

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
Monsignor Patrick H. Daly

Presbytery
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Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time 21 June 2020

“So if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven.”

Matthew 10, 32

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.

Things to note:

- ❖ bring as little as possible with you and take everything away. Anything left behind will be disposed of.
- ❖ to comply with social distancing, only certain seats are available. Please follow the stewards' directions.
- ❖ if you are in a vulnerable category or shielding, please keep yourselves safe and wait a little longer before visiting the church.

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.

Volunteers needed to keep the church open

- ❖ Are you under 70?
- ❖ Are you fit and healthy with no underlying health conditions?
- ❖ Would you and/or your family like to help to keep the church open for longer?

If you think you may be suitable, contact the office on o.l.a.s.a.office@gmail.com or ring 9471787 to say when you may be available. Fr Patrick will then get in touch to discuss your offer.

Would you like to make a donation to the parish?

In this period of lockdown it has been difficult for those who put their offering in the bag at Mass to make a donation to the running of the parish. The diocesan website has a donation facility where you can say which parish you would like your donation to be passed on to :
<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/support-our-work>

Any support that you can give would be gratefully received.

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

We remember especially Anne Morris who died recently.

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'.

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

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): In my days working for the European Bishops (COMECE) each year a report landed on my desk from an NGO which monitored government backed or sponsored persecution of Christians or other communities of conviction across the world. The first three centuries of Christian history are often referred to as the Age of Martyrs, yet even when the Emperor Diocletian (+305) launched a full scale persecution only small sections of the Church were affected. Today, alas, outbursts of violent persecution against Christian communities, particularly in the Middle East but also elsewhere, are not uncommon. I get regular up-dates on outbreaks of persecution from an e-letter from the New York based Gatestone Institute. Those of you who are on the mailing list of Aid to the Church in Need will also be well informed on this lamentable phenomenon. In much of the rest of the world, even if not persecuted, the Church and matters of concern to Christians, particularly the freedom to practice their religion according to their well-established traditions, are side-lined in many modern democracies. How the Churches have been treated in lock-down has deeply divided Christian opinion. We are living in an open, pluralistic and generally tolerant society, yet there are issues of public debate and policy decisions taken by our governments, as well as legislation enacted, which trouble the Christian conscience. We often wonder is it worth our while opening our mouths on these contentious issues which we find are irreconcilable with our Catholic faith or Christian convictions. We may not experience the pressures of the secular society on us as persecution, yet it takes courage to raise our voices in opposition to features of contemporary society which we find unacceptable. And that is the issue which is at the heart of these readings. There is a clear admission of the phenomenon of sin in Paul's letter to the Romans, the prophet Jeremiah is pained by the plots of his enemies and Jesus warns his disciples of conflict their commitment to kingdom values may bring about. Yet, God will never abandon the righteous disciple who pursues justice.

First Reading (OT): Jeremiah 20, 10 – 13: Jeremiah undergoes what we might now term “mobbing.” Normally speaking, someone in such a situation might feel he can turn to friends for support. Jeremiah, however, decides to turn to God. God will not abandon him. Today most of us with personal difficulties turn to professional therapists or organisations that can help, and yet many also turn to prayer, to the support of their parish community or to God.

Second Reading (NT): Romans 5, 12 – 15: Paul refers to two proto-types: Adam, the first man, and Christ, the new man. The reality of sin is recognised as having infected all of humanity, and yet through the coming of the new man (and the sacrificial death he endured on the cross) the consequences of human sin have been remedied and redemption has been secured.

Gospel: Matthew 10, 26 – 33: As if he could foresee how much his disciples would suffer for their fidelity to his teaching, Jesus counsels them to have no fear.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Twelfth week in Ordinary time. (Psalter Week 4)

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

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	Anne Morris RIP
Monday 22 nd June	09.15	Our Lady & St Anne Intention
<i>Feast of SS. John Fisher & Thomas More, Martyrs</i>		
Tuesday 23 rd June	09.15	Mrs. Patricia Daly
<i>Feria of Week 12 in Ordinary Time</i>		
Wednesday 24 th June	09.15	Fr. Michael Doyle Intentions
<i>Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist</i>		
Thursday 25 th June	08.00	Kazimierz Dubaj 2nd Anniversary
<i>Feria of Week 12 in Ordinary Time</i>		
Friday 26 th June	12.30	People of the parish
<i>Feria of Week 12 in Ordinary Time</i>		
	17.00-19.00	[church open for private prayer]
Saturday 27 th June	10.00	People of the parish
<i>Feria of Week 12 in Ordinary Time</i> (Exposition)		
Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul, Apostles		Year A
Sunday 28 th June	10.00	Parishioners of SS. Peter & Paul, Wolverhampton