

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 15/16 February 2020**

“Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets.  
I have come not to abolish them but to complete them.”

**Matthew 5, 17**

## CONFIRMATION MASS

Bishop Kenney will be here at Our Lady & St Anne's on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April @ 7pm to confirm the children who have prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation.

If your child does not attend a Catholic school and you would like them to prepare for Confirmation, please contact the parish office by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February - phone or e-mail. Details of preparation sessions will then be arranged accordingly.

## BEGINNING OF LENT

Lent will begin with Ash Wednesday on 26<sup>th</sup> February. There will be a morning Mass [with the children from St Anne's] and an evening Mass at 19.30h.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

The parish finance committee would like to thank all parishioners for their continued generosity and weekly giving. Since Money Sunday last November we have seen an increase in the number of standing orders and many have increased the amount they give. We have also seen a good increase in the number parishioners signing up for Gift Aid. Overall our collections are up on where we were 3 months ago.

Thank you again to everyone who has responded so positively and all who continue to give generously each week. We look forward to giving an update on the finances again later this year.

## LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid	£157.50	Loose	£535.48
Standing Orders			£1,120.00

## WALKING THE ST JAMES

WAY from Reading Abbey to Southampton in 6 stages on a Saturday starting 21st March at St James Church, Reading RG1 3FD. The route passes through beautiful countryside, past points of historic and religious interest, to a place where many pilgrims in former days will have set sail for Spain. Why not re-enact their journey by joining us this year. Please email the St James parish office on [stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) to register your interest. See poster for full list of dates.

## FOOD CRISIS IN ZIMBABWE AND ZAMBIA

Crippling drought and failed crops have left 10 million people without food or water.

Find out more and/or donate at: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Southern-Africa-food-crisis>

## TAMIL CATHOLICS RAFFLE

An additional £50 has been contributed to the building fund this week. Thank you.

## LAUDATO SI TIP FOR THE WEEK:

Think of the Foodbank when you do your weekly shop.

## 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.

All arrangements are 'patient led'.  
Tel 0118 322 5111.

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

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew):** Jesus was frequently addressed by his disciples and by those who gathered around him to hear him speak as “teacher”. And indeed Jesus was an excellent teacher, not only because he managed to penetrate to the heart of the issues that concerned the people of his time but he provided them with the skills to understand themselves better and apply what they already knew to their day to day lives. Most of the Jews of his day knew the commandments and, on the occasions when he challenged Pharisees on their knowledge of the law, they were able to recite the basic ten essential items of the Decalogue by heart. But the good teacher always tries to raise his pupils’ game and here we find Jesus taking the raw material of the commandments and inspiring the people to attempt a more rigorous application of them, to capture and understand fully the spirit of the commandments. And once they had made that leap of understanding, Jesus gave them directions as to how to apply their insights to their conduct and their lives. He focuses here on their relations with and duties towards their neighbour.

**First Reading (OT): Ecclesiasticus 15, 15 – 20:** The key words here are the first: “if you wish.” It is as free people that we make the choice to observe the commandments of God. Much contemporary research in the area of psychology and neurology suggests something different. People are the product of their environment, we are determined by a complex variety of factors over which we had no choice. There is the view also that we are genetically determined. And yet the final decision rests with the individual. There are many things which influence such decisions, but we are nonetheless independent moral agents with responsibility for our actions.

**Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 2, 6 – 10:** Paul was an intelligent Jew brought up and educated in the pagan world. So, he knew well the teachings of the “masters of our age.” He did not enter into a critique of the philosophies of Greece and Rome, but insisted that a more ancient wisdom which came from the God of Israel was what would lead the people to a greater knowledge and understanding of the truth. But even his own co-religionists did not understand what God had been saying to them: otherwise, they would not have put the Lord of glory to death. Paul ends his reflections with that great assurance which has given Christians in every generation so much faith in God’s loving providence: what God has prepared for us and the reality for which we are destined is beyond the powers of our understanding and yet is guaranteed to all those whom God loves.

**Gospel: Matthew 5, 17 – 37:** The Sermon on the Mount would suggest that Jesus set the moral goal posts on an even higher plain than the Ten Commandments. This challenge to live by commandments is explained by Jesus in today’s gospel.

[Sunday readings](#)

# Masses and Intentions

## Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February      No Mass  
*Feria in Ordinary Time*

### 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Year A**

Saturday	15 <sup>th</sup> February	17.30h	Jennifer James (sick)
Sunday	16 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00h	People of the parish
		18.30h	Repose of Holy Souls
Monday	17 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Tuesday	18 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Wednesday	19 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Thursday	20 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Friday	21 <sup>st</sup> February	12.30	Repose of Holy Souls
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	No Mass	
	<i>Feast of the Chair of St Peter</i>		

### 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Year A**

Saturday	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	17.30h	Waleria Dubaj RIP
Sunday	23 <sup>rd</sup> February	10.00h	Mary McLoughlin
		18.30h	People of the parish

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