



St. Benedict's Church
Atherstone.
CV9 1DG

Parish Newsletter for the weekend
22nd and 23rd June 2019

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Corpus Christi.
The Body and The Blood of Christ.

Saturday 22nd. 4 p.m. *Jean Chetwynd RIP*
Sunday 23rd 9.30 a.m. People of the Parish.

Soul of Christ, be my sanctification. Body of Christ, be my salvation. Blood of Christ, fill all my veins. Water of Christ's side, wash out my stains. Passion of Christ, my comfort be. O good Jesus, listen to me. In Thy wounds I gain would hide, N'er to be parted from Thy side. Guard me should the foe assail me. Call me when my life shall fail me. Bid me come to Thee above. With Thy saints to sing Thy love, for ever and ever. Amen.

Confirmation. What a beautiful celebration last Wednesday evening. Congratulations to all involved. Our now-confirmed young people were so smartly dressed, so reverently behaved, so full of spiritual joy! What a credit they are to their parents and teachers! Well done everybody. The bishop was mightily impressed. If those youngsters are the future of the church, then the church is sure to prosper. Thank you to John and Max for serving the Mass. Thank you to Maureen and the other parishioners who prepared the hall and organised the party afterwards. (What an asset that parish hall is!) And thank you to all of you who have been praying, and continue to pray for the younger members of the parish.

The Feast of the Sacred Heart. Friday of this week. In his great fresco of the Last Judgement, Michelangelo portrayed a stern, angry Christ sending the wicked to eternal damnation. The Gospel of Luke is different. St. Luke shows us a Christ who heals wounds, befriends the outcast; who hates sin but loves the sinner; a Christ who is on our side. Which of the two is the real Christ? When Christ appeared to St. Margaret Mary He said, *Behold the heart which has loved men so much.* As I see it, Jesus shows his Heart, because we have a tendency to think of God as a heartless despot, and He wants us to recognise Him as our Lover. I would like to celebrate Mass on Friday at 10 a.m.

*Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
I implore
That I may love thee daily
More and more*

Finance. The parish has about £26,000 in the bank (Fr. Michael Gamble). Of that £15,958.26 is the Church Restoration Fund. (Fr John Nolan)

Last Weekend you gave the Parish £270.35; £181.15 in the first collection, and £89.20 in the second. Thank you very much.

Confession & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Saturday morning 10.30-11.30. Feel free to come and 'waste time' with the Lord. And don't worry if - like me - you sit down to pray, and fall asleep!

Collection envelopes. There are some boxes of collection envelopes in the porch. Does one of them belong to you? If so, please take and use. Of course, nowadays so many people use plastic. Should we get a card reader? Thank you to those who contribute by standing order. Thank you to all who support this parish in whatever way.

Summer Fair: Friday July 12th in the afternoon from 2.30 until 5 o'clock. On the School Field. We've put a box in the porch for donations of gifts for prizes for the Raffle, and Stalls and the Games. If you can help in any way, please speak to Mrs Furlong Smith or Mrs Parker at School, or, put your name on the list in the Porch. Cakes, fresh produce and plants can be delivered to School on the day, or the day before. Thank you. (*Maureen Reid*)

Concert by the Atherstone Choral.

Here at St. Benedict's Church, Friday 5th July at 7.30 p.m.

An evening of Songs for Summer

Refreshments and Raffle. Tickets £7.00 (Michael & Vicki Heath)

Safeguarding. This week the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) has published its report on the Archdiocese of Birmingham. We apologise to all victims and survivors of child sex abuse. We hope that with this Inquiry they feel that they have been listened to. Even so, words are not enough. We are committed to continuing to improve our safeguarding procedures and to listen to and learn from victims and survivors. Past failings must never happen again. The diocesan response to the report can be found at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/> If you have a safeguarding matter to report please contact the Archdiocese safeguarding team on 0121 230 6240 or via email: safeguarding@rc-birmingham.org. (Archdiocese of Birmingham.)

Bulkington. The Church of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart will be consecrated this Friday evening. Let us be united in prayer with that parish, and give thanks to God who has chosen us, and poured His Spirit into our hearts, so that we can say, *Abba, Father*. As St. Peter tells us, *We are the living stones which make up the temple of God*.

Contacts. As you know, until Fr. Paul Lomas arrives, Fr. Michael Gamble, the Dean of the Rugby deanery has responsibility for this parish. He can be contacted on 02476312293, e-mail: michaelgamble1@btinternet.com

Should you want to see another priest, Fr. George Waraich of St. Anne's, Chapel End, Nuneaton can be contacted on 02476 392365.

But if you want to see me or speak to me, my phone number is 07891 822770. E-mail: jobrien1946@gmail.com. My address: 35 Walsingham Drive, Nuneaton cv10 7rw.

Next Weekend. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul. Mass will be celebrated at the usual times. Our vigil Mass on Saturday will be offered for the repose of the soul of Jean Chetwynd. May she rest in peace, Amen.