



OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
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 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
 Registered Charity No. 234216
 "Who shall we go to? You are the Holy One of God": John 6:60-69
 Psalter Week 1

The Twentieth First Sunday in Ordinary Time. 24th – 25th August 2024

Holy Father's Prayer Intention for August: For Political Leaders. We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and the common good, especially caring for the poor and for those who have lost their jobs.

Sat 24 th Aug	Vigil for the Twentieth First Sunday in Ordinary Time	5.30 pm Mass: Divine Healing on Maureen Walsh, Michael Walsh and Peggy Lennon
Sun 25 th Aug	The Twentieth First Sunday in Ordinary Time	10.00 am Mass: John Alcock RIP
Mon 26 th Aug	Feast of Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God (Dominic Barberi), Priest	9.30 am Mass:
Tues 27 th Aug	Memorial of St Monica	6.30 pm Mass:
Wed 28 th Aug	Memorial of St Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church.	9.30 am Mass:
Thurs 29 th Aug	Memorial of the Passion of St John the Baptist, Martyr	Mass: No Mass
Fri 30 th Aug	Feria in Ordinary Time	9.30 am Mass:
Sat 31 st Aug	Vigil for the Twentieth Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Parish Maintenance Fund Collection	5.30 pm Mass:
Sun 1 st Sept	The Twentieth Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Parish Maintenance Fund Collectio	10.00 am Mass:

Prayer Intentions: We pray for all on our parish sick list and those who care for them, that the Lord may guide them and strengthen them through their illness. For those who have died especially among our family and friends for Siobhan Upton and for those whose anniversaries are near, Josie Coleman, Kathleen Maypothor, John Alcock, Eric Keyte, Frederick Smith, Mary Toal, Nancy Coulson, Paul Taylor, And Mary Bourke. May they all come to dwell in the everlasting light of God's love.

Message from Fr Damian: Regarding the Silver Jubilee Celebration, I was overwhelmed by the well wishes and attendance at the Mass on The Feast of the Assumption and for the Celebration Mass and Lunch last Sunday, It felt unreal. I never thought I could be celebrated in this way. The support and effort from everyone involved was incredible. Thank you all.

Readings 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our Readings this weekend focus on faith, commitment, and unity. They show us the importance of choosing to follow God and living according to His teachings. In the first reading, Joshua challenges the Israelites to choose whom they will serve. This decision is crucial for their identity and future. Joshua reminds them of God's faithfulness and the many ways He has delivered them. The second reading from Ephesians speaks about the love and respect in marriage. Husbands and wives are called to reflect the love between Christ and the Church. This unity is a model for all relationships. In our Gospel Jesus addresses the difficulty of His teachings and acknowledges disbelief among His followers. After many leave, Peter reaffirms their faith, recognizing Jesus as the Holy One of God and chooses to stay. Following Jesus is not always easy. It requires accepting difficult truths and making sacrifices even when the path is hard.

Cemetery Wall: Through the Archdiocese, the Contract has been awarded to Weatheroak Developments Ltd. They are due to start on September 1st. They hope to keep access to the Graveyard open while the work continues but at times this may not be possible, please bear with them. Barring any unexpected developments they hope to complete the work by Christmas.

Fr Damian's Silver Jubilee Celebrations from the Parish Chair: A very big THANK YOU to all parishioners who helped to make last Sunday's celebration of Father Damian's Silver Jubilee such a wonderful and memorable day. The parish came together to celebrate along with Father's friends whose joyful music and food helped to make it a fitting tribute to him. It was a truly special day and one we will all treasure in the years to come. If you do have any photos you could share, please email them to the Parish email address. We would like to put together an Album both for Fr Damian and for the Parish

Archbishop Bernard's call to celebrate the season of creation: Archbishop Bernard has released a video ahead of the Season of Creation to encourage you to take up the opportunity which the Holy Father has given us to celebrate the Season. He says: "As you may know this is something growing year by year as we become more and more aware of our calling as Christians to have a care for the whole of the Created world. "Pope Francis is asking us to think about how we care for the whole of Creation as an expression of our own Christian Faith and is referring us to St Paul's letter to the Romans, which speaks about the whole of Creation groaning, but also looking for the freedom which Christ brings us as children of God... "Hope and Act with Creation is the theme for this year, and I hope you'll be able to pray that we and others will value all that we have in creation as a way of praising God and also caring for those who are most in need." You can find the full celebration guide as well as other prayers and resources on the Diocesan website.

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk>

Annual Pilgrimage to Harvington Hall, Sunday 1 September. The pilgrimage to the Shrine of the English Martyrs will take place on Sunday 1st September: Mass is at 3 pm with Confessions from 1.45 pm to 2.30 pm. The Right Reverend Paul Gunter OSB, Abbot of Douai Abbey will be the principal celebrant. Free tours of Harvington Hall are available to pilgrims on the day and can be booked upon arrival. There is free parking available. You must bring your own chairs and a packed lunch if needed.

Can you help Sponsor our new Lectionaries? We have preordered the Ambo edition of the Lectionaries. They come as a set of four volumes they cost around £145.25 each.

We have also ordered the new book of the gospels which was £233.75. We do have a promise for some of the books, If anyone else would like to consider donating one of the remaining volumes or for the book of the Gospels we shall need, please let Father Damian know, or email the parish at olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk We can have them inscribed as a lasting dedication to a family's intention for a loved one. Thank you.

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.

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