



**OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER**

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The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Registered Charity No. 234216

“God sent his Son so that through him the world might be saved”

John 3:14-21 Psalter Week 4.

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March: For the new martyrs** – We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm.

**Fourth Sunday of Lent 9<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Mothering Sunday**

Sat 9 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Vigil for the Fourth Sunday in Lent.</b> Laetare Sunday Mother's Day Cathedral Maintenance Fund		5.30 pm Mass: Divine Healing for Maureen Walsh, Michael Walsh and Peggy Lennon
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Fourth Sunday in Lent Laetare Sunday</b> Mother's Day. Cathedral Maintenance Fund		10.00 am Mass + online via Zoom Gerry Larkin RIP Mothers of the Parish
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	9.30 am	Mass.
Tue 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	9.30 am	Mass.
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	6.30 pm 6.50 pm	Stations of the Cross Mass.
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	No Mass	
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	9.30 am 10.30 am 6.30 pm	Mass. Lenten Prayer and Study Group Stations of the Cross
Sat 16 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Vigil for the Fifth Sunday in Lent.</b>		5.30 pm Mass:
Sun 17 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Fifth Sunday in Lent</b>		10.00 am Mass + online via Zoom

**From Fr Damian, Laetare Sunday, Fourth Sunday of Lent: HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!**

This Sunday we celebrate Mother's Day 'Laetare Sunday' when we remember all mothers and Grandmothers both living and dead, and thank God for the contribution of all the Ladies of our Parish. The readings for the 4th Sunday of Lent are a reminder of God's love for humanity and the gift of salvation that He offers to all who believe in His Son, Jesus Christ. Just as Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness to bring physical healing to the people of Israel, Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection bring spiritual healing and eternal life to all who believe in Him. This Lenten period is a time for inner transformation, reminding us that our journey involves more than abstention; it's about allowing God to shape us into His likeness, highlighting the Lenten call to become more like Jesus through God's grace and mercy.

**Lent Preparation:** We continue our Stations of the Cross on Wednesday and Friday evenings at 6.30 pm.

**Confessions during Lent:** Please feel free to approach Fr Damian after any of our masses if you would like a confession.

**Our Lenten Study and Prayer group;** meets on Friday mornings at 10.30 am. Please come along and join this lively discussion group.

**Our Lady and St Benedict's Parish, Easter Lilies;** If you would like to donate to the floral displays in our Church at Easter in memory of a loved one or as a celebration, please complete the form/envelopes in church. All those who are to be remembered will be placed on a Prayer Board.

Payments can also be made by bacs, please mark your payment 'Easter Lilies.' For more information, please get in touch with Lesley on WhatsApp at +44 7912 623990 or email, [lesleyharvey@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lesleyharvey@yahoo.co.uk)

**Easter Fundraising Raffle:** We will again have a draw for a superb Easter Egg and Easter Cake to raise parish funds, please do support this by buying a raffle ticket.

**St Chad's Cathedral Maintenance fund:** This weekend will be our Diocesan collection for the upkeep of our cathedral in Birmingham.

**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 all who have gone to their rest in the hope of rising again, especially for Kate Hawkins, who passed away last week, and our parish anniversaries, Dorothy Bartholomew, Michael Coleman, Margaret Possart, Joan Harvey, Bernard Duffy, Margaret Miller, Joan Fitzmaurice, David Marks, Michael Rogers, Martin Corrigan, and David Rolstone. Eternal rest grant to them O lord, may they rest in eternal peace.

**Dementia Prayer Week:** This runs from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March for a week. Dementia touches the lives of millions of people across the country. During this week we pray and try to raise awareness of the spiritual needs of those who are living with Dementia and their careers.

**The "100" Club March Draw:** It is not too late to sign up @ £10 a month as we still have some numbers the available numbers are listed next to the 100 Club box at the back of the church. For any queries, don't hesitate to get in touch with Annette Howell at 07771847214 or email [netandsteve@gmail.com](mailto:netandsteve@gmail.com).

**Stratford Foodbank:** The Foodbank have thanked us for our donation in February. "Your donation weighed in at 58kg which equates to a monetary value of £137.46 - thank you so much. Your support is very welcome especially as our donations have dropped after the Christmas period". They were busy in Jan feeding 533 people! The food bank is very much needed and feel extremely fortunate for the support we make. Any help you can give will make life a little easier for families in our area.

### **Holy Week Services at Our Lady and St Benedict's.**

Sun 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Palm Sunday of the Passion of The Lord	10.00 am: Mass
Wed 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Wednesday of Holy week	7.00 pm: Ecumenical Station of The Cross
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Maundy Thursday	7.30 pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper. Renewal of Commission for Eucharistic Ministers Watching until midnight.
Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Good Friday	3.00 pm: Celebration of the Lord's Passion. 7.00 pm Station of the Cross
Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Saturday	8.00 pm: The Pascal Fire Mass & Service of Light
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Easter Sunday Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord	8.30 am Solemn Mass 10.00 am Solemn Mass

**Ecumenical Station of the Cross: Help needed Refreshments.** On Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> @ 7.00 pm. We will welcome our fellow local Christian communities to join us for Station of the Cross. Can some parishioners please come and help with refreshments after? Please contact Lesley or Fr Damian

**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 following 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](mailto:sg.olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk) or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at 0121 230 6240 [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concerns.

**Birmingham Archdiocese Link:** [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Warwick Deanery Website:** [www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk](http://www.warwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk)

**Follow the Readings at Mass:** [www.universalis.com/mass](http://www.universalis.com/mass). or [www.alivepublishing.co.uk](http://www.alivepublishing.co.uk).