

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
Monsignor Patrick H. Daly

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Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ 11 June 2020

“I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord.
Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever.”

John 6, 51 - 52

RE-OPENING

Our Lady & St. Anne Church will be open for personal/private prayer on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Friday 19 June, from 17.00 to 19.00 hrs.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed throughout the two-hour period.

After that, it is our hope that **within a short period**, our risk assessment having been approved by the Archdiocese, all necessary PPE and sanitation requirements having been obtained and a rota of volunteers having been established, the church can be open three late afternoons/early evenings per week.

FR GILES GOWARD, Parish Priest at Our Lady and St Anne from 2005-2013, has been appointed as Rector of St Mary's College Oscott and will take up his post on June 28th. We send him our congratulations and assure him of our prayers for this next stage in his ministry.

OFFICE OPENING

The office is open again from 9-5pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the moment. Emails will be monitored daily.

FR PATRICK'S SUNDAY HOMILY

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

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY.

We remember especially Claudina Rodrigues who was buried on 12th June.

We pray for all those who mourn her passing. 'Rest eternal grant to them, O Lord. May they rest in peace and rise in glory'.

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.

ONE READING COMMUNITY HUB

<https://www.reading.gov.uk/coronavirusupport>

Do you or someone that you know have urgent welfare needs that can't be provided by family? Contact the hub online or on 0808 1894325 (freephone) from 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturday. For **health** advice still use NHS 111.

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

Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Christ/Corpus Christi: The thing which Catholics have missed most during the three months of lock-down is being able to attend Mass on Sunday and receive Holy Communion. All our Catholic newspapers who have conducted research on how the Catholic community has coped during the Covid-19 induced lock-down have been without ambivalence in their conclusion: Catholics felt deprived of Mass and they missed not being able to receive the Blessed Sacrament. Jesus instituted the Eucharist at the Last Supper and he specifically asked his disciples to break bread in memory of him. It is thus particularly sad that we were not able to gather as a parish family to celebrate the Eucharist on either Holy Thursday or on this special feast, instituted in the 13th century precisely so that people would not forget that Jesus was really, truly and substantially present under the appearances of bread and wine in the Eucharist. A major debate raged from the eleventh century onwards among theologians at the medieval universities about precisely that issue: in what way can we understand and in what philosophical language can we articulate the belief of the Church that Jesus is present in the Eucharist. St. Thomas Aquinas helped solve the intellectual, academic issue by propounding the doctrine of transubstantiation (never understood as being more than the explanation which comes closest to the truth of the mystery, not itself dogma!) but it was Pope Urban IV who encouraged that the debate be solved through prayer and devotion, and in 1264 he thus instituted the Feast of Corpus Christi (for which St. Thomas Aquinas wrote the most famous hymns). Even though we are currently unable to receive the Eucharist, the scripture readings at today's Mass and the fact that many either listen to the homily for the day or watch a live-streamed Mass, we can make a spiritual Communion and thus look forward more eagerly to receiving Holy Communion at Mass in the near future.

First Reading (OT): Deuteronomy 8, 2 – 3. 14 – 16: Moses articulates here the invitation, issued to devout Jews each year on the occasion of Passover, to remember how God set them free, led them dry-shod through the Red Sea and saw to it that they had food. This text may well have been read at the Last Supper in the presence of Jesus who was shortly to institute the Eucharist, the spiritual food his disciples have been nourished with from his day right down to our own.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 10, 16 – 17: This brief recollection of Paul concerning the Last Supper suggests that Eucharist is always something celebrated in common, something shared and that the one bread and one cup make us one in the mystical Body of Christ.

Gospel: John 6, 51 – 58: In this challenging exchange between Jesus and some of his coreligionists who found it impossible to accept that they might eat his flesh, he makes it clear that what they eat is genuinely his and that it is an indispensable condition for eternal life. He also warned that those who knowingly refuse to eat his flesh and blood are thereby depriving themselves of eternal life.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Eleventh week in Ordinary time. (Psalter Week 3)

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

Saturday 13 th June	10.00	Holy Souls
<i>Memorial: St Anthony of Padua</i>	(Exposition)	
Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ		Year A
Sunday 14 th June	10.00	People of the Parish
Monday 15 th June	12.00	Our Lady & St Anne
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Tuesday 16 th June	09.15	Holy Souls
<i>Memorial of St. Richard of Chichester, Bishop</i>		
Wednesday 17 th June	09.15	Holy Souls
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Thursday 18 th June	08.00	Linda & Hugh GOUGH RIP
<i>Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral (St. Chad's, Birmingham)</i>		
Friday 19 th June	12.30	Noel CROKE'S Intentions
<i>Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus</i>		
Saturday 20 th June	10.00	Julia O'SULLIVAN
<i>Memorial: Immaculate Heart of Mary</i>	(Exposition)	
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time		Year A
Sunday 21 st June	10.00	People of the Parish