



OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
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 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
 Registered Charity No. 234216
 "I am the vine; you are the branches" John 15:1-8
 Psalter Week 1

Fifth Sunday of Easter 27th – 28th April 2024

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May: For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Sat 27 th April	Vigil for the Fifth Sunday of Easter CAFOD Emergency Sudan Appeal	11.00 – 12.00 am Confessions 5.30 pm Mass: Divine Healing on, Maureen Walsh, Michael Walsh and Peggy Lennon
Sun 28 th April	Fifth Sunday of Easter CAFOD Emergency Sudan Appeal	10.00 am Mass + Zoom: Margaret Sault
Mon 29 th April	St. Catherine of Sienna. Virgin Martyr	9.30 am Mass. Day of Prayer for Europe
Tues 30 th April	Easter Feria	6.30 pm mass
Wed 1 st May	Easter Feria	9.30 am mass
Thurs 2 nd May	Memorial of St Athanasius. Bishop, Doctor of the Church	No Mass
Fri 3 rd May	Feast of Ss. Philip and James Apostles	9.30 am mass
Sat 4 th May	Vigil for the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Second Collection Parish Maintenance Fund	11.00 – 12.00 am Confessions 5.30 pm Mass
Sun 6 th May	Sixth Sunday of Easter Second Collection Parish Maintenance Fund	9.40 am Rosary 10.00 am Mass + Zoom

Message from Fr Damian. Fifth Sunday of Easter. Our readings this weekend, remind us of our dependence on God and each other. In the Gospel, Jesus described himself as the true vine and his Father as the gardener. Branches not bearing fruit are removed, while fruitful ones are pruned for more yield. He emphasized staying connected to him, akin to branches on a vine, as the key to bearing fruit. Without him, nothing can be achieved. Unfruitful branches are discarded. Fruitfulness in believers brings glory to God and proves discipleship. The second reading also echoes this teaching. In our parish, we are always looking for parishioners to be the branches to spread and grow our parish. If you can help please talk to me.

Message from Archbishop Bernard: I want to let you know directly, and as the Holy See announced on 25th April, that the Holy Father has appointed Mgr Timothy Menezes and Canon Richard Walker as Auxiliary Bishops for the Archdiocese. I know that you will join me in assuring them both of our prayers as they prepare to take up their new responsibilities for the pastoral care of our clergy and people.

CAFOD Emergency Sudan Appeal. The situation in Sudan is deteriorating rapidly and with 25 million people needing immediate humanitarian assistance up to seven million people will now be at risk of famine-like conditions by June. CAFOD is supporting their local partners.

Prayer Intentions: We pray for all on our parish sick list and for those who care for them, we especially pray for Lee Trinder who is seriously ill and for his family, May Christ be near them to bless them.

We pray for all in our parish who have recently died and our parish anniversaries, Vernon Flatley, Kathleen White, Zia Esposito, Jack McHugh, Gertie Johnson and Alice McVeigh that they may be granted the fullness of life and joy in heaven.

Mass Intentions: We do not have many intentions for our masses, If you would like to arrange for a Mass to be said for a special intention, We do have envelopes at the rear of The Church, please complete one of the envelopes and either give it to Fr Damian or one of the Stewards. It is usual to include a donation.

Annual Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage next Saturday St Chads at Noon. Please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass.

May Devotions: During May we will offer the rosary before mass on Sunday mornings. We will also be saying the Angelus at the end of our weekend Masses. Can I encourage you all to try and take into your home these wonderful devotions during this month?

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU! Canon Paul Fitzpatrick Episcopal Vicar for Coventry, Warwickshire and Oxfordshire is visiting Olasb and confirming several pupils from St Mary's over the weekend of the 15th and 16th of June. You will all be aware that the Diocese is looking closely at all parishes as it assesses the future. As Father Damian mentioned last week, some parishes will inevitably close or merge with others. We need to pull together to showcase our parish at its very best - a vibrant community looking towards the future. If you value your parish, please give some of your time as we prepare for the upcoming visit. We will be asking for help with a range of things from gardening to baking - your contribution big or small is much appreciated. Thank you!

Tarantara concert on the 18th of May: This award-winning choir has once again agreed to do a concert for our church, to help with our funds. This is a great night with a local choir playing a full repertoire of music to suit all ages and tastes. Do come along and join us and bring your friends and neighbours with you – if you could spread the word that would be wonderful.

Children under 5 are free, 5 -16 reduced price £6.00 adults £12.50. price includes a glass of wine or soft drinks. The tickets will be available from Chris Neale on 01789 488737 or 07884 326320, or by e-mail at christine@raymondcneale.com. To help with our fundraising we would be grateful for some donations of Raffles prizes, either individual prizes or things we could bundle into a hamper(s). Looking forward to seeing you and your friends and family there.

Grounds Clear up 4th May 10:00 – 1:00: This year we have First Holy Communion, The Parish Visitation and Confirmations and Father Damian's Jubilee in the Parish and that means we will have lots of people to accommodate both in the church and in the parish rooms and garden. It would be lovely to show off our beautiful church and grounds at their best! Thank you! to those who were available to help last weekend we made a great start. There is some more work to do – a general tidy up around the church and the car park areas and a bit more in the Garden too. So, we need your help again, please. You don't need to be a gardener just a willing pair of hands would be very welcome. To keep energy levels up 😊 and to thank you for your efforts, we will be having tea/coffee etc, and Bacon Rolls/Cake in the Garden Room.

The "100" Club April Draw: our winners last weekend for the April draw were, 1st Prize was 36 Margaret Kiely £118.50 the 2nd Prize was 29, Kathryn Judge £79.00, the 3rd Prize was won by 46 Ann Bullingham £ 39, congratulations to them all. 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 contact 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 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 or 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. or www.alivepublishing.co.uk.