

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 18 October 2020

“You will shine in the world like bright stars because you are offering it the word of life.”

Phil 2, 15 - 16

## **BOOKING FOR SUNDAY MASSES**

To keep everybody safe, there are only 26 pews available for seating in the church so we have set up booking online through [Eventbrite](#). If you are able to use the internet, please book yourself in each week. Either google Eventbrite Our Lady and St Anne or follow the coloured link above. The booking closes at 3pm on Thursday afternoon. If you are not able to access the internet please ring the office before 4pm on Thursday.

## **OUR CATHOLIC PRIMARIES NEED YOU!**

We are looking for a couple of practicing Catholics to join our Governing Body as Foundation Governor for the Federation of St Anne's and St Martin's primary schools. If you would be interested in finding out more about the role then please contact

[CoG@Stmartins.reading.sch.uk](mailto:CoG@Stmartins.reading.sch.uk)

## **NEW NHS COVID 19 APP – ADDITIONAL PRECAUTION**

For those of you with smart phones, the NHS COVID 19 app is now active and can be downloaded from Google Play or the App Store. The app notices and logs nearby app users. If any users later test positive for COVID19 you will receive an alert along with advice about what you should do.

You can also use it to scan the official NHS QR codes which are displayed around the narthex to quickly and easily check in to the places you visit. Please consider downloading this app to protect yourself and others.

If you don't have a smartphone then we will use the information that we collect when you come to Mass to get in touch with the local track and trace agency.

## **CHANGES TO SYSTEMS AT MASS**

The collection basket will now be at the entrance. Please make your donations as you come in through the door.

To allow people to leave the building promptly, there is no longer a requirement to sanitize hands on the way out of Mass.

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.

**Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew):** In the cathedral church of Monreale, high in the hills above Palermo, one can see one of the most magnificent depictions of Jesus as lord of all creation, as creator. Similar images are to be seen in many of the churches of the Orient, including one or two which the Turkish government is determined to turn into mosques. This early depiction of Jesus in Byzantine art and the Western art which came under Byzantine influence, is well grounded in the scriptures. We proclaim each Sunday our faith in a Jesus “through whom all things were created.” And we also proclaim that his reign in heaven and on earth will never come to an end: *cujus regni non erit finis*. He has been placed on his heavenly throne by his Father and we are in awe of his majesty. And yet when on earth and on the only occasion he was confronted with the issue of his kingship and with his royal identity by Pontius Pilate during his passion, from a human point of view Jesus comes across as totally powerless. The image of Jesus with which we are most familiar is of his broken body on the cross. His kingdom will only be visible when he returns in glory at the close of the age to judge the living and the dead. This is a veiled warning to us not to turn too quickly to the state to fulfill the Church’s wishes. In today’s gospel reading we see Jesus laying down a firm line between the kingdom of heaven and earthly kingdoms: render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.

**First Reading (OT): Isaiah 45, 1. 4 – 6:** The Persian king Cyrus is here an instrument of divine providence. God gives his blessings to Cyrus, he opens every door to him, he promotes his cause – an irony indeed because Cyrus does not know him. God acts in this way, taking the long view, to benefit his people Israel. God does not set out to make of Israel a great power equal to the pagan kingdoms of the Orient, kingdoms such as that of the Persian king Cyrus. Rather he turns world history to Israel’s advantage, he uses the most powerful potentate of the day to come to Israel’s help, and all of this illustrates how great his love is for the people of Israel.

**Second Reading (NT): Thessalonians 1, 1 – 5:** Paul has the experience of the young church at Thessalonica as a loving community. He analyses the quality of the members’ love for one another. Faith expresses itself in deeds. He sees in their love a willingness to sacrifice for others, a love free of self-regard, a love which is willing to give generously. He also speaks of how steadfast their hope is, a hope which in all temptations and difficulties finds its realization in Jesus.

**Gospel: Matthew 22, 15 – 21:** Jesus is very often lured into a trap when his adversaries put before him a situation or pose a dilemma where coming down on either side could land him in trouble with the religious authorities or the State, or as the pharisees might have hoped, both. The clever way Jesus answered the question was to remain for many generations of Christian history the rule of thumb for dealing with one of the most contentious issues: the relationship between Church and State.

# Masses and Intentions

## Week Twenty-nine 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	17 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00 (Exposition- church closed)	Herman Meyssen intention
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### 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Year A

Saturday	17 <sup>th</sup>	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup>	10.00	Int. of Ann Maher & family

Monday	19 <sup>th</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

Tuesday	20 <sup>th</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

Wednesday	21 <sup>st</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

Thursday	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

Friday	23 <sup>rd</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

Saturday	24 <sup>th</sup> October	No Mass
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*Feria*

### 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Year A

Saturday	25 <sup>th</sup> October	17.30	Niamh & Gerard Laboisie
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> October	10.00	People of the parish

We welcome Fr David Sillence who is offering all Masses for the next two weekends.