

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time - 25 October 2020

“Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.”

Acts 16, 14

ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

It is part of our Catholic tradition, in the month of November, to remember and pray for all those who have died especially those family members and friends who have been dear to us and have been an important part of our lives. This year the Mass of Remembrance, when we particularly focus upon those who have died in the past year in this parish, will happen on Wednesday 11th November @ 19.30. The families of those whose funerals have taken place in the parish have been specially invited and during the Mass a named candle will be lit and the names of the dead will be read out.

If you have a family member or friend, who has died in the past year but was not one of our parishioners, you are warmly invited to add their name to the list and a candle will be provided. Please pass on this information to the parish office by Wed 4th November.

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

The solemnity of All Saints will be celebrated at the Sunday Masses next weekend.

All Souls Day will be Monday 2nd November as usual. Public Masses will be celebrated at 09.15 and 19.30. No pre-booking required but please arrive early ready to give your name to the stewards.

HOLY SOULS The box which is traditionally placed in front of the altar every November will be there as usual. If you would like to add names of your deceased love ones, please write them on a piece of paper and leave it in the basket as you come in to church at the weekend. Names will be transferred to the box by a steward. Please do not include money.

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. If you are not able to access the internet please ring the office before 3pm on Thursday. Please try to arrive at least 10mins before Mass starts to allow for the stewards to seat everybody.

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the soul of Carmel Potton who died recently. May she rest in peace.

DONATE TO THE PARISH WHILE YOU SHOP ONLINE

The parish has signed up with a charity called The Giving Machine. When you shop online, if you go via TGM they will make a donation to the parish. A whole range of commonly used retailers pay a small donation to TGM for directing custom their way. The parish then gets that money minus a small amount kept by the charity. Just sign up to TGM and nominate Our Lady & St Anne RC Church as your charity. We have a designated number of **267066**

<https://www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/how-tgm-works/>

CHANGES AT CHURCH

The collection basket is now at the entrance so you can make your donations as you come in through the door. Please leave the building promptly to allow those behind you to stay a safe distance apart. Thank you.

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

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): A story is told of a new priest who has arrived in his parish. The people look forward to getting to know him and await his first homily with eager expectation. He preaches about God's love and its essential corollary, love of neighbour. The people are duly impressed. When their new parish priest preaches much the same homily the following Sunday they are mildly surprised: perhaps he has mixed up his notes and used last Sunday's rather than the ones he has made for today! But then the next Sunday the words of the homily are virtually identical, the people are more than mildly irritated. So the new PP is challenged. His deadpan answer: when I see to it that these two basic rules of life are followed in this parish I will move on to another theme. A good story perhaps, but Jesus regularly reminded those to whom he was speaking and especially to those who deliberately set out to disconcert him of the two basic commandments of the Law. These two commandments were the hook on which the whole Jewish religious tradition hung.

First Reading (OT): Exodus 22, 20 – 26: When a man or woman are down on their luck, they are only too happy when others come to their aid and give them a lift up. All of this is common sense but not everyone is disposed to give the help those in need may require. It was not only the Israelites whose situation is described in the Book of Exodus who have such needs of solidarity and support, as Pope Francis new encyclical *Fratelli tutti* reminds us, it is alive and well in today's world too. When people are happy, they forget all too easily those who are suffer and are in need. The teaching of Moses, which we find in today's OT reading, will have made the Israelites sensitive and motivated them to reach out a helping hand. This may all seem very obvious, yet it is often to our own advantage too to reach out a helping hand to those in need.

Second Reading (NT): Thessalonians 1, 5 – 10: Paul's letter to the early Christian community at Thessalonica is full of gratitude for the graces they have received and praise for the members of the community who, with such great joy and conviction, live according to the teaching he shared with them. Their virtue is a powerful witness to other communities striving to live according to the Good News. The Church in our day has lost a great deal of esteem in the contemporary world, for a complex series of reasons. And yet, our church community can still make a positive impression on our neighbourhood, if we witness to a serene fidelity to the Gospel.

Gospel: Matthew 22, 34 – 40: The Jews had a lot of laws to observe. They were all given by God and handed on by Moses. Establishing priorities was a great challenge therefore. It was natural that they should ask Jesus' help in deciding which commandments were the most important to observe. The essence of the commandments amounted to two, one being the corollary of the other. The way in which most of us express our love of God and thus observe the first commandment is our fidelity to the second. There is only one God, but as for our neighbour, there are just so many of them!

Masses and Intentions

Week Thirty 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 24th October No Mass

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Saturday 24th October 17.30

Niamh & Gerard Laboisie

Sunday 25th October 10.00

People of the parish

Monday 26th October No Mass

Feria

Tuesday 27th October No Mass

Feria

Wednesday 28th October No Mass

Feast of SS. Simon & Jude, Apostles

Thursday 29th October 18.00

Linda & Hugh Gough RIP

Feria

Friday 30th October 12.30

Catherine O'Brien RIP

Feria

Saturday 31st October 10.00

People of the parish

Feria

Solemnity of All Saints

Year A

Saturday 31st October 17.30

Stevie Phillips

Vigil Mass of All Saints [Hallow E'en]

Sunday 1st November 10.00

Michael & Nora Daly