Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church,

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

Parish Newsletter- World Mission Sunday 18th to 25th Oct 2026 (Year A)

Feeling Safe in This Church

It is important that you feel safe and protected in our Church. Feelings say a lot about us and the environment we find ourselves in. Naturally, a welcoming community communicates a good feeling of safety, wellbeing, contentment and freedom to talk.

Recent appraisals of the Archdiocese of Birmingham indicate overall evidence of effective safeguarding practice across leadership and governance, safeguarding communications, engagement with survivors, case management, safer recruitment and training. We need to maintain higher standards and not be complacent (Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA).

As part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, it is my responsibility as parish priest to deliberately provide a safe environment that helps everyone to thrive. This is why safeguarding matters are highly prioritized.

I am now happy to introduce to you our two Parish Safeguarding Representatives, namely: **Mrs. Perpetua Sam** and **Mrs. Patricia Kabue.** The process to recruit Patricia started after Ruth Nakyeyune migrated from our parish. We are now happy that the Diocesan Safeguarding Team followed the necessary procedure and has approved Patricia's appointment. We congratulate Patricia who, together with Perpetua, will monitor our Safeguarding practice and ensure everyone's safety and protection from harm. Safeguarding and protection is inseparable from our missionary activity and evangelization.

Today is World Mission Sunday 2026 – Pope Leo has chosen the theme: ***"One in Christ, United in Mission".*** He says: "Following the Jubilee Year, I wish to encourage the whole Church to continue its missionary journey with joy and zeal in the Holy Spirit. This requires hearts united in Christ, reconciled communities, and in everyone, a willingness to cooperate with generosity and trust".

Fr. Aloysius

St. Mary & St. Benedict R.C Church 52a, Raglan Street Coventry, CV1 5QF. Tel 02476258901

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
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.
E-mail : fr.aloysius.bukenya@rcaob.org.uk
Assistant Parish Priest: Fr. Reginald Agapiti Tarimo, Apostles of Jesus.
E-mail : fr. reginald.tarimo@rcaob.org.uk
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

11/10/2026: **Gift Aid**: £**141.00** **Non-Gift Aid**: £**375.71** **Tota**l: £**516.71**
Dona: (11/10/26) £ **457 50** SO (Sept) **£1583.00** 2nd Collection : £**193.02**
Thank you and God bless you all.

2nd collection for October: 18th – Mission Sunday 1st Nov.- Johnson Association

Bonus Ball: No **Mass Attendance**: 414

Choir practice : Fri– 7.30pm and Sat: 5.00pm

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 Representatives are **Perpetua Sam & Patricia Kabue**. 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 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.

Prayers for Pope Leo XIV: Let us keep Pope Leo very specially in our prayers as he recuperates from his surgery at this time. May the Lord soon restore him to good health.

Bishop Timothy Menezes – Pope Leo has appointed Bishop Timothy as the new Bishop of Brentwood Diocese, succeeding Bishop Alan Williams SM. We offer our warm congratulations to him and offer to pray for him.

Preparations for our Parish Christmas Bazaar 2026

Our Christmas Bazaar is a major annual fundraising activity which will be held on Saturday 28th November. We shall have the first meeting by various group leaders this Sunday after the 11.30am Mass. In the meantime, I request you to take as many raffle tickets as possible and dispatch them to your friends and family: grab for yourself one of those sizzling gifts. For the actual bazaar, Fr. Aloysius is calling for **donations for food hampers, the bottle stall, tombola, bric-a-brac, food stalls** and all initiatives for fun and laughter as we raise money.

The relics of St Gerard Majella will be at Christ the King on Monday 19th October. They will be available for the whole day for veneration. St Gerard is especially known as the patron saint of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those seeking employment and those preparing to make a good confession. (Birmingham Archdiocesan website)

Parish Leaders Retreat - **Date: 23rd January 2027, organised by the Kenelm Youth Team, at St Mary's College, Oscott, B73 5AA.** Canon Michael Dolman will be leading our parish volunteers in this inspirational day created to strengthen the hearts of those who give so much to young people in our parishes. The day includes prayer, talks, discussion, time in the grounds, adoration and Mass. Lunch will be provided. See Fr. Aloysius to register for the day as early as possible.

The 2026 Blessing of the graves of our loved ones:

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

Dates for your Diary:

Thursday 12 November: 6pm, Confirmation Mass with Rt Rev. Richard Walker, Auxilliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Thursday 3rd December: Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council

MASSES—18th to 25th Oct 2026

Sun	18	9.30am	Roque Xavier Almeida (RIP), Felix & Ida (Wed. Anniv)
		11.30am	Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv), Osanebi family (Thanksgiving)
			Elizabeth Nyarwai (B'day thanksgiving)
Mon	19	12.00noon	Lucia Drabik (Thanksgiving), Felix & Ida (Wed. Anniv)
			Shumirai Marime (RIP)
Tues	20	9.30am	Chukwudi Malize (B'day), Ohengeto Muchadei (Get well)
Wed	21	9.30am	Jan Ondracka (RIP)
Thurs	22	9.30am	Pope Leo (Good health)
Fri	23	9.30am	Lucia Drabik (Thanksgiving)
Sat	24	9.30am	Charles Ward senior (RIP)
Sun	25	9.30am	Nora Curristan (Anniv), Rafael D'Costa & Conceicao (RIP)
			Deceased members of Glorio family, Vivian Texiera.
		11.30am	Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv)
			Elizabeth Nyarwai (B'day thanksgiving)

		LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
18/10/2026	9.30am	Amelia, Mercy	Sophie
	11.30am	Karen, Mrs. Okeke	Loveness, Lilian
25/10/2026	9.30am	Luis, Adrian	Betty O.
	11.30am	Kestia, Stacy	Marcel, Catherine

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 : Eve Jones, Gerard Bannon, Ellen O'Brien, Martin King, Matthew Murray, Margaret McDonagh, Catherine Mulvaney, Thomas Burke, Michael Jerome Walsh, Mary Higgins, John Ferry, Patrick Flynn, Raymond Anthony Day, Dorothy Rixon, Brian Kenney, Eugene Devlin, Michael McHugh, Josephine Maher, Norah Curristan, Vivian Texeira.

Clergy Anniversaries : Rev. Aidan White Spunner, Rev. Bredan Byrne, Rev. Thomas Nurbage, Rev. John Murray.

Prayer: *Jesus, You call all Christians to be united with You in a spiritual bond of faith and love. Grant us the grace of humility and charity, that we may serve within Your Church not according to our own agenda, but in the spirit of mercy and truth. Help us to seek Your holy will above all else, setting aside our own ideas and preferences, and choosing only You and the glory of Your eternal kingdom. Amen.*