



Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry



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

Parish Newsletter— 6th Sunday in ordinary time- 16th to 23rd Feb 2025

## The Youth Mass: to Pray and Discern

Thanks to Fr. Reginald and Perpetua Sam, today we have the Youth Holy Mass at 2pm. It is expected that all young people in our community aged 15 years of age and above, will gather in our Church to pray together. Our young people, who include secondary school students, university students, fresh graduates, fresh professionals, and those who are discerning a vocation, will gather to pray together. They will not consider the Youth Mass a kind of performance, but a coming together in the presence of God to praise, worship and listen to God speaking to their hearts. This arrangement is timely as we progress with the celebrations of the Jubilee Year that invites us to be Pilgrims of Hope. The word of God today is challenging us to reflect on true blessedness; this is relevant to all - the young and the elderly alike.

The beatitudes in today's Gospel, teachings on blessedness, as presented by our Lord Jesus Christ, carry the eternal truth that contradict the commonly hailed beliefs. They are statements that carry the eternal wisdom of a believer in God, they are therefore statements of faith. At their heart is the fundamental truth: real happiness is to be found in total trust in God and a complete surrender to God's ways amidst the circumstances of one's life.

This is true for the elderly as well as for the young. Certainly, the contemporary cultural trends give an impression that real happiness is to be found in transient pleasures, large amounts of possessions, and a show of power that humiliates the other.

Our Lord teaches the contrary: real happiness is to be found in humble surrender to God and the generous service of our neighbours for God's sake, amidst misunderstandings and persecutions. Young people today are invited to identify, and stand up for, truth as they interact with various teachings and discernment. Proper discernment for a holy life is in listening attentively to oneself, but also to the wisdom of elders which is ultimately inspired by the Word of God. In this spirit, let us support our young people as they continue with their search for a happy and blessed life. The Youth Mass is a valuable opportunity for young people to pray as they discern their lifetime calling to follow God's holy will.

*Fr. Aloysius*

### MASSES— 16th to 23rd Feb 2025

Sun	16	9.30am	Frank Healey (B'day remembrance), Sr. Leera (B'day)
		11.30am	Magreth Julie (Thanksgiving), Eliana Yuffa Galban (Get well)
Mon	17	12.00noon	Felicia Abuah (Anniv), Sophie Drabik (Thanksgiving)
Tues	18	9.30am	George Dunnion & Donna Boyle (Anniv)
Wed	19	9.30am	Ignatius & Josephine (RIP) Benjamin & Esther (Spl int)
Thurs	20	9.30am	Benjamin & Esther (Spl int)
Fri	21	9.30am	Benjamin & Esther (Spl int)
Sat	22	9.30am	Benjamin & Esther (Spl int), Eileen McCooey (RIP)
Sun	23	9.30am	Benjamin & Esther (Spl int), People of the parish
		11.30am	Eliana Sibelle (Thanksgiving), Mama Helen Ngenche (Anniv)

#### Lectors

	<u>16/02/2025</u>	<u>23/02/2025</u>
9.30am	Cosmos, Naomi	Junisha, Nicholas
11.30am	Ogo & Elena	Kosiso, Karen

#### Eucharistic Ministers

	<u>16/02/2025</u>	<u>23/02/2025</u>
9.30am -	Cath Slater	Sr. Leena
11.30am	Loveness, Beyang	Frank, Lilian

#### 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 :** Arturo Taylor Florez, Margaret Lyons, Bridget Nash, George Dunnion, Christopher Doyle, James Crone, Paddy Kelly, John Floyd, William Mara, John Callaghan, Francis Quilter, Jimmy Allen, Joseph Corcoran,

**Clergy Anniversaries:** Rev. William Conefrey, Rev. Joseph McEvelly, Rev. Timothy Healy, Rev. Terence McDonnell, Rev. Francis Jordan, Deacon Hugh, Rev. Alexander McGavin, Canon William Roughan, Rev. Francis Coyle, Rev. Sean Farrel, Canon Sean McTerman.

Simone Weil, the French mystic and philosopher pointed out:

*It is only from the light which streams constantly from heaven that a tree can derive the energy to strike its roots deep into the soil. The tree is in fact rooted in the sky.*

"Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord...He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream..."

**St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church**

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Web cam: [mcn.live/camera/st-mary-and-st-benedict](http://mcn.live/camera/st-mary-and-st-benedict)

Youtube: [st mary and benedict church coventry](http://stmaryandbenedictchurchcoventry)

**Donations to the parish :** [https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/parishes-online.](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.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk)

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

E-mail : [fr.reginald.tarimo@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.reginald.tarimo@rcaob.org.uk)

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**

**09/02/25: Gift Aid :£ 131.00 Dona: £433.00 Non-Gift Aid: £300.19 Total: £864.19**

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

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

**Bonus Ball :** No. **Mass Attendance : 331**

**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 & Aspita Iroko. They can be contacted at: [sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary-stbenedict.covty@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240 [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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

**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.

**Birthday Greetings** - We congratulate and pray for Sr. Leera Lobo who this weekend is celebrating her 60th Birthday. We, the parishioners, are the greatest beneficiaries of her many gifts. Deogratias! Thanks be to God!

**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 23<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**Jubilee Retreat – Prayer and Fasting:** This is a proposal to all the groups in the parish during this Jubilee year to set aside one or two days for recollection with prayer, fasting and reflective talks. The day may start with the holy Rosary at 9.am, four talks, time for discussions, adoration, silent prayer and Sacrament of Penance, and ending with the Holy Mass at 5pm. The venue shall be our parish Church or parish hall. We, the priests in the parish, are available to support the initiatives of the spiritual nature among you, dear parishioners. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

**Notice of Death** - Please pray for the repose of the soul of Deacon Patrick Flanagan, who died on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 2025. He was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 1999; served in the parish of Christ the King and Our Lady of Lourdes, Coventry. We pray for his wife Kathleen, his family, friends and parishioners and all who mourn him. Details of Deacon Patrick's funeral will follow.

**Dates for your diary:**

**Saturday 22nd February at 1pm:** Special Jubilee reflections and prayers followed by Holy Mass in thanksgiving for healing for Veronica (Kenya Women Association).

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm:** Father Hudson's Caritas Parish volunteers' meeting.

**Ash Wednesday, 5th March at 9.30am and 6.30pm** Holy Mass (Fasting).

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

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

**Our Parish our Home (See Canon Law):**

Can. 515 §1. A parish is a certain community of the Christian faithful stably constituted in a particular church, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor (*parochus*) as its proper pastor (*pastor*) under the authority of the diocesan bishop.