

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - 23 August 2020

“You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it.”

Matthew 16, 18

TRACK AND TRACE INFORMATION

Stewards may ask for your telephone number when you come to Mass. If we find out that anybody has tested positive for COVID 19, this number will be passed on to the government track and trace organisation. By giving your number, you are giving the parish permission to share your number for this purpose.

You don't have to share your number but if you don't nobody will be able to contact you in the unfortunate event of a member of the congregation testing positive.

MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE PARISH

For everybody's safety, offertory collections are not being taken during Mass at the moment. Cash passes through many people's hands and can help to spread the virus. Many people have asked how you can continue giving to the parish during the pandemic.

We recognise that many parishioners may be struggling financially, and there is no expectation to give where you are unable to do so but for those who would like to know:

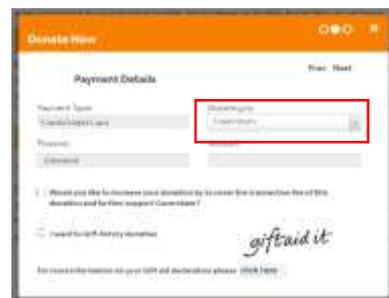
- click on this blue donate button by pressing CTRL and clicking at the same time. It is a live link.

Donate here

- this takes you to the Archdiocese of Birmingham site
- you can set up standing order or make a single donation.
- if you click on making a donation..

Making a donation

- ...on the second page of the donation you can select Caversham to make sure the money comes to the parish
- **the company administering the donate button charge a small admin fee (a % of the donation) so it is more cost effective to set up a standing order and gift aid for the parish particularly if you are making a large donation**



To set up a regular standing order (preferred option if possible) from home if you use online banking just ring the office for account details. We can also send you a form for setting up a gift aided declaration if you are a tax payer.

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 o.l.a.s.a.office@gmail.com but the o.l.a.s.a.priest@gmail.com is no longer active.

BOOKING FOR SUNDAY MASSES

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/our-lady-and-st-annes-rc-church-caversham-30676591436> or ring the office by the end of Thursday.

The office is closed next week (24-27 Aug). Volunteers will continue to arrange bookings for Masses on the weekend of 29-30 Aug.

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

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): Jesus' public ministry may have been short (if the chronology of the synoptic gospels is to be followed) or long (if the evangelist John is to be believed), but by the time the events described in today's gospel occurred Jesus had been heard and seen by a large number of people in both Galilee and Judea. It is natural therefore that Jesus should be curious about the impression he and his teaching had made and it is not surprising that he should ask those who knew him best, and probably were most in touch with their fellow Galileans, what people thought of him. What is the word on the streets? What are people saying about me? Given that when it came to religion people should turn to scriptural prototypes, they discerned in him elements they would expect to have found in Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. That answer must have pleased Jesus, at least the people whom he had encountered were putting him in the right company. And yet, he expected that those who were his closest associates, the apostles, should know him better. And Peter did not disappoint him: 'You are the Christ' he said, "the Son of the living God." It does us good to reflect from time to time on how well we know Jesus and, even though we remember our catechism answers as to Jesus' identity, it is always good to reflect on what he means to me personally. During the month of July we organised a catechetical bubble in the presbytery garden and one of the groups reflected on Jesus and his earthly mission. What was fascinating was that, although there was a broad measure of agreement, each of the six participants saw Jesus from a different perspective and highlighted an aspect of his identity that made most sense to them. What the scripture readings at today's Mass invite us to do is to reflect on the picture of Jesus which emerges and inquire of ourselves why it makes sense to us.

First Reading (OT): Isaiah 22, 19 – 23: There are hints in this prophecy of both the role which Peter is commissioned to play in the encounter at Caesarea Philippi and of the figure of God's anointed himself, the Messiah/Christ. One always has to ask to what degree did the evangelists, when they were editing their gospels, turn to models suggested to them by the writing of the prophets.

Second Reading (NT): Romans 11, 33 – 36: Paul here articulates his sense of wonder at the greatness of God. On the one hand he ascribes qualities to the infinite God, on the other he suggests how unknowable he is. Here Paul combines his faith in the divinity based on revelation and the central insights of Greek philosophy concerning God.

Gospel: Matthew 16, 13 – 20: One of the issues down the centuries which has caused most discussion among Christians is the authority Jesus conferred on Peter and his successors. The question is again a lively one as Pope Francis, successor of Peter as Bishop of Rome, is suggesting that the basis of his authority be broadened so as to be more inclusive and its exercise more synodal. What is clear from this gospel extract is that it was on account of his unambiguous proclamation of faith in Jesus that Peter had authority to bind and loose conferred upon him.

Masses and Intentions

Week Twenty one of Ordinary Time

Fr Patrick celebrates most of these Masses on his own.

Tues, Thurs and Sun Masses are open for up to 26 households to attend.

Saturday	22 nd August	10.00	Holy souls
<i>Memorial of the Queenship of Our Lady</i>		<i>(Exposition – church closed)</i>	
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time			Year A
Saturday	22 nd August	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	23 rd August	10.00	Terry Colehan RIP
Monday	24 th August	09.15	Harrison Lavell
<i>Feast of St. Bartholomew, Apostle</i>			
Tuesday	25 th August	<u>09.15</u>	Int. of Mary Van Den Berghe
<i>Feria in Week 21 in Ordinary Time</i>		[church open for public Mass]	
Wednesday	26 th August	09.15	Holy souls
<i>Feast of Blessed Dominic Barberi, Priest</i>			
Thursday	27 th August	<u>08.00</u>	Holy souls
<i>Memorial of St. Monica</i>		[church open for public Mass]	
Friday	28 th August	12.30	Holy souls
<i>Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop & Doctor</i>			
Saturday	29 th August	10.00	Holy souls
<i>Memorial of the Beheading of St. John the Baptist</i>		<i>(Exposition – church closed)</i>	
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time			Year A
Saturday	29 th August	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	30 th August	10.00	Joan Lewis RIP