

# Our Lady of the Assumption Swynnerton

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The parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No. 234216



## Sunday 7th February, 2021 Fifth Sunday of the Year

### FEAST DAYS

#### Monday 8th February St Josephine Bakhita

*Day of prayer for victims of Human Trafficking*

(1868 - 1947) Josephine was born in the Sudan and at an early age she was kidnapped and sold into slavery and was eventually bought by the Italian Consul in Khartoum. She came to Italy when the family fled Sudan, there she cared for the young daughter of the family. While in Italy she became a Christian and finally joined the Daughters of St. Magdalene of Canossa. She became renowned for her kindness and joy.

*Also St Jerome Emiliani*

#### Wednesday 10th February St Scholastica

Scholastica died c.547. Sister of St. Benedict. St. Gregory the Great said of her, "Her influence was greater than his, since hers was the greater love".

#### Thursday 11th February Our Lady of Lourdes

*World Day of Prayer for the Sick*

The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Bernadette Soubirous for the first time on 11th February 1858. She appeared a further seventeen times until the July of that same year. Lourdes is a centre of pilgrimage, prayer and healing in southern France.

#### Sunday 14th February Sixth Sunday of the Year

*Day for the Unemployed*

Day	Time	Service	Confession*
Saturday 6th	5:30pm	Mass - Josh Wilson RIP	
Sunday 7th	10:00am 6:00pm	Mass - For the People of the Parish Mass (EF) - Holy Souls	
Monday 8th Feb	9:30am	Mass - Canon Giles Goward RIP	
Tuesday 9th	9:30am	Mass - Mary Goodman RIP	
Wednesday 10th	9:30am	Mass - Donal Musgrave RIP	
Thursday 11th	9:30am	Mass - Sr Phyllis Brady RIP	
Friday 12th	9:30am	Mass - Harry Murphy intentions	
Saturday 13th	5:30pm	Mass - Canon Giles Goward RIP	
Sunday 14th	10:00am 6:00pm	Mass - For the People of the Parish Mass (EF) - Special Intention (O)	

Note: Services in Black in church  
Services in Blue elsewhere

\* On request

- ❖ **THIS WEEK** we have two special days of prayer. Monday we pray for the victims of human trafficking; that is, the modern slave trade, which apparently is far more widespread than you might imagine, and that is true in this country apart from anywhere else. Monday's saint, Josephine Bakhita, who came from the Sudan and who died in 1947, was herself sold into slavery as a young girl. The second day is Thursday, which is the World Day of Prayer for the Sick. You don't need me to remind you of the current pandemic and how it has claimed the lives of so many and affected countless others – we remember them all on Thursday, commending them to the prayers of Our Lady of Lourdes, whose feast it is.
- ❖ **STATEMENT FROM THE ARCHBISHOP:** The Archbishop has issued another statement regarding the former Father Joseph Quigley. I do not intend to read this at Mass, but it is available at the back of church and can also be seen on the second page of this Newsletter.
- ❖ **PARISH FINANCES 2020:** The annual summary of our parish finances has been put on the noticeboard in the church porch. We have had quite a considerable drop in income in 2020 because of the circumstances in which we find ourselves – don't panic! If you have any questions or would like further information about the accounts please speak to Phil Elliott
- ❖ **LENT BEGINS** next Wednesday, February 17th. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at Mass, although in a different manner to usual because of the current restrictions. The usual Lent "Walk with Me" booklet is available this weekend at the back of church, as well as the Lenten calendar for children, and the "Bible Alive" magazine, with its longer reflections on the daily scripture readings at Mass.
- ❖ **OF YOUR CHARITY** please pray for all who are sick at this time, especially those with the Covid virus; for those who have died recently, especially Canon Giles Goward; and for those whose anniversaries occur about now: Mary Morrisroe, Robert Emmet, Michael Cronin, Joseph Cacchia, Catherine Morrisroe, John Boon, Ann Smith, John Wootton & Camilla Codrington.

### Quotation

"The message of the Madonna, which continues to spread from Lourdes, recalls the words of Jesus which He announced at the beginning of His public ministry: convert and believe in the Gospel, pray and do penance."

*Pope Benedict XVI, reflecting on the message of Lourdes.  
Thursday this week is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes..*

Collection:	Gift Aid Envelopes	£ 165.00
	Loose	£ 175.60
	Total	£ 340.60
Special	Carol Service	£ 53.75
Congregation:	47 Adults & 4 Young People	

Thank you, God bless

*Fr. Paul.*



## ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE BIRMINGHAM

2 February 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I am writing to you at this very difficult time following the conviction and recent sentencing of Joseph Quigley at Warwick Crown Court.

On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January he was sentenced to 11-and-a-half years in prison.

The crimes for which he has been sentenced are deplorable and totally unacceptable. There is no excuse for any kind of abuse and the Archdiocese apologises for the suffering he has caused.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with all those who have suffered and we again acknowledge their courage in coming forward to provide evidence during the trial.

I am acutely aware of the hurt and the understandable anger and concern this case has raised across the Archdiocese.

I cannot change the past but where there have been failings, as an Archdiocese, we must identify them and learn from them so that they do not happen ever again.

Therefore, in the light of this, I have already commissioned Barnardo's to undertake an independent review of the Archdiocese's actions at every stage of this case.

Joseph Quigley faces the Church's disciplinary processes that will address the seriousness of his offences and I will seek his laicisation by the Holy See.

All who have suffered or may be suffering abuse are encouraged to report the matter to the police by calling 101 and, if appropriate, to the Archdiocese of Birmingham Safeguarding Team on 0121 230 6240 or by email: [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk).

With my prayers for you all and every kind wish.

Yours sincerely in Christ

✠ Bernard Longley  
Archbishop of Birmingham