

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 22/23 February 2020

“You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.”

Matthew 5, 48

THE SEASON OF LENT commences this week on Ash Wednesday, 26 February. Masses, including distribution of ashes, will be celebrated at 09.15 (with the school) and 19.30.

The diocese has provided us with Walk with Me, a prayer booklet to accompany us on our Lenten journey. Father Patrick has also prepared a Lenten booklet made up of thought-provoking quotations, biographical sketches, prayers and prayer intentions, which can be used in combination with Walk with Me. The latter booklet is entitled Forty Days and Forty Nights: Journey through Lent 2020. Both will be available this weekend and will have a purchase price of £1.

The parish Lent Course on the theme of **'The Church'** commences on Monday 2nd March at 19.30 in the Cenacle.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Teresa Barneicott and Hazel Bell.

Teresa's Funeral Mass will take place on Tue 3rd March at **St William of York** church at 11.15am (46 Upper Redlands Rd, Reading RG1 5JP).

Hazel's Funeral Mass will be here at Our Lady & St Anne's on Monday 9th March @ 11.30.

Our sympathy goes to their families and friends at this sad time. May they both rest in peace.

SECOND COLLECTION Next **Sunday, 1st March**, a second collection will be taken for Cathedral Maintenance.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Gift Aid £154.00 Loose £418.97

Standing Orders £1,120.00

CONFIRMATION MASS

Bishop Kenney will be here at Our Lady & St Anne's on Wednesday 1st 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 23rd February - phone or e-mail. Details of preparation sessions will then be arranged accordingly.

PANCAKES

We will be serving Pancakes with a variety of toppings after 10am Mass this Sunday in the cenacle. There will also be tea and filter coffee, please come and join us, all proceeds raised will go to CAFOD.

TAIZÉ PRAYER AND SOCIAL

Children aged 7 (school year 3) and up together with a parent or guardian are invited to join us for a Lenten gathering in the cenacle at 6:30pm on **Friday 6th March**.

For further details and to RSVP please contact simonandhilarysmart@gmail.com.

CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY is on **Friday 6 March**.

Envelopes will be available next weekend and a guest speaker will speak about the work of CAFOD at all Masses on 7-8 March.

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

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): Our collective past is never very far away, even if in terms of years the moments that cause us most difficulty in recollecting them are receding and taking on different contours in the human memory. Recent weeks have seen commemorations of the Holocaust, of the liberation of the concentration camp of Auschwitz and shortly we will be marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the carpet-bombing of Dresden as WW II drew to a close. The banality of evil, the awful things of which ordinary people and whole nations are capable, and the enormous achievements of people who allowed themselves to be reconciled present a very complex portrait of the human spirit. We can never calculate over the centuries what influence the Decalogue (i.e. the Ten Commandments) had on moderating or improving human behaviour across the cultures where Judaism and then Christianity held sway. Certainly, even in the multi-cultural society in which we live and in the global village we all inhabit, our judgement of what we constitute “good” and what we find reprehensible and consider “evil” the grid of reference for most of us is still the Ten Commandments. They occupy a central place in the liturgy this Sunday. And the focus, as it was last week, is less on our relationship with God and our duties towards him, than on our complex relationships with one another. At a time when, post-election, all the communities of our British Isles are focusing their attention on issues central to the future profile of these same societies – homelessness, affordability of housing, organised crime, the environment – the attempt by Jesus to drag his disciples out of their comfort zone in today’s Gospel is singularly apposite.

First Reading (OT): Leviticus 19, 1 – 2. 17 – 18: The commandment to love one’s neighbour as oneself that we find in the Book of Leviticus refers back to the love that God himself bears his creation. God is himself holy. He loves his creation and gives it directions to guarantee a successful, happy life. The aim is that people, who owe their lives to God, should themselves strive to life according to the standard of holiness they find in God himself.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 3, 16 – 23: The idea of the person as a temple of God and as inhabited by his Spirit has consequences. Such a dwelling can be inhabited by different and competing spirits. It is Paul’s desire that in the very divided community of Corinth God’s spirit should inhabit hearts and minds. We all know the terrible consequences for individuals, societies and communities (including parish communities) when spirits, some evil and some good, are in competition.

Gospel: Matthew 5, 38 – 48: Mahatma Gandhi, not a Christian but someone with immense respect for Jesus, is a startling example from our own time of the pacifist ideals outlined by Jesus in this attempt to encourage people to push the commandments to their outer limit.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Saturday 22nd February No Mass
Feria in Ordinary Time

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Saturday	22 nd February	17.30	Waleria Dubaj RIP
Sunday	23 rd February	10.00	Mary McLoughlin
		18.30	People of the parish
Monday	24 th February	09.15	Julie Langohr RIP
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Tuesday	25 th February	09.15	Fr David Tuohy, SJ
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Wednesday	26 th February	09.15	Private intention
	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	(with children)	
		19.30	John Reilly & Fitzsimons family RIP
Thursday	27 th February	08.00	Repose of holy souls
	<i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>		
Friday	28 th February	12.30	Al Capello RIP
	<i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>		
Saturday	29 th February	10.00	Fr Jim McGloin RIP
	<i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>		

First Sunday of Lent

Year A

Saturday	29 th February	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	1 st March	10.00	Joe Kennedy
		18.30	Repose of holy souls

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