

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
Monsignor Patrick H. Daly

Presbytery
2 South View Avenue,
Caversham,
READING RG4 5AB
Telephone: 0118 947 1787
Office email: o.l.a.s.a.office@gmail.com
Parish Secretary: Miss Lis Leddy
Website: www.ourladyandstanne.org.uk



Sunday within the Octave of Easter 19 April 2020

“Jesus said: ‘You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’”

John 20, 29

EASTERTIDE

St Chad's Cathedral is now
livestreaming Masses:

<https://www.stchadscathedral.org.uk/>

Masses during Eastertide will continue to be live streamed. All are welcome to participate through the live stream facility. Times of Masses are:

Sunday at 11.00

Monday at 10.00

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and
Friday at 12.15

Saturday at 10.00

We can't gather physically but it would be good to feel that we are taking part in the same Mass as others in our home archdiocese.

A number of new prayer resources have been added to the diocesan website:

<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/>

PARISH OFFICE

Our Parish Secretary, Lis Leddy, together with many parish secretaries has now been furloughed. This means that she is not allowed to work. Volunteers plan to publish the newsletter on our Website. You will also find other relevant information and resources to help during this time when we cannot meet as a Parish family. We look forward to welcoming Lis back in the fullness of time.

A WORD ABOUT FINANCES

Some people have expressed some concern about how they are to continue to support the parish. This is a difficult time for many people financially and we would not want this to be a cause of stress for anyone.

For those who have a standing order with the parish, we hope that you will be able to keep it going but fully understand if you feel the need to adjust it.

If you normally put your money into the collection bag then perhaps you could consider putting your weekly amount aside at home until we come out of this lockdown. You could then put the whole amount into the parish in one go. Or keep a tally of how much it would be and write a cheque at the end. We are unable to process cheques just at the moment.

IN HOSPITAL DURING COVID-19

Priests are still willing and able to go to hospital to visit patients in an emergency. It is vital that family members let the staff know that their loved ones would like to see a Priest if they are in danger of death.

Tel: 01183225111

If you or a member of your family becomes ill, please ring Fr Patrick on the parish number to let him know.

FR PATRICK'S SUNDAY HOMILY

If you would like to listen to any of Fr Patrick's Sunday homilies again, they will be available on the parish website.

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

Sunday within the Octave of Easter/Second Sunday of Easter (Year A – Matthew)

We are still in lock-down and, having prayed our way through Holy Week and celebrated Easter in our homes, involving ourselves in the liturgical life of the Church to the extent that live-streaming permitted, we now face the more challenging task of sustaining our faith and keeping up a life of prayer without the support that we receive when we are gathered as an assembled people in God's house. The experience of the early Christian communities, described in the first reading at today's Mass, is bound to make us jealous, as well as impatient to get back to "normal." The early disciples of Jesus and those who joined them or associated themselves with them in those early days after his death and the growing faith in his resurrection all realised that an essential element of discipleship was creating community. It is instructive for us, deprived as we are of our weekly Eucharist and unable as we are to visit God's house, to reflect on what defined those early Christian communities. They met in one another's houses, they read and listened to the Scriptures, they sang sacred songs and they broke bread. This all sounds very familiar: that is what we were doing together every Sunday up until 20 March. And it is what we long to do again as soon as possible. Two challenges lie before us: will we return to church with a new appreciation of why the Sunday Mass is so valuable to us, and will conversion of heart and a resolve to follow Jesus in a new way be the fruit of the exile Covid - 19 has forced upon us. Will any lingering doubt we may have about whether or not Jesus is alive be overcome by the experience of recent weeks?

First Reading (NT): Acts of the Apostles 2, 42 – 47: Those forty days during which Jesus appeared to his disciples and the ten days of intense prayer in the upper room between Ascension and Pentecost transformed those disciples from timorous and tongue-tied men and women into missionaries. Energised by their conviction that Jesus had risen from the dead and propelled by the Spirit that descended on them on the morning of the first Pentecost, they went out and bore witness to their faith to all and sundry, and many were converted to faith in the risen Lord. This short reading presents an idealized picture of the day-to-day life of those first Christians in Jerusalem. We recognise in this vignette of their life the key elements of our own Christian community in 2020 and of the activities which define us: gathering in the Lord's name, listening to his word, singing together and professing our faith with one voice, and sharing with one another and with the poor.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Peter 1, 3 – 9: Peter reminds the Christian community to which he is writing that, despite the trials which they may experience, their faith in the risen Lord will make them strong and steadfast. As if he were thinking back to the event on the second Sunday after Easter described today in the Gospel, Peter reminds them that they need not have seen the risen Lord to believe in him.

Gospel: John 20, 19 – 31: The Thomas known as "doubting" here makes the greatest proclamation of faith in the divinity of Jesus, the risen Lord.

Masses and Intentions Second Week of Eastertide

Fr Patrick will celebrate these Masses on his own,
at the times and for the intentions shown.

| | | |
|--|--------|---------------------|
| Saturday 18 th April <i>Saturday of Easter Week</i> | 10.00 | Chris Gaughan |
| Second Sunday of Eastertide | Year A | |
| Sunday 19 th April | 10.00 | Pat and Nancy Casey |
| Monday 20 th April <i>Monday of Easter Week</i> | 09.15 | Mrs. Loftus |
| Tuesday 21 st April <i>St Anselm of Canterbury</i> | 09.15 | Denis Smyth |
| Wednesday 22 nd April <i>Wednesday of Easter Week</i> | 09.15 | Sean McCarthy |
| Thursday 23 rd April <i>St George, Martyr. Solemnity</i> | 08.00 | Canon Peter Taylor |
| Friday 24 th April <i>Friday of Easter Week</i> | 12.30 | Peter de Jode |
| Saturday 25 th April <i>St Mark, Evangelist. Feast</i> | 10.00 | Holy Souls |
| Third Sunday of Easter | | Year A |
| Sunday 26 th April | 10.00 | John Eppstein |