do that."** **"On the contrary, it is you who are to think that you are mighty because you can wound and destroy. That is the task of bandits. The mighty know how to heal and build,"** was Buddha's reply. It is the task of bandits, not of the mighty, to destroy. In the world today, there seems to be a lot of bandits in the society who go round pulling down bridges that keep people together. They are after dividing people and keeping them apart. They provoke and indulge in conflicts and wars. War not only kills but also scatters. When will our society realise that the real test of power, is not capacity to make war, but to make peace? Few people can be happy these days unless they hate some other person. The irrational hostility that some people vent upon one another is nothing but the projection of self-hate, and self-hate is born of empty life. Some store up grievances for so many years that their hearts secretly are repeating them. It is to this world divided by conflicts, wars, hatred, and grudge that we Christians are sent to heal and build bridges.

The readings of this Sunday urge us to become bridge-builders between people. One of the tasks which faced the prophets in the aftermath of the fall of Jerusalem was to rebuild a shattered society. God, spoke through prophet Jeremiah: **"You have scattered my sheep and driven them away, but I myself will gather them again"** (Jer23:2). St Paul also was concerned with building a new society in which both Jews and Gentiles would find peace as Christ **"announced the good news of peace to those who were far off and brought them near"** (Eph2:13). When the heart of Jesus went out to the crowd who were **"like sheep without a shepherd"** (Mk6:34) he was bridging the gap of alienation between the poor gentiles and the rich Jews. More than two thousand years have rolled remains divided and hostile. One's inhumanity to another makes countless thousands mourn. Therefore, Pope, St John Paul II, chose **"Building Bridges"** as his theme for one of his Masses in the Philippines. At the end of the Mass, the pope made this commitment on behalf of everyone present: **"We commit ourselves,"** said he, **"to build bridges between all people, between the young and the old, people of different races, different nations, between the rich and poor, between children and their families, workers and unemployed and between all religions, Churches and nations."**

Any multiplication is vexation and division, is as bad. Therefore, it is the duty of all of us who enjoy the peace of Christ to commit ourselves to build bridges between divided people. It is not an easy task, but not an impossible one provided we keep before our eyes the cross. The cross of Christ will inspire us to look at the disfigured faces, the torn flesh, and the contorted limbs of those who are being broken, tortured, and killed. Building bridges will not be impossible if we believe that we are not alone in building. Christ is within us. The Good Friday cross points to the empty cross of Easter Sunday, the cross where the blood has dried, the pain has faded and the broken body has been transformed into a loving stranger, walking in our midst, healing, and reconciling. We are called to join him. In the final analysis, humanity has only two ways out – either universal destruction or universal brotherhood.