

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



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 26 July 2020

“Every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings from his storeroom things both new and old.”

Matthew 13, 52

OPENING FOR SUNDAY MASSES

- ❖ Due to social distancing, we only have 26 pews available in the church for Mass so for weekend Masses only people will need to book a seat using Eventbrite. To book your Mass, click [here](#) and then click on the date that you would like to book for.
- ❖ Bookings can be made from 9.30am on Monday mornings and close on Wednesday evening to allow admin to be completed. You can still ring the office on a Thursday to book.
- ❖ If you are not sure about using Eventbrite, please ring the office number between 9 and 4 on Tues or Wed and your booking will be made with you.
- ❖ You need to book a 'ticket' for each member of the family but do not need to bring a printed version to Mass with you.
- ❖ There is no expectation that you should come to Sunday Mass so please do stay at home until you are comfortable to return to the church building.

What to expect when you come to Mass:

Please arrive early as it will take longer to get into church with allocated seating.

- Entry to the church is through the double doors next to the Cenacle.
- Exit is through the doors opposite the main body of the church.
- Sanitise hands on the way in and out.
- adults and children in Y7 or above must wear masks.
- you must stay 2m apart, even when coming forward for communion
- stewards will guide you so please listen to them, especially at the end of Mass
- there is a one way system. You may need to walk the long way round to get to communion. Please don't slide along the pews to reach the central aisle.

There will be no:

singing, offertory procession, water in the stoups, physical sign of peace, extraordinary ministers of the Eucharist or children serving.

At all Masses Holy Communion will now be distributed, in silence, at the usual time.

Father Patrick will have sanitised his hands, put on a mask and will stand on the step on front of the altar. He will have raised the ciborium, proclaimed *Body of Christ* to which all will simultaneously respond *Amen*. Communicants, following the guidance of the stewards, will come up the **central aisle** one by one, will guard a social distance of 2 metres, will stretch forward their hands into which the host will be placed, in silence, will lift their mask and receive, and then with dignity and composure following the ONE-WAY indicators, make their way back to their seat. You may need to go the long way round to stick to the one way system. ***Please stay in your seats at the end of Mass and wait for the stewards to guide you out.*** Once you leave the building you are welcome to chat but please move away from the exit so that those behind you can get out.

No booking required for daily Mass on Tuesday and Thursday.

*******NEW PARISH EMAIL ADDRESS*******

As of 1/08/2020 we will be using our new Diocesan wide email system. The new parish office email address will be ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk. Please adjust your contact list if you are in regular contact with the office. We will continue to monitor the current email address for a few months but this will gradually cease.

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

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): There can be no doubt but that the Church has sustained a body-blow as a result of the coronavirus. The jury is still out as to whether or not the Church, here and in other affected countries, managed the crisis well. The altered pattern of worship, liturgy and church life the virus has imposed on us has raised major theological questions which will take a lot of time to unscramble, and certainly there will be sharp disagreements among both clergy and laity about how we are to adjust our church communities to the new “normal”. There are those who see the coronavirus as an attack from outside, some even see it as a sinister force but all are agreed that major damage has been inflicted on the Church across the world. The press reports of return to church services post-Covid 19 from various EU countries suggest that the levels are not dissimilar from here: 15 – 20% of normal pre-corona Sunday attendance. It is clear that such statistics have major implications, financial, social and catechetical. There are those who claim that the coronavirus has only hastened the implosion of the Church by ten years, that church life as we know it was going to unravel anyway: severe shortage of vocations to the priesthood, age profile of those priests in active ministry, declining income of parishes and the reputational damage the Church has sustained following the child abuse scandal. The need for wise government and fidelity to the ideals of the Gospel is more urgent than ever, and the suggestion which comes from the pages of the OT in today’s liturgy that prayer and complete reliance on God’s providence is perhaps the only way of addressing the multiple challenges the Church’s decline present. The prayer of Solomon, the priority he set himself as ruler and the way in which God rewarded the moral imperative the young man set himself as soon as he ascended the throne comes as a great comfort to us today.

First Reading (OT): 1 Kings 3, 5. 7 – 12: Many are currently arguing for a more “synodal” Church, a listening Church authority and one that reconciles itself to the radical changes in both the world and in church congregations, so that a consensus may emerge with which people committed to kingdom values will be happy. Our leaders could hardly do better than to take to heart the prayer of the young Solomon to be able to distinguish good from evil. He wanted to be a king who gave priority to the common good.

Second Reading (NT): Romans 8, 28 – 30: Paul here outlines his faith in a providential God, in a God who knows what he is doing. He urges faith in that God: despite our doubts and reservations, we are instruments in God’s hands. And with his Spirit motivating our actions great good can be done.

Gospel: Matthew 13, 44 – 46: These pithy images of the kingdom of God suggest to us that it is something precious, something worth offering many other riches up so that we can purchase it. But like most things we value, getting our hands on it requires great effort and concentrated searching. Jesus had to use many different image to get across the idea of the kingdom of God: it is a very rich concept.

[Sunday readings](#)

Masses and Intentions

Week Seventeen of the Year

Fr Patrick will celebrate most of these Masses on his own but the Tuesday and Thursday Masses will be open for up to 26 people to attend.

Saturday	25 th July	10.00	Father Robert Wright
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	(Exposition)	
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time			Year A
Saturday	25 th July	17.30	Patrick Treacy RIP
Sunday	26 th July	10.00	People of the parish
Monday	27 th July	09.15	Our Lady & St. Anne Intentions
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		
Tuesday	28 th July	<u>09.15</u>	Edith Townsend RIP
	<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	[church open for public Mass]	
Wednesday	29 th July	09.15	Marty Mulvihill
	<i>St Martha</i>		
Thursday	30 th July	<u>08.00</u>	John McGrath
	<i>St. Peter Chrysologus, Bishop & Doctor</i>	[church open for public Mass]	
Friday	31 st July	12.30	Private intention
	<i>St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i>		
Saturday	1 st August	10.00	Johnson Fund Benefactors
	<i>St Alphonsus Ligouori, Bishop and Doctor</i>	(Exposition)	
18th Sunday in Ordinary Time			Year A
Saturday	1 st August	17.30	Paul Artiguas RIP
Sunday	2 nd August	10.00	Abba Paris RIP