

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Third Sunday in Ordinary Time 25/26 January 2020

“He went round the whole of Galilee teaching in their synagogues,
proclaiming the Good News of the kingdom.”

Matthew 4, 23

POPE ESTABLISHES SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The Pope has declared that the third Sunday in Ordinary Time should be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has designated 2020 as 'The God Who Speaks': A Year of the Word when we will all be encouraged to celebrate, live and share God's word throughout this exciting new Scripture initiative .

2020 has been chosen as it is the 10th anniversary of Verbum Domini – Pope Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord' and the 1,600 anniversary of St Jerome's death.

Find out more about available resources and events that have been planned throughout the year at:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/pages/category/the-god-who-speaks>

FLOWERS ON THE HIGH ALTAR

Fr Patrick has suggested that there not be any flowers on the high altar at the back just for the moment.

In light of this, the very generous amount of flower money that was left over after Christmas will be held and used for the Easter flowers.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid £125.60 Loose £550.92

Standing Orders £1,120.00

(still waiting for some direct debits to activate but this amount of gift aided donation is promised)

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. If you have not yet registered, come to the first session and introduce yourselves.

CAMINO WALKING

PILGRIMAGE

15th/16th-23rd/24th Sep 2020.
Camino del Norte Stage 2: Vilalba to Santiago 125km over six days. Prices for flights and coach £290 approx. Hostel or hotel extra. Must be reasonably fit & prepare by walking regularly before the Camino. Information evening: Thu 6th Feb at 7.30pm in St James church. Full information sheet and booking forms available at the meeting.

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

27TH January is designated Holocaust Memorial Day when genocides through the world are remembered. This year marks 75 years since the liberation of Auschwitz. Find out more about the day at <https://www.hmd.org.uk/what-is-holocaust-memorial-day/>

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

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): The Word of God is central to every liturgical celebration and when we gather for the Eucharist the first part of the Mass consists of readings from Scripture and a reflection, inspired by what the gathered assembly has heard read and proclaimed, by the presiding minister. Our Holy Father the Pope has decreed that henceforth this third Sunday of Ordinary Time focus particularly on the role God's word, conveyed to us through the Scriptures, plays in our lives. Unless we are a listening people, unless the Scriptures are proclaimed, unless the word is broken, elucidated and shared, then it is like seeds which fall on fallow ground. The Holy Father, in his apostolic letter (*Aperuit illis*, 30 September 2019) inaugurating this new dedication of the 3rd Sunday of the Year to the Word of God, has emphasised the essential link between the Scriptures and the liturgy with an earnest hope that it spill over too into the daily life of the Christian people. [The readings for today remain those prescribed in the Lectionary/Missal]. People today are restless. We seem to move from sensation to sensation, something new every day [and the early weeks of January this year have been full of sensational news], but the kingdom of God, which is at the heart of the preaching and ministry of Jesus, is about the long-term, about allowing God to reign in the stillness of our hearts, about enabling the values of the kingdom to become the default option of all our actions day to day, about living through the monotony of our lives in the constant security that we have God always with us. This sense of ownership of the divine project in our daily lives is enhanced by our familiarity with God's word – the very thing our Holy Father wants us to deepen our commitment to on this and every Sunday.

First Reading (OT): Isaiah 8, 23 – 9, 3: Much of the writing of Isaiah contains warning of dire events to come and condemnation of wayward behaviour. Here we have consolation and comfort given to the people. They lived in danger of attack by powerful enemies, their vulnerability cruelly exposed in their small land. Their leaders leave a lot to be desired. But God is faithful to his promises, Messiah will come and bring light to his people.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 1, 10 – 13. 17: The Christian community at Corinth, one of the major cosmopolitan centres of the Mediterranean world of the day, was divided between rich and poor, and was multi-cultural. Divisions were also due to people claiming a loyalty to whoever it was baptised them. Paul is ill at ease with these partisan loyalties which divide the community.

Gospel: Matthew 4, 12 – 23: Those Jews who first encountered Jesus in his public ministry would have been more than familiar with the writings of Isaiah. They would have recognised immediately the context in which Jesus was launching his preaching mission and some would have recognised in him the Messiah.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Third Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 25th January 10.00h Paul & Angèle Doncarli RIP
Feast: The Conversion of Paul

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Saturday	25 th January	17.30h	Ruby Mason RIP
Sunday	26 th January	10.00h	Zinaide Viatere RIP
		18.30h	Fr Josef Gohon & Fr Michael Jondra RIP
Monday	27 th January	09.15h	Karen Leighton RIP
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Tuesday	28 th January	09.15h	Moira Husbands RIP
	<i>Memorial: St Thomas Aquinas</i>		
Wednesday	29 th January	09.15h	Gladys Archer RIP
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Thursday	30 th January	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Friday	31 st January	No Mass	
	<i>Memorial: St John Bosco</i>		
Saturday	1 st February	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord Year A

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

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