Ss. Mary & Benedict RC Church,

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

Parish Newsletter - All Saints Day- 1st to 8th Nov 2026 (Year A)

Do you care about being a saint?

Thanks be to God; we have come to the end of October 2026. Like all months, it has brought days of trial and gloom, as well as good days characterised by joy, optimism and victory.

As we go about our daily lives, our priorities matter greatly because they shape the standards by which we measure what truly matters to us. The solemnity of All Saints, celebrated on November 1st, offers us a unique opportunity to ask whether the quality of being a saint, or holiness, has an actual space in our lives. Do you care about being a saint?

The good news is this: every walk of life is a path to holiness. Wherever God has placed you, there you can grow in sanctity - you can become a saint. The priest at the altar; the religious sister in her convent and service; husbands and wives in their homes; parents and children in family life; managers in the workplace; teachers in schools; leaders in our communities; the sick in hospitals; carers, nurses, and doctors tending to others; taxi and bus drivers; builders at their work — in every situation, holiness is within reach, regardless of the usual imperfections that we face daily.

The Lord's teaching and the example of his life show us the way to live a saintly life. Wherever you find yourself, there is a path to sainthood. So, I invite you to make holiness your priority. Care about being a saint. For when you strive for sanctity, God will keep opening before you one beautiful door after another, noting however that sainthood is always an uphill task.

May the saints, who wilfully followed our Lord along the way of suffering and death in their personal lives, intercede for us as we face our daily trials and temptations until the end of our lives here on earth. Amen.

Fr. Aloysius

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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.
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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

25/10/2026: **Gift Aid**: £ 150.00 **Non-Gift Aid**: £383.57 **Total**: £ 533.57
Dona: (25/10/26) £ SO (Oct) **£** 2nd Collection : £ Thank you and God bless you all.
2nd collection for October: 1st Nov.- Johnson Association; 22nd Nov. Catholic
Bonus Ball: No **Mass Attendance**:420

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 November: For the proper use of wealth. Let us pray for the proper use of wealth, that not succumbing to the temptation of selfishness, it may always be put at the service the common good and solidarity of those who have less.

Feasts during the week: **Monday** 2nd Nov : All souls; **Wednesday** 4th Nov: St. Charles Borromeo.

The Johnson Clergy Association Birmingham (Charitable Incorporated Organisation - CIO) This Sunday, 1st November, we have the annual collection for the association that supports the sick, retired and infirm clergy of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. For more information, please see the diocesan website.

Preparations for our Parish Christmas Bazaar -Saturday 28th November. **2026**
We still have many raffle tickets for sale, thanks for the sponsorships for the draw gifts. We are 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 next meeting will be held on Sunday 8th November, after 11.30 Mass.

Bishop Ludovick Mendi's visit: The visit of Bishop Mendi to our parish last Sunday reminded me of our co-founder Bishop Sisto Mazzoldi - every time he visited our seminary, he declared a holiday and often we had a country walk and a good meal. Thank you all for making it a great success by your generous contributions and charm. For me it was a unique revelation of your strengths and hidden treasure of your love as devoted parishioners.

Infant Baptisms: Registrations for infant baptisms are ongoing. Please, contact Sister Leera in the parish office for a baptismal form. Instructions for parents and godparents will be at 11.30 on Saturday 5th December, and baptisms will take place on 12th December.

Carmelite Vocational Encounter Evening – Thanks to all who participated in the vocational awareness event. It helped to highlight the three major vocations: Marriage, Generous Single life and Consecrated life (or religious life) - permanent diaconate and the sacred priesthood. Vocational discernment is an ongoing process even for those of us who are settled in our calling, because of the constant growth to perfection in every vocation.

Dates for your Diary:
Mass for Holy Souls – Monday 2nd November – 9.30am and 6.00pm
Thursday 12th November: 6pm, Confirmation Mass with Rt Rev. Richard Walker, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
Sunday 15th November: at both Sunday Masses representatives of Mary's Meals UK will speak about their goal to be a solution to world hunger.
Thursday 3rd December: 7pm, in the Parish Hall, Meeting of the Parish Pastoral Council
Friday 5th December: Community celebration of St Francis Xavier, all are welcome.

MASSES—1st to 8th Nov 2026

Sun	01	9.30am	Samantha A., Jason Irianan (B'day) Departed solus of Lewis family Thomas James Byrne (Anniv) Eghe family (Thanksgiving) Esther Eghe (B'day)
		11.30am	Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv), John Gibbons (Anniv)
Mon	02	9.30am	All souls
		6.00pm	All souls
Tues	03	9.30am	Jo-Ann Perry Straker (RIP)
Wed	04	9.30am	Kathleen Skelly (6th Anniv)
Thurs	05	9.30am	Deceased of Dunleavy, Murphy & Concannon families
Fri	06	9.30am	Deceased members of SSA
Sat	07	9.30am	Catrina Houlihan (RIP)
Sun	08	9.30am	Deceased of Bingo club, Anthonia A. (B'day) Lewis family (Thanksgiving), Joaquim Colaco (Spl int)
		11.30am	Helen Ngenche Forbi (Anniv), John Gibbons (Anniv)

		LECTORS	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
01/11/2026	9.30am	Lourds Evans, Martin	Felix
	11.30am	Florence, Rosalyn	Loveness, Marcel
08/11/2026	9.30am	Anthonia O, Melisha	Sophie
	11.30am	Florence, Rosalyn	Serso, Florence

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 Thornton, Angela Cook, Thomas John Gibbons, Ellen Roe, Danny Prosser, Richard McCann, John Joseph Carey, Martin Muldoon, Mary Kavanagh, Kathleen Skelly, Pat Sheehan, Jim Maguire, John Lawrence O'Sullivan, Patricia Buxter, Maureen Reilly, Bridget Kelly, Kevin Dunne, Margaret Scully, John Griffin, P. Prewitt, Anthony Edward Luke Mullarkey, Jean McCarthy.

Clergy Anniversaries : Rev. Henry Taylor, Deacon Paul Grosvenor, Bishop John Barrett, Rev. Louis Moore, Canon Denis Toplass, Archbp Maurice, Rev. James Curtin, Rev. Aengus Gabriel, Canon Patrick Smith, Mgr Bertram Gould, Rev. John, Rev. Ian Ker.

On the feast of All Saints, the Church invites and challenges us to walk the walk of the Saints, not just talk the talk: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of Heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in Heaven" (Mt 7:21). 2) The feast gives us an occasion to thank God for having invited so many of our ancestors to join the company of the Saints. May our reflection on the heroic lives of the Saints, with our imitation of their lifestyle, enable us to hear from our Lord the words of grand welcome to eternal bliss: "Well done, good and faithful servant! Enter into the joys of your Master" (Mt 25:21).