

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Sunday within the Octave of Christmas, 30 December 2018

“And Jesus increased in wisdom, in stature,  
and in favour with God and men.”

Luke 2, 52



### REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pamela Ploszynska who died recently and for all those who mourn her. Her funeral will be here at Our lady & St Anne on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January at 11.30.

THANK YOU to all those who helped with the mulled wine and mince pies. A fantastic sum of £185 was raised which will be donated to St Mungo's, a local charity looking after local homeless people.

### OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

The office will be closed from 24<sup>th</sup> Dec until 1<sup>st</sup> January. Re-open 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan.

### CRIB COLLECTION

Any donations made at the crib this year will be given to Aid to the Church in Need. Aid to the Church in Need supports important projects which are undertaken by the local Church in the 140-plus countries where they give aid. Our projects range from big to small and cover a whole range of ideas - including some very unusual ones - to help nurture the faith of persecuted and suffering Christians.

### CHILDRENS LITURGY

#### FORMS

If your child/ren would like to join in with Children's Liturgy in the new year, please return the registration forms by 24<sup>th</sup> December. Many thanks for your help with this.

### 2019 DIOCESAN DIRECTORY

Copies are now available from the Repository at £2.75 each.

### 200 CLUB FINISHING

Unfortunately, the 200 club will be finishing at the end of December 2018 as the number of members is now too few. There will be a December draw and a Christmas draw. If you have a direct debit, please cancel it. Any money left in the pot will be returned to the relevant people. No more subscriptions will be accepted.

Thank you to those who have supported the club over the years.

**Sunday in the Octave of Christmas: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (Year C – Luke):** As far back as the 1990's when the UN decided on a Year of the Family, there was a very heated discussion as to what actually constituted a family. In the intervening years the single-parent family and the patchwork family have moved main stream. All of us have in our immediate circle, among our relatives or close friends, families that do not quite conform to the traditional Christian ideal of the family. Partly in an attempt to rescue the ideal of the Catholic family in recent decades the Church has sponsored every couple of years a World Meeting of Families, the most recent being in Dublin at the end of the summer of 2018. The proximity of today's feast to Christmas, probably the only commonly celebrated family feast of the year, has been designed by the Church to relate the Holy Family of Nazareth to the families of today. The Church recognises that few if any families conform totally to the template, yet she, in her compassion for all her children, regardless of how their marriages or families have worked out in practice, places all Catholic families under the patronage of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. It is frequently the case that bishops, who preside over the local Church family and have a particular paternal ministry to couples and their children, chose to avail of today's feast to write pastoral letters to their people. Archbishop Longley has written a pastoral letter designed to be distributed and read this weekend. This feast is certainly an occasion to give thanks for the solidarity with one another, the filial love which unites children to parents, and the maternal and paternal love which parents lavish on their children.

**First Reading (OT): 1 Samuel 1, 20 – 22. 24 – 28:** This story comes from a culture with very different suppositions about happiness, fulfilment and ways of responding to God's will. A child is born by a miracle to a woman beyond child-bearing, great happiness results but the parents give their child back (without particularly consulting him!) to God. And the gift results in one of the key figures in God's relationship with Israel.

**Second Reading (NT): 1 John 3, 1 – 2. 21 – 24:** When asked who we are, most of us give our family name, the address of our family home, and we link or personal identity to our genealogical tree. Each family has its physical characteristics, its traditions, its particular history. All these things define us and confer on us our particular identity. John points out to the early Christians to whom he was writing that all of us, thanks to what Jesus has done for us, are children of God. Jesus is our brother. Indeed the author of this letter may have a recollection of what Jesus during his earthly ministry had said of his own relatives! He who hears the word of God and keeps it, he is my brother, sister etc.

**Gospel: Luke 2, 41 – 52:** Many parents among you will feel great empathy with Mary and Joseph in hearing this story. The anxiety you have as your son/daughter negotiates the bumpy passage into adult life! The pride parents take in children who can take on the adult world with serenity and confidence!

*The readings for today's Masses are to be found in Parish Mass Book : pp 105108*

# Masses and Intentions Christmastide

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December 10.00 Mary Wheeler RIP  
*Feast: St Thomas Becket*

## Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December 17.30

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December 10.00  
18.30

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> December 10.00

*Seventh Day in Octave of Christmas*

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 10.00

*Solemnity of Mary,  
the Mother of God*

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 09.15

*Memorial: St Basil the Great  
& St Gregory Nazianzen*

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 08.00

*Christmas feria*

Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January 11.30

*Christmas feria*

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> January 10.00

*Christmas feria*

## Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December 17.30

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> December 10.00  
18.30

## Year C

Evlyn Novell - intention

José Dominguez

People of the parish

Fr Patrick's intentions

Mrs McSharry

John Connoughton RIP

Repose of Holy Souls

Requiem Mass - Pamela Ploszynska

Ahmed Abba Paris RIP

## Year C

Shirley Cox

Moira Harris

People of the parish

Confessions:	Saturday	10.30 - 11.30 16.45 - 17.15
Exposition & Benediction:	Saturday	10.30 - 11.30
Evening prayer, Rosary:	Saturday	16.45