



OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
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 Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Damian Nwankwo
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 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
 Registered Charity No. 234216
 "Unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority".
 Mark 1:21-28 Psalter Week 1

Pope's intention for January: For The Gift Of Diversity In The Church; Let us pray that the Holy Spirit helps us recognize the gift of different charisms within the Christian community, and discover the richness of different ritual traditions in the heart of the Catholic Church.

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time January 27th – 28th January 2024

Sat 27 th January	Vigil for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Second collection Racial Justice Sunday		5.30 pm Mass: Divine Healing on Maureen Walsh, Michael Walsh and Peggy Lennon.
Sun 28 th January	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Second collection Racial Justice Sunday		10.00 am Mass + online via Zoom Healing for Jill Brown
Tue 30 th January	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.30 am	Celebration of the Word & Communion
Fri 2 nd February	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord	9.30 am	Celebration of the Word & Communion
Sat 3 rd February	Vigil for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time.		5.30 pm Mass: Michael Brennan RIP
Sun 4 th February	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time		10.00 am Mass + online via Zoom

Message from Fr Damian: The reading this week from the book of Deuteronomy includes the words of Moses that God would one day raise a great prophet, a prophet like Moses. This reading prepares us for the gospel reading and the fulfilment of that promise. Jesus, who is greater than Moses, speaks powerful words, words of truth, words which heal. The good news Jesus brings can change our lives as it changed the life of the sick man in the gospel. The Gospel recalls Jesus's time in Capernaum, after the call of the disciples, He reaches Capernaum, a busy town by the Sea of Galilee, which he made the centre of his ministry. His teaching impressed the people, for it was given with authority, with conviction. Jesus spoke the truth without fear. The people are even more astonished by the healing of the man who was 'possessed by an unclean spirit'. The sick man was probably suffering from some kind of mental illness, and considered to be 'possessed'. All sickness was considered evil and in some way the work of Satan. The sick man was somehow a victim of evil. By healing him Jesus challenges and conquers the power of Satan. He demonstrates that the kingdom is near.

Prayer Intentions: We pray for all on our parish sick list and for those who care for them, May Christ be near them to bless them and keep them. We pray for those departed from this life, Michael Brennan, and for our parish anniversaries, Bartley Morrisroe, Philip Dyer, Kathleen Hall, Julia Bradley, James Gillespie, Peter Dryhurst and Maureen Dyer. May they all share the blessed hope of those who have died in the peace of Christ.

Ash Wednesday 14th February Mass at 7.00 pm. Fr Bernie will be celebrating mass with us on Ash Wednesday. We hope we will have the Station of the Cross on Wednesday and Friday Evenings and look forward to Parishioners joining us for these Lenten observances in this Year of Prayer. Our Lenten Study and prayer group will meet on Friday Mornings. More details to follow.

Racial Justice Sunday This Weekend: There will be a second collection to support the work of the Catholic Church to promote racial justice in our schools, parishes and in the wider society

Soup and a Sandwich lunch group; We are keen to start a soup and sandwich lunch group soon. A chance to come along and share, have a natter and meet parishioners and neighbours. At the moment we are looking to see how much interest there would be, and if we can get volunteers to assist. For more information, please contact Lesley on WhatsApp at +44 7912 623990 or email, lesleyharvey@yahoo.co.uk

Fr Damian's Silver Jubilee Year and Holidays: Fr. Damian has started his holidays visiting family and his old parishes. He will return in mid-February. Please pray for him as he starts his Jubilee Year.

Cover has been arranged for our Saturday and Sunday Masses. This week we are joined by Fr John Collins from the Columban's.

We will have a Celebration of the Word & Communion on Tuesday and Friday mornings at 9.30 am. For any urgent pastoral issues please contact Fr Patrick Mileham at St Mary Immaculate, Warwick 01926 492913 Or email the parish email olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk.

Holy Year 2025: Year of Prayer, December 23 – December 24: During this Year of Prayer in preparation for the Holy Year in 2025, Pope Francis asks us to meditate on the words of the Lord's prayer. Each day we pray with Jesus, "Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil" New from the Archdiocese for 2024: Pause for Prayer, a reflective, monthly, video resource of teaching, testimony and intentions. To learn more and to watch, visit: www.vocations.org.uk/year-ofprayer-2024

Stratford Foodbank: In the week of 15th – 19th January they had calls to support 32 children and 87 adults. They are supporting around 480 people a month with food parcels, their most needed items this month are, tinned chicken meals, hot dogs, UHT milk, juice, deodorant, squash, and bleach, The calls on their service do go up in cold weather so any help you can give will make life a little easier for families in our area.

The "100" Club January Draw: We will do our January draw this weekend; we still have some numbers the available numbers are listed next to the 100 Club box at the back of the church. Please sign against a number, complete the forms with bank details or a cheque, and pop it in the 100 Club Box. Once again, thank you for your continuing support and encouragement. For any queries, don't hesitate to get in touch with Annette Howell at 07771847214 or email netandsteve@gmail.com.

Archdiocese of Birmingham Vision: *"Our Vision is to be a Catholic Diocese which is faithful to the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ, full of missionary disciples who work together co-responsibly in vibrant communities of faith, joyful in their service of God and neighbour".*

Safeguarding Information from The Archdiocese Office: Our Lady and St. Benedict's parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Catherine Treacy. She can be contacted at: sg.olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively, the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Birmingham Archdiocese Link: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/

Warwick Deanery Website: www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk/

Follow the Readings at Mass: www.universalis.com/mass.htm / or www.alivepublishing.co.uk/

Lourdes Pilgrimage 2024 - 27th May to 1st June. Each May half Term, the Archdiocese of Birmingham organises a pilgrimage to Lourdes, in France, for a week of prayer and service at the Shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes. 2024 will be the 82nd Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage.