

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Feast of the Presentation of the Lord 1 - 2 February 2020
“The child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom;
and God’s favour was with him.”

WELCOME

We welcome Fr David Sillence who is offering all Masses this weekend.

STAR GAZING

Thanks to everyone who was involved in this amazing evening - those who helped to sell tickets, to prepare food and those who bought a ticket and came along! Even on a cloudy night the Cenacle was full to bursting with an interactive audience keen to find out more about the solar system. A fantastic £270 was raised to go towards the refurbishment fund.

Special thanks go to Dr Malde who gave so generously of his time and to Edwin Raj who masterminded the whole event.

TAMIL CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Before Christmas, the Tamil Catholic group held a raffle and have very generously made a donation of £166 towards the parish refurbishment fund. Thank you.

SONGS OF PRAISE

This weekend, Songs of Praise is coming from Reading. Katherine Jenkins explores the ruins of Reading Abbey in Royal Berkshire, once one of Europe's finest churches, and Kate Bottley discovers the deep Christian symbolism of snowdrops. #songsofpraise Sunday 2nd February on @BBC One at 1.15pm

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid £100.63 Loose £487.77
Standing Orders £1,120.00
Star Gazing £270.00

FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION FOR THOSE CHILDREN NOT ATTENDING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

These preparation sessions will be happening every two weeks starting on Wednesday 29th January. The children will meet in the Cenacle from 4.30pm to 5.30pm. Parents are asked to stay at the session with their children.

MUSICA SACRA ITALIANA

On Saturday 8th February @ 7.30pm, Reading Bach choir will be performing a selection of sacred music pieces at St Andrew's Church, Caversham RG4 7PL.

Full tickets £16; concessions £12; under 18 £5. Why not try something different on a Saturday night? Book at:

tickets@readingbachchoir.org.uk

01628 638847

Find out more at:

www.readingbachchoir.org.uk

LAUDATO SI ACTION GROUP TIP FOR THE WEEK:

Buy loose fruit and veg whenever possible, and take into account air-miles. Buy local produce.....

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 receive Communion or see a Priest.

The diocesan Privacy Policy is available at <https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/privacy-policy>
or by request from the parish office.

Our Lady & St Anne Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Charity No. 234216

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time/Feast of the Purification [Candlemas]: Pope John Paul II was keen to encourage us to keep hoping no matter how dark the outlook engendered by world events. We now have the climate as a source of continual preoccupation, we have the potential pandemic of infectious diseases and the seeming carry on as normal approach of most politicians and captains of industry. And yet we keep hoping for a better future, especially one that our children can enjoy. On this feast which harks back to the Christmas mystery, we encounter two elderly people whose entire lives were focused on the hope that God would fulfil his promises and who were privileged to see with their own eyes those promises come true. Simeon, having seen the infant Lord, was willing now to depart in peace, Hannah who had never left the Temple, serving God day and night, spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem [Luke 2, 38]. There are many things in both the Church and world which may depress our spirits at the present time, but today's feast encourages us to keep hoping in the assurance that, as the prophet Malachi affirms, our prayers and offerings will be acceptable to the Lord, as in the years of old [Malachi 3, 4].

First Reading (OT): Malachi 3, 1 – 4: Ten days ago Jerusalem witnessed a great, sober celebration of the 75th anniversary of the concentration camp at Auschwitz and on Monday we marked Holocaust Day when the sufferings of the Jewish people were to the forefront of our minds. Today's reading reminds us that in ancient days too they had suffered, exiled in Babylon and with no clear vision of their future. And there comes the promise from the Lord that he will take his temple by storm, that he will enter the Temple and will purify the priests that serve there. This OT reading is of particular significance for the priests of today: they will be purified the Lord and thus made worthy of the ministry they carry out in his name. And the Lord too will come and redeem his people. Did Simeon and Hannah see in the arrival of Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus the fulfilment of this OT prophecy?

Second Reading (NT): Hebrews 2, 11 – 12. 13 – 18: The humanity of Jesus comes to the fore in no other NT writing with such force as in the anonymous Letter to the Hebrews. Here we have a Jesus who knew suffering, was like us in all things but sin, was subject to temptation and even felt himself abandoned by God. Even on the cross on which he died, Jesus remained faithful to his solidarity with humanity. And it was precisely on that account that he is now seated at the right hand of God the Father. It is as a human being that his parents presented him to God in the Temple, the feast we are celebrating today.

Gospel: Luke 2, 22 – 40: This wonderful story closes the Christmas cycle: the incarnate God is presented as a child in God's house to his heavenly Father.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 1st February 10.00h No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Year A

Saturday 1st February 17.30h People of the parish
 Sunday 2nd February 10.00h Intentions of Anna Corrigan
 18.30h James O'Sullivan RIP

Monday 3rd February No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 4th February No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

Wednesday 5th February No Mass
Memorial: St Agatha

Thursday 6th February No Mass
Memorial: St Paul Miki

Friday 7th February No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

Saturday 8th February No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Saturday 8th February 17.30h Arthur Taylor RIP
 Sunday 9th February 10.00h People of the parish
 18.30h Judy Aspel

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| Confessions: | Saturday | No confessions |
| Exposition & Benediction: | Saturday | No exposition |
| Evening prayer, Rosary: | Saturday | 16.45 |