Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church,

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

Parish Newsletter- 28th Sunday in ordinary time- 11th to 18th Oct 2026 (Year A)

Moral Integrity Vs Scandal in Leadership

This is addressed to community leaders who serve in various roles as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Instructors, heads of devotional groups and small Christian communities, and as priests and religious sisters. I invite you to reflect on how you view your roles within your spheres of influence, how you strive to be fit for the ministry, and how you present yourself.

As Christians, we share in the identity of Christ the priest, prophet and king, so the calling to leadership is part and parcel of our nature. We are aware that the role of caring for others, guiding them, and overseeing their well-being is a universal calling we acquire in baptism. What they see in us is part of our witness!

Every form of leadership requires sensitivity to what one is called to be because to be a leader is to stand at a place where moral integrity matters deeply - or at least, where one must strive constantly to be as morally sound as possible.

This means living by simple principles, centred on the plain charter of the Ten Commandments. For us Christians, the Ten Commandments are that foundation. Indeed, I believe that when one lives by the Ten Commandments, one is already observing every true code of conduct, constitution, and just requirement of any community, nation, or organisation.

Leadership demands sacrifice. It means willingly bearing the effort to be a true light to others. Even a small compromise on moral standards can tarnish the whole witness of leadership in our community.

Scandal arises when we depart from the standards we are meant to keep and do something unworthy of our calling. This means we must constantly examine our consciences, honestly reviewing how we fulfil our roles, and listening attentively to those around us about how we serve and bear witness as we sensitively minister in charity to our brothers and sisters. Charity in leadership entails immense sacrifice, but it is very rewarding! *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.mydona.com/ss-mary-benedict-church
Parish Priest: Fr. Aloysius L. Bukenya, Apostles of Jesus.
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Parish Sisters: Srs. of St. Ann of Providence
Leena and Leera
Sunday School: Perpetua Sam & Emmanuella
Parish School: St Mary & St Benedict's, Leigh Street CV1 5HG
Tel: 02476 229486 Head teacher - Mrs Pauline MacDonald

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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 was 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

04/10/2026: **Gift Aid**: £175.00 **Non-Gift Aid**: £262.01 **Tota**l: £437.01
Dona: (04/10/26) £ 582.50 2nd Collection : £214.25 Thank you and God bless you all.

2nd collection for October: 11th – AJ Mission; 18th – Mission Sunday

Bonus Ball: No **Mass Attendance**: 345

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm and Sat: 5.30pm

Church cleaning: Saturday 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

Bible Study Group: Every Sunday, 1pm – 2pm in the parish hall.

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Perpetua Sam. She 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 to ensure that all the time children are safe.

CHURCH NOTICES

Holy Father's prayer intention for October: That mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illness.

Feasts during the week:
Thursday 14th October: St Theresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
Saturday 17th October: St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr

Teachers' Mass: Teachers and instructors are the backbone of a community's moral fibre. Welcome to all teachers during this Sunday's second Mass. May we address the current social questions with the simplicity of listening.

Second Collection for the Apostles of Jesus: to support the formation of seminarians of the Apostles of Jesus. You may use the Dona machine, or deposit your donation to the following bank account: ***HSBC. Apostles of Jesus Missionaries Support UK, Sort Code: 40-18-57, Account Number: 90730106.***

Christmas Bazaar Saturday 28th November 2026 – Raffle tickets are available, please, take as many booklets for your contacts as you can, each at £1.00. We are inviting every group to come up with initiatives for raising money for our parish church. This year, the focus is on repairing the parish hall roof.

What about Formative Complaints? –Thanks to all who present formative suggestions, complaints, and points of concern. I find them very helpful, but request that in serious matters, you please, break the seal of anonymity and mention your name. I will still respect your confidentiality.

Quiz Night at St Osburg's: 7.30pm on Friday 16th October, 2026. Could our parish organise two teams of 5 persons each? Fee Entry is £10 per team; the parish priest, Fr. Aloysius, is sponsoring the two teams from St Mary and St Benedict.

Red Misso boxes are due in for counting during this month of October. Please bring them in and thank you for your generosity.

The 2026 Blessing of the graves of our loved ones:

London Road - Sunday 11th October at 3pm
Lenton's Lane - Sunday 18th October at 3pm

Dates for your Diary:
Monday 12th October: 6.30pm, the Parish Pastoral Council, in the parish hall.
Thursday 12 November: 6pm, Confirmation Mass with Rt Rev. Richard Walker, Auxilliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

MASSES—11th to 18th Oct 2026

Sun	11	9.30am	Lucy Osagie, Alden D'Souza (B'day), Roque Xavier & Esperanca Costa (RIP) Deceased members of Conceicao family
		11.30am	Daryl F. Shanley (RIP), Ivy & family (Thanksgiving) Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv) Teachers' (Thanksgiving)
Mon	12	12.00noon	John McGonagle (RIP), Mapuranga family (Thanksgiving)
Tues	13	9.30am	Leena Lobo (B'day thanksgiving)
Wed	14	9.30am	NO MASS
Thurs	15	9.30am	Isioma Irafor (1st Anniv)
Fri	16	9.30am	Holy souls
Sat	17	9.30am	Eileen Brannigan (RIP)
Sun	18	9.30am	Roque Xavier Almeida (RIP)
		11.30am	Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv), Osanebi family (thanksgiving) Elizabeth Nyarwai (B'day thanksgiving)

		LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
11/10/2026	9.30am	Demisha, MaryAnn	Cath S.
	11.30am	Ivan, Preethi	Cathrine, Patricia Kabue
18/10/2026	9.30am	Amelia, Mercy	Sophie
	11.30am	Karen, Mrs. Okeke	Loveness, Beyang

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD

The sick of the Parish: Patsy Sproul, Ann Crowley, Christopher Browne, Teresa McAffer, Chinasa Okosi, Mr. Tran Van Khu, Owen Darroch, Lucia Drabik, Mick Hogan, William Edwards.

Anniversaries during the Week : Maureen Bridget Delargy, Margaret Flek, Nora Edwards, David Doran, Elizabeth Villiers, Catherine McKeon, Michael McKeon, Roger Kockelberg, Patrick Benson, Nicki Cherry, Hanorah Royal, John Doyle, Eileen Teynan, James Crawford, Dolly Rixon, James Flynn, Agnes Kathleen Molloy, Royalty Innih, Eve Jones, Gerard Bannon.

Clergy Anniversaries : Rev. Terence James Whatmore, Rev. Seamus Gilroy, Deacon Louis Kelly, Bp Michael Glancey, Canon William Withers, Mgr. Paul Watson.

Lord Jesus, You invite us to Your banquet of life, yet so often we come distracted, hesitant, or unprepared. Clothe our hearts in Your grace, so we may welcome Your call with humility and joy. Free us from excuses that keep us distant, and awaken in us a deeper desire for Your Kingdom. May our lives reflect the love, mercy, and generosity of the feast You prepare for all. Make us worthy to share in Your joy. Amen.