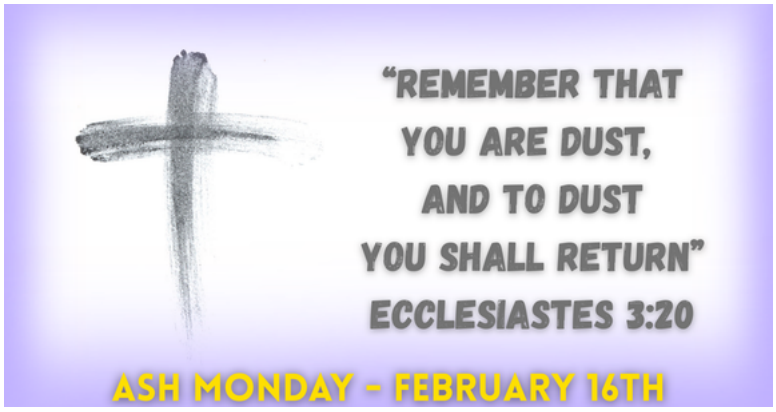
St Benedict Voice

Weekly Newsletter, St Benedict Mission, Saltley

15th February 2026 | 1st Sunday of The Great Fast | Volume 06 | Issue 7

Registered Charity Number: 1173537

1st SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST



SUNDAY READINGS

22.02.26 - 2nd Sunday of the Great Fast	
Gen 13:1-13 | Sir 31:1-11 | 1 Tim 6:3-10 | Lk 19:1-10	
01.03.26 - 3rd Sunday of the Great Fast	
Deut 15:7-15 | Tob 12:6-15 | 2 Cor 8:9-15 | Mt 6:1-8;16-18	
08.03.26 - 4th Sunday of the Great Fast	
Gen 19:1-7,10-11 | 2 Sam 12:1-7,13-17 | 2 Tim 2:22-26 | Mt 5:27-32	
15.03.26 - 5th Sunday of the Great Fast	
Gen 13:1-13 | Sir 31:1-11 | 1 Tim 6:3-10 | Lk 19:1-10	

READING, CHURCH CLEANING & REFRESHMENTS

22.02.26 - St Padre Pio
01.03.26 - Sacred Heart
08.03.26 - Year 12 Catechism Students
15.03.26 - Holy Rosary

FAMILY UNIT PRAYER MEETING

15.02.26 - St Pdre Pio| Santi & Rani's House | 7:00 pm

SEASON OF THE GREAT FAST

The Passion, Death and Resurrection (The Paschal Mystery) that culminates the salvation event, take place at the end of Jesus' public life. The seven weeks between the Season of Epiphany and the Feast of Easter are set aside for prayer, penance and fasting. The base for the season known as the Great Fast, is the 'forty days fast' of Jesus. We normally call this season as 'fifty days fast'. It is known as 'fifty days fast' may be from the practice of the observance of this fast from the Pethurtha Sunday to the Easter Sunday by the St. Thomas Christians. The Syriac term pethurtha signifies 'to put an end' and 'turning back'. What is meant by this term is to indicate that the days of sumptuous food and celebrations are over. 2026 February 26 Syro-Malabar Liturgical Calendar (Second Set) It is on the Wednesday of fourth week that we commemorate the half of the Great Fast. This Wednesday particularly reminds us to find solutions for the drawbacks of our life, to get identified with the Paschal Mystery of Jesus and to live more faithfully in the grace of fasting.

This season teaches us that the craze for material wealth causes sin. The wealth which is God's gift is to be properly used and to be shared with others. The salvation experience is received through repentance, prayer, fasting and acts of charity. This season also gives us the inner vision that we become the true disciples when we accept God as the wealth, like the apostles who followed Jesus renouncing everything.

Salvation is received only when we confess sin. Those who throw away the dirty mantle of sin can follow Christ. The Church teaches that our sanctification is God's will and our sanctification is possible only through Jesus Christ who offered His life – the Body and Blood – for us to the Father.

MISSION MEMBER REGISTRATION

New families or persons who wish to register in this mission, please complete St. Benedict Mission Member Registration Form and approach Rev Fr. Fanzwa and introduce yourself.

Are you a UK taxpayer? UK taxpayers can sign up for Gift Aid, and we can collect 25% more from your offerings!

Please see Rev Fr. Fanzwa, for details.

Gift Aid Declaration Form, Standing Order Form

Please use the links for the respective forms.

MASS SCHEDULE

MON | 16.02.26 Ash Monday Lent begins. Day of Fasting	06:45 am 10:00 am 07:00 pm	Holy Qurbana Latin Mass Holy Qurbana
TUE | 17.02.26	06:45 am 10:00 am	Holy Qurbana Latin Mass
WED | 18.02.26	06:45 am 07:00 pm	Holy Qurbana Holy Qurbana, *Perpetual* Succour Novena, Adoration
THU | 19.02.26	06:45 am 10:00 am	Holy Qurbana Latin Mass
FRI | 20.02.26	06:45 am 07:00 pm 07:30 pm	Holy Qurbana Rosary, Confession Holy Qurbana, Adoration till 10 pm
SAT | 21.02.26	10:00 am 03:00 pm	Latin Mass Annual Retreat till 9 pm - Day 2
SUN | 22.02.26	07:30 am 09:30 am 09:30 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm	Holy Qurbana Latin Mass Catechism in school Confession Holy Qurbana Annual Retreat till 4 pm Last Day

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

08.02.2026 | SUNDAY

07:30 am - £40.00
11:00 am - £96.73
Digital collection plate: £0.00

Many thanks for all your generous contributions.

Refreshments after Qurbana. All are welcome.
NO Drinks or Refreshments allowed inside the Church.

DATES FOR DIARY

15.02.26 | SUNDAY - Lent begins at midnight
16.02.26 | MONDAY - Ash Monday
20.02.26 | FRIDAY - 3 days Annual Retreat - DAY 1
21.02.26 | SATURDAY - 3 days Annual Retreat - DAY 2
22.02.26 | SUNDAY - 3 days Annual Retreat - LAST DAY
23.02.26 | MONDAY - Women's Forum Gathering

NEWS & UPDATES

BIBLE READING: As a new year's resolution, we started the Bible reading for our catechism children on Monday, 5/1/25, from 8:30 pm for 15 minutes. The aim is to finish Bible reading in the next year, and it is an encouragement for the children for Bible reading. Please encourage all children to join in this prayerful time. Please visit catechism WhatsApp groups for updates.

ANNUAL RETREAT: Welcome to the Annual Retreat led by Rev Fr Pozhaliparamban VC.
20/02/2026 - 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
21/02/2026 - 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm
22/02/2026 - 11:00 am to 4:00 pm (11 am Holy Qurbana)

CATECHISM: The school gate will be open from 9.20 am to 9.30 am. Kindly follow the instructions by volunteers. Catechism will start at 9:30 am and finish with Holy Qurbana at 11:00 am. All children should participate in Qurbana. Children are not allowed to leave the church premises until and unless parents get permission from the class teacher or head teacher in advance. After the Holy Qurbana, parents are requested to come forward to collect their children in Year 1 to Year 6 please. Parents are kindly requested to regularly check for any updates regarding catechism in the SBM Parents Teachers WhatsApp group as well. Also, please contact Head Teacher Jini Baiju at 07576 840 870 to join this WhatsApp group. Catechism Calendar 2025 - 2026.

NO Car Parking in Church premises on **Sundays** due to health and safety concerns. Please use the Parkfield Road or car park in B8 1EP. Please **do not** park/stop/drop on yellow lines.

CAR PARK POST CODE: B8 1EP, St Saviours Road

There is separate Entry and Exit for this Car Park, which is next to the Mosque will be open on **Sundays** and two minutes walking distance to the church.



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