

MASSES— 19th to 26th Jan 2025

Sun	19	9.30am	Evelyn Macquire (RIP) People of the parish
		11.30am	Salvator Semuswi (RIP), Jacinta Tamara, Emmanuella, Elizabeth (Thanksgiving)
Mon	20	12.00 noon	Sara Cconnor (RIP), Tony Smith (Spl int)
Tues	21	9.30pm	P. Connor (RIP)
Wed	22	9.30am	Ruth Smith (RIP)
Thurs	23	9.30am	Sr. Leera (Spl int)
Fri	24	9.30am	His Grace Archbishop Bernard Longley (Thanksgiving) Sr. Annunciata Fernandes (RIP)
Sat	25	9.30am	Vera Newman (RIP)
Sun	26	9.30am	Tran family (Spl int), Mable & Anthony Braganza (RIP)
		11.30am	Salvator Semuswi (RIP), People of the parish

Lectors

	<u>19/01/2025</u>	<u>26/01/2025</u>
9.30am	Elizabeth H., Leslie	Nicholas, Naomi
11.30am	Rosalyn, Valerie	Daberechi, Karen

Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>19/01/2025</u>	<u>26/01/2025</u>
9.30am -	Betty O.	Felix
11.30am	Florence, Loveness,	Frank, Beyang

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

The sick of the Parish: Norah Griffith, Gerard Griffith, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Bridie McAndrew, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, John Crowford, Mr. Tran, Owen Darroch, Lucia Drabik, Mick Hogan.

Anniversaries during the week : Mary Jane Bohan, Angela Dunnion, Christopher Mooney, Dolores Kealy, Garry Mark Wood, John Dee, Eugene Pinto, Michael Hyland, Francis Hannon, Sylvia Forrest, Kathleen Waters, William Peyton, Denis McGrath, Caroline Alexandra Gorman, Felich Goucher, Alice & Michael Moran, Lynn Hand, Maria Hilda Vaz , Terrence Reily, Fame (Mabel) Braganza, Neil McHugh.

Clergy Anniversaries: Rev. Edward Kirner, Rev. Michael Walshe, Canon Bernard McKenna, Rev. George Jackson, Rev. John Tolkien, Rev. Joseph McKenna, Rev. David Lloyd, Rev. Charles Ross, Rev. John Garvey, Mgr Peter Dao-Duc-Diem, Rev. Anthony Timlin, Canon Thomas Sylvester, Rev. Vincent Royles, Rev. David Patrick C.

Thoughts to ponder- *“Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset.” —Saint Francis de Sales*

“If you are depressed you are living in the past if you are anxious you are living in the future, if you are at peace, you are living in the present.” —Lao Tzu



Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry



The Parish is in the Care of the Apostles of Jesus Missionaries

Parish Newsletter— Second Sunday in ordinary time- 19th to 26th Jan 2025

TO BE A CHRISTIAN IS BE A PEACE SIGN

‘This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee and manifested his glory and his disciples believed in him’ (John 2:11). Today, as we celebrate Peace Sunday, we are blessed to have this text in John that narrates Jesus’ first miracle when he changed water into wine. It was the first of his signs, which means that we should expect many more signs in that Gospel, much of which has also been named the Book of Signs. The Bible presents marriage as a sign of God’s love for his people.

In human life, signs have the power to communicate messages and their meanings and to attract concrete human responses, some of which can have permanent effects. Human life in its different aspects is a constant interaction with signs and symbols. In fact, we are always invited to read the signs of the times to properly contextualise our activities accordingly. A sign can create peace, it can also lead to violence and unfathomable conflict.

When properly interpreted, signs have the power to guide human actions to the right goals and when ignored one may end up in disaster that may include loss of life. That is how seriously we need to take signs. God, our creator, makes use of signs to communicate with us, and because God is far above us in every way, he spontaneously makes use of signs to communicate and carry out his eternal plans. We could dare to say that God’s communication with humans is predominantly in the form of signs. This exactly explains the meaning of sacraments.

Traditionally, a sacrament is defined as "an outward and visible sign of inward and spiritual grace". By invisible grace is implied God’s mysterious presence and action to bring about salvation and enrichment to our spiritual life. In the Catholic Church, we have the seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Ordination and Matrimony. By our faith, we can see the action of God’s saving grace in those sacraments and signs in many others.

Because the Sacrament of Baptism configures us to Jesus Christ, Christians are signs of the risen Jesus Christ in the world bedevilled by conflict, violence and wars. Let us be “peace signs” and as Pope Francis recommends ‘set out on the journey of hope ... to surely glimpse the dawn of the greatly desired goal of peace’. Christian, be a peace sign, be sign of hope.

Fr. Aloysius

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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Parish email: stmaryandbenedictch@yahoo.com

Website: www.ssmaryandbenedict.org.uk

Web cam: mcn.live/camera/st-mary-and-st-benedict

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF7o1R03Z8tYt0D1Wm2t8jg)

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

<https://donate.myдона.com/ss-mary-benedict-church>

Parish Priest: Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, Apostles of Jesus.

E-mail : fr.aloyisius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr. Reginald Agapiti Tarimo, Apostles of Jesus.

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Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence

Leena and Leera Tel. 02477045457

Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Emmanuella

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

Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline MacDonald

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 even if 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 and 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 thirteen parish priests since 1889. Our Parish welcomes you to promote initiatives that build up and sustain our faith community.

Parish Development

12/01/25: Gift Aid :£. 165.00 Dona: £236.00 Non-Gift Aid: £ 290.00 Total: £691.00

SO (Dec): £ 1667.00 Second collection - Thank you and may God bless you all.

2nd collections : 26th January—World Lepresy

Bonus Ball : No. 21 Tony Smith **Mass Attendance** :

Choir practice : Fri— 7.30pm_ **Church cleaning**: 7.30am

Confessions: Saturday— 10.10—11.00am (& by appointment)

Pious Devotions : Divine Mercy - Last Thursday of every month at 6pm

Legion of Mary: Meet every Sunday after 11.30am Mass

SAFEGUARDING : The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representatives are Perpetua Sam & Asipita Iroko. They can be contacted at: sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

CHILDREN OF PRIMARY SCHOOL AGE: must be accompanied by an adult if they need to leave the church to use the toilets during Mass or other Church services. Also, please do not let children of this age go near the votive candle stands unaccompanied, and do not let them run around the car park. It is important that we do everything to ensure that children are safe.

CHURCH NOTICES

Papal Intention for January: For the right to an education Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

The Word of God Sunday which we will celebrate next Sunday, 26th January, is a pastoral initiative with which Pope Francis wants to make it clear how important it is in the daily life of the Church and our communities to refer to the Word of God, a Word that is not confined to a book, but which remains ever alive and becomes a concrete and tangible sign. The motto chosen by the Holy Father for this Sunday within the Jubilee Year is ***“I hope in your Word”*** (Psalm 119:74). **Next Sunday, please, come with your personal and/or family Bibles.**

Intentions to Marry: Stephanie Aisosa Osagie daughter of Emmanuel Osagie and Betty Osagie of Coventry, West Midlands, originally from Benin, Edo State, Nigeria, intends to get married in the Catholic Church to Olaniyi Omokayode Denloye son of Adetukunbo Omokayode Denloye and Elizabeth Nadu Denloye, originally from Ife, Osun State Nigeria. Please, pray for the couple and should you have knowledge of any impediment to their marriage, kindly, notify the parish priest.

Week Of Prayer For Christian Unity 18 -25 January 2025 Daily Zoom meditations 18, 20 – 25 January at 6.00pm Zoom link: <https://marriagecare-org-uk.zoom.us/j/83706391464?pwd=xCdIQ7WEpsvGX4H8EtpIQfTanapRI.1>
Zoom Meeting ID: 837 0639 1464 Passcode: 538534 UNITED SERVICE in the Chapel of Unity Sunday 19 January at 2.00pm

Charis Evening, Friday 24h January , 6-8pm, *at Corpus Christi* to include: Holy Rosary, Mass, Talk, Benediction, Confessions and Spiritual direction, followed by light refreshments, all at no expenses.

The Birmingham Lourdes Hospitalité - there will be a special Mass celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes on Saturday 8th February 2025 at 4:30 pm in St. Chad's Cathedral, Birmingham. This celebration is a wonderful opportunity to come together in prayer, honour Our Lady, and seek her intercession for the sick and their carers. Also invited are pilgrims planning to join our Diocesan Pilgrimage in May 2025. Refreshments will be served after Mass.

Confirmation Preparation - Children in non-Catholic schools will start their lessons on the first Saturday of February. Registrations are on-going.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 25th January: 9.30am to 1.00pm at St Osburg's Church Lectors Retreat.

Thursday, 30th January: 7.00pm Parish Pastoral Committee Meeting - Parish Hall.

Thursday, 13th February: 7pm, Parish Finance Committee Meeting.

Saturday, 22nd March: 9.30am to 1pm.; Retreat for Eucharistic Ministers, at St Thomas More Parish.