



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

Alcester Road, Wootton Wawen, B95 6BQ Tel: 01564 792647

Priest-in-Charge: Fr. Damian Nwankwo

[fr.damian.nwankwo@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.damian.nwankwo@rcaob.org.uk)

Parish Email: [olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk)

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Registered Charity No. 234216

'As Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face was altered.'

Luke 9:28b-36 Psalter Week 2.

**Second Sunday in Lent, 15th-16th March.**

**Holy Father's Prayer Intention for March For families in crisis.** Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Vigil for the Second Sunday in Lent CAFOD Lent Fast Day collection</b>	5.30 pm Mass: <b>Martin Corrigan RIP</b>
Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>First Second in Lent CAFOD Lent Fast Day collection</b>	10.00 am Mass: Divine Healing on Maureen Walsh Michael Walsh Peggy Lennon <b>Children's Liturgy</b>
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Feast of St Patrick, Bishop, Patron of Ireland and Nigeria</b>	9.30 am Mass
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	9.30 am Mass
Wed 19 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Solemnity of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Dementia prayer week begins	6.30 pm Stations of the Cross 7.00 pm Mass
Thurs 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria	No Mass
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Lent Feria	9.00. St Mary's Primary School KS1 Mass in Church. 10.30: Lenten Study Group 6.30 pm Stations of the Cross and Mass
<b>Saturday 22nd March Deanery Pilgrimage to Littlemore, Oxfordshire</b>		
Sat 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	<b>Vigil for the Third Sunday in Lent</b>	5.30 pm Mass:
Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	<b>Third Second in Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments.</b>	10.00 am Mass:



**Deanery Pilgrimage to Littlemore Oxfordshire Next Saturday 22nd March** A pilgrimage is being arranged to one of our Diocesan Jubilee churches in Oxford, the College of St John Henry Newman, and Blessed Dominic Barberi Church, OX4 4JX. 10.30 am Arrival and Mass, coffee and a talk, guided visit of the College, own packed lunch, Exposition with Indulgence prayers and ending with tea at 3.00 pm. There is ample car parking at the church. No charge, but a collection will be taken for the sisters and the Parish. To assist the Sisters, please confirm attendance to [peter.rand@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.rand@btinternet.com) as soon as you know or by 17 March latest. Thank you.

**Children Liturgy: There will be Children's liturgy this Sunday at our 10.00 mass.**

**Readings for the Second Sunday in Lent:** The readings this weekend spotlight the presence of God in our lives. They depict Abram's encounter with God and the covenant made, emphasize the transformational power of God, and narrate Jesus' transfiguration witnessed by Peter, James, and John. The themes revolve around letting God transform us, recognising God's manifestation in our lives, and letting go of stereotypes.

We also see God's commitment to His people through the covenant. It is a sign that God will never abandon us. He is always with us, guiding and protecting us. As we journey through Lent, let us remember God's promise and covenant with us. In our lives, we can apply this message by trusting in God's promises. No matter what challenges we face, we can have faith that God is with us. His commitment to us is unchanging. Let us hold on to this truth as we continue our Lenten journey

**Parish AGM 24<sup>th</sup> March @ 7.00 pm.** We would love some more parishioners to come along and show your support for the parish. We will have wine and nibbles.

**Prayer Intentions:** We pray for our Holy Father Pope Francis, may he make a speedy recovery from his illness, 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. We pray for the faithful departed for Victor Goodwin and Peter Hernshaw, and for our parish anniversaries, David Marks, Martin Corrigan, David Rolstone, Denis Cowan, Russell Thomas, Gerard Jones, and May Kinney. May the Lord free them from death and give them a place at his banquet in heaven.

**St Mary's School Lent Masses:** KS1 are coming up to the church to celebrate mass at 9.00 next Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Parishioners are very welcome to join them for their worship.

**Peter Hershaw RIP: Peter's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> at 12.00 in Our Lady and St Benedict's.** His cremation service will be at Oakley Wood, Leamington at 2.00. The Family invite parishioners to join them in the Wootton Wawen Social club from 2.45 pm afterwards.

**Parish Lenten Study Group. The Group meets on Fridays in the parish rooms. "Journeying Lent with the Psalms" All are welcome.**

**Lent 2025:** In this Jubilee year, this is a chance to review your spiritual life. Maybe picking up again something you have lapsed from or taking on a new form of worship? It is not all about "giving up" something.

We will have Stations of the Cross and Mass on Wednesdays and Fridays Evenings. There will be morning Masses on Monday and Tuesday during Lent. **If Anyone wants Confessions during Lent, please ask Fr. Damian**

**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 to be remembered will be placed on a Prayer Board. Donations can be made by Cash, Cheque or 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 Raffle:** We are now collecting donations for the Easter Raffle to raise funds for our Parish. Any chocolate or Easter-related items would be very much appreciated. Please leave any Donations in the Sacristy, with Fr Damian or contact Louise.

**Soup and Roll lunch, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 12.30.** Our next lunch is next Wednesday, homemade soup roll, and tea or coffee and biscuits. Cost £3.50. Please do come along and share this with friends and neighbours.

**"Walk with Me" booklets and calendars are now available in the church.**

**CAFOD's online Lent Prayer calendar 2025:** Their daily Lent emails of prayer and reflection will offer an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action through Lent. <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>

**Dementia Prayer Week 12 – 19<sup>th</sup> March:** Everyone is invited to participate in this national event, now in its Seventeenth year. The aim is to raise awareness and a deeper understanding of the spiritual needs of people living with dementia. <https://www.rpbooks.co.uk/dementia-prayer-week>

**St Gregory's Lenten Talks Stratford on Avon, "At the Foot of the Cross. Starts Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> March:** All are welcome, please see the Flyers.

**100 Club March Draw:** We still have some numbers left. It is not too late to sign up! There are "sign-up envelopes" at the back of the church for new subscribers. For BACS payments, please get in touch with Mary Mayo at [pt.olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pt.olasb.woottonwawen@rcaob.org.uk). You can contact me for any queries at [netandsteve@gmail.com](mailto:netandsteve@gmail.com). Many thanks. Annette

**Stratford Food Bank:** This month's most needed are Coffee, Hand Wash, Instant Mas, Shaving Foam, Tinned meat meals, UHT Milk, UHT Fruit Juice, Washing up liquid, or any other items you can spare. Please drop off any donations in the box at the back of the church.

**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."*

**The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage Saturday 24 – Friday 30 May 2025.** Lourdes Pilgrimage Booking is now open for this year's Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage You are most welcome to join in this Jubilee Year as we journey to Lourdes in May. The pilgrimage runs from Saturday 24 - Friday 30 May 2025 with the theme: "With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope". If you would like to travel to Lourdes but need assistance help is available. You will participate fully in the pilgrimage and experience the love of God through the care, love and friendship of volunteers. Please contact the Lourdes Pilgrimage Office to discuss assistance requirements: 0121 230 6288 / [admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:admin.lourdes@rcaob.org.uk) Find out more here:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/lourdes-pilgrimage>

**Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo from Birmingham: 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> March,** 4 nights in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport are included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, and the Quiet Man Museum. Enquiry. Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

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

**Deanery Website:** <https://banburyandwarwick-catholicdeanery.org.uk/>

**For all the Archdiocese news, please go to Birmingham Archdiocese Link:** [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Safeguarding Information from The Archdiocese Office:** Our Lady and St. Benedict's parish always operates following Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdiocesan policies & procedures. 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.