

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 15 November 2020

“Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things. I will trust you with greater.”

Matthew 25, 23

DONATE TO THE PARISH WHILE YOU SHOP ONLINE

The parish has signed up with a charity called The Giving Machine, part of a portal called Churchmarketplace which is sanctioned by the Archdiocese. Just sign up to TGM and nominate Our Lady & St Anne RC Church as your charity. We have a designated number of 267066. Find out how it all works at

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

You can download a Shop and Reminder app on your phone from Google Play or onto your computer from the Giving Machine site. When you land on a TGM site a little reminder will pop up. Click on it and then shop as normal. The donation is automatically allocated to the parish account.

PARISH OFFICE

There is nobody in the office during the month of November but emails to ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk will be monitored daily.

Fr Patrick is of course still available on 0118 947 1787 if you would like to speak with him.

LOCKDOWN 2

The current guidance prohibits the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings so there will be no public Masses for the month of November at least.

Churches remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including personal prayer and support for those in need.

Details of opening times for private prayer at Our Lady & St Anne's will be posted on the website when they have been confirmed.

Funeral Masses and funeral services may still be held with a restriction of 30 participants in church seated in separate households.

You can read the full statement from Cardinal Nichols on the [Birmingham website](#).

READING VOLUNTARY ACTION COVID SUPPORT

<http://rva.org.uk/coronavirus-community-action/> - if you would like to volunteer or need some help have a look at what is available here.

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

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): The liturgical year is coming to a close. Many of us will look back with a sense of intense frustration over the past twelve months, especially as we feel deprived of a communal liturgical celebration of some of the greatest feasts in the Christian calendar, not least the Triduum and Easter. But we can also look back with pride at the way we returned to the rhythm of regular religious practice as the first lockdown eased. We will have faced this second indeterminate lockdown with the same resolve as the first, although there are evident signs of mental fatigue in all of us and the prospect of winter setting in makes the whole exercise more challenging. The fact that few people in the parish have been touched by the coronavirus and that those who have been ill have recovered so quickly is one grace for which to be thankful. Furthermore, many have developed a new relationship with their faith and invented new ways of observing it during the isolation of lockdown. Moreover, we have reviewed our outlook on life in general and on our relationship with society. We know that when and if the coronavirus is ultimately conquered, life will never quite be the same. The insights of the past nine months may well suggest to us that life can in so many respects be better. The scripture readings at this Sunday's Mass present to us paragons of virtue and challenge us to put the talents we have been given to the best possible use. Many will have discovered new talents and strengths during lockdown, all of which can now be used to enrich our own lives and contribute to the life of the Church.

First Reading (OT): Proverbs 31, 10-13. 19 – 20. 30 – 31: Judging by appearances always short-changes the person perceived. This glorious hymn in praise of womanhood focuses on the inner pearls that are in every character. In the light of the gospel message, these are talents that the wise woman puts to such positive use in the fulfilment of her duties as spouse, mother and steward of a household.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Thessalonians 5, 1 – 6: In the Mediterranean and further south one notices how quickly the new day begins: sunrise is almost sudden, the full light of the day floods the earth very quickly. So will it be with the Day of the Lord. [We recall the parable of the wise/foolish bridesmaids from last week].

Those who do not pay attention or are ill prepared can suddenly be overtaken by the Lord's return. Paul reassures the Christian community of Thessalonica that they need not be fretful, they are no longer in the dark, the night has no power over them. Those who live in the light are themselves light for others. Those who live in the light have hope of what is to come as encouragement and reassurance.

Gospel: Matthew 25, 14 – 30: What makes this parable so memorable is its assertion that God expects something of us. Matthew was writing for a community that was awaiting the Lord's return. It was a community that was building a life of its own inspired by gospel values. Whether for the long or the short term, it needed human investment. Matthew wanted to encourage each member to use his/her talents for the good of the whole.

Masses and Intentions
Week Thirty-three of Ordinary Time

Fr Patrick will celebrate these Masses on his own.

Saturday 14th November 10.00 Frank Gratrix RIP

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time **Year A**

Sunday 15th November 10.00 John Eppstein RIP

Monday 16th November 09.15 Taylor & Campling
Memorial of St. Gertrude, Virgin;
St. Edmund of Abingdon, Bishop
Deceased

Tuesday 17th November 09.15 June Giles
Memorial of St. Elizabeth of Hungary

Wednesday 18th November 09.15 Perkins Family Deceased
Memorial of the Dedication of the Basilicas of SS. Peter & Paul

Thursday 19th November 08.00 Margaret Colehan
Feria of Week 33 in Ordinary Time
Intentions

Friday 20th November 12.30 Paul & Angele Doncarli
Feria of Week 33 in Ordinary Time

Saturday 21st November 10.00 Joan Jiggins RIP
Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ **Year A**
Universal King

Sunday 22nd November 10.00 Dubaj Family Deceased