

**MASSES— 30th Mar to 6th Apr 2025**

Sun	30	9.30am	Jim Hogan & Hogan family (RIP) Adaobi Claire Obi (B'day) Mr. &Mrs. Oniyide (Thanksgiving)
		11.30am	People of the parish
Mon	31	12.00noon	Caelan Conconnan (Thanksgiving)
Tues	01	9.30am	Charles Ward Senior (RIP), Kayla Mapuranga (B'day)
Wed	02	9.30am	Josephine McCrave (Spl int)
Thurs	03	9.30am	Louis Pereira (RIP)
Fri	04	6.30pm 7.00pm	Stations of the cross
Sat	05	9.30am	Ann (Anni)
Sun	06	9.30am 11.30am	Mapuranga family (Thanksgiving) People of the parish

**Lectors**

	<b><u>30/03/2025</u></b>	<b><u>06/04/2025</u></b>
9.30am	Elizabeth H., Marcy	Filomena, Jean P.
11.30am	Florence K., Anne	Karen, Preethi

**Eucharistic Ministers**

	<b><u>30/03/2025</u></b>	<b><u>06/03/2025</u></b>
9.30am -	Felix	Sophie
11.30am	Serso, Catherine	Patricia, 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 :** Walter roach, John Molloy, Michael Cox, Bob Brolly (Sr), James Herbert, Patrick McHugh, Eric Donnelly, Mary Ellen Allen, Mick Fitzgerald, Seamus Mulrooney, Phelena Seaman, Anne Brennan, Thomas Brophy, John Dunning, John Dunning, Mary McSorley, Joseph Macken, Thomas O'Maller, Patrick O'Neill.

**This Sunday** calls us to reflect on God's boundless mercy, seek reconciliation, and prepare our hearts for the joy of Easter. Today, I take my first step back to You—humbled, broken, but filled with hope. I lay my burdens at Your feet, knowing Your arms are open wide, ready to welcome me home. Restore within me a clean heart and renew my spirit. Teach me to walk in Your ways and to share the love You so freely give. May my life be a reflection of Your grace and mercy. Thank You for never giving up on me and for calling me back, even when I felt unworthy. In Your embrace, I find my truest home. Amen.



**Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church, Coventry**



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

**Parish Newsletter— 4th Sunday of Lent—30th Mar to 5th April 2025**

**Studying the Bible: Rejoice in Christ the Light of the World**

Last Sunday, we began the Bible study in our parish with humble beginnings. The Bible study is a practice that requires patience and the discipline to set aside both time and space for reflection and reading. It is a way to deepen our knowledge of God's revelation and our faith, enabling us to speak about them with greater confidence. This opportunity is available to every member of our parish, and families might consider adopting an approach that fits their home-setting.

Today, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Lent, traditionally designated as Laetare—Rejoice—Sunday. A powerful mention of rejoicing is found in today's Gospel reading: "It was only right that we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found" (Luke 15:32). As disciples of Christ, we are blessed to possess the Good News that our Lord Jesus Christ takes away our sins, repairs broken relationships, and leads us to reconciliation with God and our neighbours in the Sacrament of Confession. This renewed relationship fills us with vigour, empowering us to be pilgrims of hope and witnesses to the joy of our faith in the risen Lord. It is this joy that becomes the spring of our call to be pilgrims of hope in a world yearning for it.

A pilgrim moves purposefully in one direction toward a specific destination, seeking a spiritual experience of union with God, who is pure light. In Jesus Christ, God enlightens those who humbly acknowledge the darkness brought about by original sin. The physical act of pilgrimage—traveling to a particular shrine—is symbolic, pointing to the transformation from sin to purity of life, from spiritual blindness to enlightenment. In today's readings, the son humbly acknowledges his need to return to his father, who lovingly welcomes him. In contrast, the Pharisees, as seen in John 7, fail to recognize their blindness and miss the divinity of Jesus and His power to open the eyes of a man born blind.

It is essential to make an examination of conscience and ask ourselves: Where am I? How do I stand before the Merciful God and Christ who is the light of the world?

*Fr. Aloysius*

**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](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

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.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**

**23/03/25: Gift Aid :£ 193.00 Dona: £197.00 Non-Gift Aid: £326.74 Total: £716.74**

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

**2nd collections ; 18th April– Holy places**

**Bonus Ball : No.**

**Mass Attendance : 318**

**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](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 to ensure that all the time children are safe.**

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**With Mary, We are Pilgrims of Hope** – Today, there is a special National Collection across England to support the Jubilee initiatives at the Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham. This collection was approved by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales.

**Gift Aid New Subscriptions for Our Parish**: Dear Parishioners, we are grateful for the incredible support received through Gift Aid during the last financial year (2023/24). Thanks to your generosity, these contributions have made a significant impact on our parish community. I kindly appeal to all UK taxpayers who regularly donate to our Church to consider subscribing to Gift Aid. This simple step allows us to reclaim an additional 25p for every £1 you donate—at no extra cost to you! For further details or assistance, please contact Sr. Leena Lobo. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

**Lenten Penance Services**

We invite you to join us for our Lenten Penance Service at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, 8th April 2025. This is a wonderful opportunity for spiritual reflection and renewal as we prepare for Easter.

Please also take note of the dates for Penance Services in neighbouring parishes, which will include a larger number of the clergy:

Saturday 29th March: St John Fisher, Wyken, Coventry, CV2 3DL at 11:30am

Monday 31st March: Confessions for First Holy Communion in our Church at 6pm

Monday 7th April: Our Lady of the Angels, Nuneaton, CV11 5UA, at 7pm

Monday 14th April: Sacred Heart, Harefield Road, Coventry, CV2 4BT at 7pm

Tuesday 15th April: Corpus Christi, Ernesford Grange, CV3 2QP at 7pm

Let us journey together in faith during this holy season.

**Coventry Catholic Young Adults Group Meetings at St Osburg Parish Hall** – Age 18 - 35? Join us on Tuesday evenings to eat and pray together and discuss our faith, as we listen to inspirational guest speakers. The next gathering is on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April, 7.00 - 8.30pm.

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER PROGRAMME - 2025**

Palm Sun	13th	9.30am/11.30am	Blessing of Palms followed by procession
Mon	14th	9.30am	Mass
Tue	15th	9.30am	Mass
<b>Wed</b>	<b>16th</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Mass</b>
Holy Thurs	17th	7.00pm	Mass of the Lord's Supper/Washing of the feet, Recommissioning of Extra-ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist, Adoration until 10.00pm at the Altar of Repose
Good Friday	18th	2.30pm	Stations of the Cross
		3.00pm	Celebration of the Passion of our Lord.
Sat	19th	8.30pm	Easter Vigil Mass
Sunday	20th	9.30am	Easter Sunday Mass
		11.30am	Easter Sunday Mass