



OUR LADY & ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER
 Alcester Road, Wootton Wawen, B95 6BQ Tel: 01564 792647
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 The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham.
 Registered Charity No. 234216
 "Unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."
 Luke 13:1-9 Psalter Week 3

Third Sunday in Lent, 22nd – 23rd 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 22 nd March	Vigil for the Third Sunday in Lent	5.30 pm Mass: Peter Bullingham RIP
Sun 23 rd March	Third Second in Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments.	10.00 am Mass: Divine Healing on Maureen Walsh Michael Walsh Peggy Lennon
Mon 24 th March	Lent Feria	9.30 am Mass Parish AGM 7.00 pm
Tues 25 th March	Solemnity of the Annunciation	9.30 am Mass
Wed 26 th March	Lent Feria	6.30 pm Stations of the Cross 7.00 pm Mass
Thurs 27 th March	Lent Feria	No Mass
Fri 28 th March	Lent Feria	10.30: Lenten Study Group 6.30 pm Stations of the Cross and Mass
Sat 29 th March	Vigil for the Fourth Sunday in Lent	5.30 pm Mass:
Sun 30 th March	Fourth in Lent Day of Prayer for Candidates for the Sacraments. Mothering Sunday	10.00 am Mass:



Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent: in the reading from Exodus this week, God promises to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. This powerful message shows that God is always working to set us free from our own struggles and sins. Just as He heard the cries of the Israelites, He hears our cries, too.

Paul's letter to the Corinthians warns against idol worship and turning away from God. He reminds us to stay faithful and avoid anything that takes us away from God. This message is crucial for our spiritual journey.

Our Gospel reading teaches that suffering and evil are not punishments from God. Jesus uses recent tragic events to explain that bad things happen, but they are not a result of sin. He urges us to stay in the right relationship with God, repent, and

bear fruit in our lives.

When we encounter suffering, we should take action, if possible, forgive others, and seek God's help to turn our sorrow into something good for His Kingdom. This lesson helps us understand how to respond to suffering with faith and compassion.

Parish AGM 24th 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 Peter Hernshaw and our parish anniversaries, Peter Bullingham, Sean Larim Shakoore-Divani, Annie Jones, Pauline Fogarty, David Marks and John Barrett. May they be freed from their sins and welcomed into the company of the saints with the Lord forever. .

Peter Hernshaw RIP: Peter's Funeral Mass will be on Monday 24th 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.

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**

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

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. Please return your envelope by Palm Sunday.

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.

"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>

St Gregory's Lenten Talks Stratford on Avon, "At the Foot of the Cross." Next talk 29th March @ 10.30 am. 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. You can contact me for any queries at 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 Find out more here:

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

Pilgrimage to Knock & Co Mayo from Birmingham: 10th – 14th 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.

Follow the Readings at Mass: www.universalis.com/mass. or 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

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 or the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted at 0121 230 6240 safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concerns.

Vacancy Kenelm Youth Trust. The trust are seeking committed Catholics for senior leadership positions at our retreat centres based in Alton, ST10 4TT. Please visit our website to apply: www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk/kenelmvacancies.html or call to discuss with us on 01538 703 224

Our Lady and St Benedict's Holy Week and Easter Services

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th April. Palm Sunday and Passion of the Lord Blessing of Palms

Wednesday 16th April Ecumenical Stations of the Cross 7.00 pm

Thursday 17th April Maundy Thursday: Mass of the Lord's Supper 6.30 pm

Friday 18th April Good Friday: Prayers at Market Cross and Walk of Witness in Henley 10.00 am*

Celebration of the Passion of the lord. 3.00 pm

Station of the Cross 7.00 pm

Saturday 19th April Holy Saturday: Easter Vigil Mass, Blessing of the Fire and Holy Water 7.30 pm

Sunday 20th April Mass of the Resurrection of the Lord 08.30 am and 10.00 am.

All are welcome to come and share these services. All our services will be at Our Lady and St Benedict Church, Alcester Road B95 6BQ

Church Cleaning Easter Deep Clean 12th April, The Cleaning team are having a big push on the 12th of April to get the church sparkling for Easter. Please come along if you can help any assistance would be appreciated.