



Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry



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

Parish Newsletter— 5th Sunday in ordinary time- 9th to 16th Feb 2025

MASSES— 9th to 16th Feb 2025

Sun	09	9.30am	People of the parish
		11.30am	Florence Kasibante, Karsten James (Thanksgiving)
Mon	10	12.00noon	Bosede & Anhony Idehen (Anniv)
Tues	11	9.30am	Chukwudi Malize & family (Spl int)
Wed	12	9.30am	Mapuranga family (Thanksgiving)
Thurs	13	9.30am	Philamen Browne (RIP)
Fri	14	9.30am	Mapuranga family (Spl. Int)
Sat	15	9.30am	Emmanuel Malize (Spl int)
Sun	16	9.30am	Frank Healey (B'day remembrance)
		11.30am	Magreth Julie (Thanksgiving)

Lectors

	<u>09/02/2025</u>	<u>16/02/2025</u>
9. 30am	Elena, Emmanuel M.	Cosmos, Naomi
11.30am	Ekene, Sharon	Ogo & Elena

Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>09/02/2025</u>	<u>16/02/2025</u>
9.30am -	Sophie	Cath Slater
11.30am	Patricia, Catherine	Loveness, 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 : William Mulroney, Leslie Burke, Bridget Agnes Clisham, Bridget Molloy, Teresa Langan, Harry Hone, Ellen Crawley, Jim O'Driscoll, Frank Boman, Robert Hancock , Bridie Underwood, Elizabeth Quilter, Michael Augustine Cox, Sandra Dawn Herbert, Catherine Lutwama .

Clergy Anniversaries: John Watkins, Rev. John Gibb, Rev. Mathias Brady, Rev. John Paul O'Sullivan, Rev. William Connick, Rev. James McGloin, Mgr. Joseph Vincent Healey, Mgr. Cannon Peter Lawlet, Rev. Charles Joseph O'Reilly.

Thoughts to ponder

Today, make an attempt to reflect upon the voice of God in your life. What is it that he is calling you to do? What is that "deep water" to which He is calling you? When we come to Christ, we are no longer the most important person in the world; instead Christ is. Our life is meaningful in so far as we live for Jesus and his ways.

They Left Everything and Followed Him

On this fifth Sunday in ordinary time, the readings from the Sacred Scriptures are inviting you to reflect on how our Lord is calling you to follow him and to be available to respond to the current needs of God's people today. In this reflection, I am privileged to use verbatim the words of Fr. Speratus Kamanzi (2024). Examining the responses of Isaiah, Peter and Paul, Kamanzi says:

Prophet Isaiah in the first reading and St Peter in today's Gospel express their unworthiness to be in the presence of God's great holiness. The second reading describes the call of another great apostle St. Paul, who judged himself to be unworthy of the call because he was the enemy and persecutor of the Church. God calls each one according to God's own criteria for a specific mission. God who called the prophet Isaiah, St Paul and St Peter continues to call people, you and I in our time today.

We may ask ourselves: What are God's criteria for calling people to serve and how does one qualify for the call? Today's readings respond to the question saying that God does not look at the external features of a person nor is He concerned about their qualifications and skills. His major criteria seem to be his trust in us. Our vocation to serve in the Church comes in different forms. It could be to volunteer for some social or religious service, to preach or pray for others. In a more general sense, it could be a call to the priesthood, religious life or married life.

When we examine the lives of Prophet Isaiah , St Paul and St Peter in relation to their responses to God's call, two remarkable things come to light. On the one hand there is that feeling of personal unworthiness, when we say: 'Not me surely!' and on the other, there is that inner fire and enthusiasm which forces us to answer the call. We say, 'I can do it!'

Today, therefore, my brothers and sisters, let us pray that God may raise more worthy vocations in the Church. We pray in a special way for young men and women who are discerning their vocation to consecrated and married life. Let us be like Mary who said a perfect and generous "Yes" to God and cooperated with His grace for the Word of God to become flesh in her womb.

Kamanzi Speratus (2024) Homilies for Sunday Masses Year C, Volume 3- Year of St Luke the Evangelist, AJ Publications, Northampton, Pennsylvania, USA.

Fr. Aloysius

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church

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

Youtube: st-mary-and-benedict-church-coventry

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.

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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

02/02/25: Gift Aid :£ 200.60 Dona: £ 282.50 Non-Gift Aid: £355.73 Total: £838.83

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

2nd collections 2nd March—Cathedral maintenance; 16th Mar— CAFOD

Bonus Ball : No. 52 Tony Smith **Mass Attendance** : 323

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

Pope's Intention for February: *For Vocations to the priesthood and religious life*. Let us pray that the ecclesial community may welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

2024 Parish Financial Report - The summary of Receipts and Payments, for the Financial Year 2024, is displayed on the Parish Notice Board at the back of the Church for your scrutiny. I take this opportunity to thank you for your generosity in giving to support our Church. We encourage all tax payers to register for the *Gift Aid* so that your giving in form of offertory and other donations can be multiplied. May the Lord always reward you.

The Parish Pastoral Committee is Alive and Well

The inaugural meeting of our parish pastoral council took place on 30th January. To achieve its organizational structure, the first assignment was to elect the following persons:

George Damian Curristan - Chairperson

Alister Gleason Dsouza – Secretary

These are to work with Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, the President of the Council, to draw the agendas for future meetings, and organise council activities. It was agreed that these would immediately start to play those roles, as more officers will be identified for roles in the Council. On Sunday 23rd in the 9.30am, our Parish Pastoral Committee will be commissioned. Please, support them with your prayers and ideas.

Catechism for First Holy Communion - Children in non- Catholic schools and are mature enough to receive Holy Communion (year3), are welcome for the preparation classes every Saturday at 11.15am in the Lady Chapel. Let parents support their children to participate in the Catechism classes.

Chaplaincy for Catholic University Students: This is to invite all Catholic University Students for a “Meet and Greet”, followed by a formal meeting to take place at 1.00pm on Sunday 23rd February in the parish hall. We shall welcome new members and discuss matters related to the administrative organization of the Chaplaincy. We are looking forward to seeing you then.

Dates for your diary:

Saturday 5th February: Commencement of Confirmation Classes.

Sunday 16th February, 2pm: Special Mass for young people aged 15 – 35 years.

Monday 17th February, 7 pm: Father Hudson's Caritas Parish volunteers' meeting, parish hall.

Sunday 23rd February, during the 9.30 Mass: commissioning of our Parish Pastoral Committee.

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