

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Baptism of the Lord, Sunday 13 January 2019

“And a voice came from heaven, ‘you are my Son, the Beloved;
my favour rests on you.’”

Luke 3, 22

WELCOME to Fr Michael Miners who is offering Mass on Saturday and to Fr Joe Simmons SJ who is offering the Sunday Masses.

VACANCIES IN OUR LOCAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Federation of St Anne's and St Martin's Catholic Primary Schools in Caversham Park, Reading is seeking a new Executive Headteacher and a new Head of School. For more information please contact Jacqueline Campbell at bursar@st-annes.reading.sch.uk or by phoning 0118 937 5597 or view the advert in the Catholic Teachers Gazette.

FIRST COMMUNION

PREPARATION Preparation for children not attending Catholic schools will begin on Wednesday 27th February. If you have not yet contacted the office, please ring or e-mail if you would like to enrol your child.

RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jean Davison who died recently. Funeral details to follow.

THANK YOU for the £376.11 donated towards Christmas flowers. It was a great help.

DO YOU GIFT AID YOUR WEEKLY OFFERING?

If you have changed address recently or have stopped paying tax for some reason, please contact the parish office so that your records can be updated. Thank you.

OLSA CURRY NIGHT

The South Indian Catholic Community of St Anne's have generously offered to hold another curry night here in the Cenacle at 7pm on Saturday 19th January.

Tickets available in advance from Edwin this weekend - £10 adult/£5 children/£25 family(2 adults, up to 3 children). One drink included. Proceeds to be split between the parish and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Open to parishioners, family & friends.

Tickets must be bought/ordered in advance - buy this weekend or book through the office by Thursday 17th January (to be paid on the door). This will allow for catering

BINGO This month's bingo will be in the Cenacle on Friday 18th January at 7.30pm. Bring a friend and enjoy an evening of good company.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission to Royal Berkshire Hospital all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Communion or see a Priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led". Hospital Chaplain - Fr JP Lyttle
Mobile: 07391 896559 / RBH: 0118 322 7105

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid	£206.75	Loose	£525.79
Crib collection			£190.40
Standing Orders			£484.00

The Baptism of the Lord (Year C – Luke): On the feast of the Epiphany we celebrated the *revelation* of Jesus in his divinity to the wise men, representing as they did the whole human race, as well as the fact that the Saviour, first revealed to the shepherds on the night of his birth, had a mission to the entire mankind. In the early Church the event we celebrate today as well as the miracle of Cana were celebrated together with the Epiphany: all three were *revelations* of Jesus, all three lifted, albeit for an instance, the veil on his glory. Jesus did not *need* the baptism of John, but in submitting himself to it he included himself totally in the human condition and performed an act of eloquent solidarity with the human race. The baptism on the banks of the Jordan was the occasion of the descent of the Spirit on Jesus and the recognition from heaven of his unique status as Son of God. The liturgical reforms of Vatican II separated the three moments of revelation into three separate liturgical events: Epiphany (Solemnity), Baptism (Feast) and the wedding feast of Cana (2nd Sunday of the Year).

First Reading (OT): Isaiah 40, 1 – 5. 9 – 11: This text originates in the period of the Babylonian Captivity of the Jewish people. It marks a significant change of tone in the words of the prophet to the exiled people. Instead of harsh words of condemnation and punishment to come, the prophet speaks words of comfort and promise of return to the holy city (Jerusalem). The time of exile and slavery is over. Israel always believed in a God whose goodness, whatever trials they brought upon themselves and whatever punishment seemed to issue from the Lord, was greater than his anger. The baptism of Jesus marked yet another new departure in the relationship between God and his people. The Good Shepherd had arrived but already in the OT the Jewish people already had a developed idea of their God as shepherd: *The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.* (Ps. 23).

Second Reading (NT): Titus 2, 11 – 14. 3, 4 – 7: In this second reading too the issue is change. Through meeting Jesus Christ and encountering his message a new style of life commences. Instead of a life without God and adopting the standards of the world, the disciple of Christ devotes themselves to righteousness and a new relationship with God and their fellow man. The power of God dwells in us through Baptism, Confirmation and the Sacrament of the Sick (all three accompanied by anointing with oil) and in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and enables us to make a new beginning.

Gospel: Luke 3, 15 – 16. 21 – 22: In each of the four gospels the baptism of Jesus is an important event, heralding as it does the beginning of Jesus' public life and marking him out as the beloved of God. Luke's account of the baptism does not focus on the event itself but on its aftermath, i.e. the descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus while he was at prayer. In describing it this way, the evangelist is highlighting two themes that are central to his gospel. These are the role of the Spirit and the importance of prayer in Jesus' life. For Luke the fact that they are important in the life of Jesus means that they must also be important in the lives of his followers.

The readings for today's Masses are to be found in Parish Mass Book : pp 119-122

Masses and Intentions

First Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 12th January No Mass
Christmas feria

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Year C

Saturday	12 th January	17.30	Repose of Holy Souls
Sunday	13 th January	10.00 18.30	Jim & Muriel Surman RIP Larry McGrath
Monday	14 th January	No Mass	
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	15 th January	No Mass	
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	16 th January	No Mass	
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Thursday	17 th January	08.00	Repose of Holy Souls
<i>Memorial: St Anthony</i>			
Friday	18 th January	12.30	Sheila McCarthy RIP
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Saturday	19 th January	10.00	Jan & Karolina Sparlak RIP

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

Saturday	19 th January	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	20 th January	10.00 18.30	Anton Bugarjova James O'Sullivan RIP - anniversary

Confessions:	Saturday	10.30 - 11.30 16.45 - 17.15
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Exposition

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