

## Journey of Love

Being a husband and a father is a big part of who I am. These roles shape how I love and care for the people closest to me. As the years have gone by, I have come to treasure them more and more. Sometimes I wish I had been better prepared for marriage. The truth is, no one really knows how to be a husband until they choose to love another person in a deep and lifelong way. Love is something you learn step by step.

The same is true for being a parent. There is no school that teaches you how to care for toddlers, teenagers, or grown-up children. You learn along the way. Every child is different, and each one teaches us something new about life. As parents, we grow as we learn to love our children as precious gifts from God.

I imagine that Joseph never expected to travel to a strange country to keep his family safe. Mary, so young, could not have known what it would be like to be both a wife and a mother. And how could they have understood what it meant to raise a child who was both human and divine? I can't fully imagine their experience, but my own family life has asked many new and surprising questions of me too.

**Be kind, patient, gentle, humble, and ready to forgive one another. Above all, choose love, because love holds everything together. When I try to live this way, I become a better husband and a better father. (Just my hopeful opinion!)**



**ST. BENEDICT'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
OWEN STREET  
ATHERSTONE  
WARWICKSHIRE CV9 1DG**  
**Priest: 07891 822770**  
**Office: 07502 320487**  
**website: [stbenedictsatherstone.org](http://stbenedictsatherstone.org)**  
**email: [office@stbenedictsatherstone.org](mailto:office@stbenedictsatherstone.org)**

### THIS WEEK

Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Feast of St. John	4.00pm
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	9.30am
Thur 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God	10.00am
Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Most Holy Name of Jesus.	4.00pm
Sun 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Nativity	9.30am

**Safeguarding:** The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the national and Archdiocese policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Mrs. Jo Currie who can be contacted at [sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stbenedict.atherstone@rcaob.org.uk)**



"As you step into the New Year, may God's goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life.".

#### Milestone events in 2026 in our parish

**First Holy Communion** Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10.30am  
**Confirmation** Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June at 6.00pm  
**Commitment Mass** for those who wish to receive these Sacraments Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Father John & Father Michael  
Wish everyone a  
Happy New Year

*The Bible Time-line*  
7:00pm

*Every Monday Evening*  
St. Benedict's Community Hall



#### **'The Prince of Peace'**

is on sale today.

This delightful little book has been produced by two members of our parish.

Brian Ingram has written the text and Rosa Brown has illustrated the book beautifully.

An ideal present for young children!  
£5.99

*Please pray for those whose anniversaries fall at this time;*

*Alphonsus Geraghty, Lola Hill, Francis Joseph Plunkett, Janet Deanne Bloor, Martha Hiatt, Charles Gavigan, Vera Johnson, Nora Foster & Monica Lea.*

***Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord...***

#### Collections

##### **Money week before last,**

1st NO	2nd	Collection	£173.77
		Collection	Holy Spirit Food Bank

##### **Last week**

1st		Collection	£164.36
2nd		Collection	£. 70.19