

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Presbytery
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Solemnity of Christ Universal King – 22 November 2020

“I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25, 40

OLASA PRIVATE PRAYER

Our Lady & St Anne will be open for private prayer before the exposed Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays from 10.30 – 11.30 beginning Saturday 28th November (weekend of First Sunday of Advent).

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/>

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.

ADVENT COURSE 2020

Fr Patrick will be running his Advent Course on Zoom this year for obvious reasons. If you would like to join, please pin the details to your calendar or look on the website for the link which will be the same each week.

Topic: OLASA Advent Course

Time: 7:30

Join Zoom Meeting

[OLASA ADVENT COURSE](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84943731720)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84943731720>

Meeting ID: 849 4373 1720

The course will be on Zoom on Monday 30 November, Monday 7 December, Monday 14 December and Monday 21 December (Winter

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.

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

Solemnity of Jesus Christ Universal King (34th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A, Matthew): Royalty continues to fascinate people in this democratic age where the majority of the world's citizens live in republics (some of them self-proclaimed but in fact autocracies). The UK is one of the world's most stable monarchies with a long line of continuity that goes back, save for one unpleasant interruption in the mid-17th century, to 1066 and beyond. We are familiar with the power symbols of monarchy, with the pomp and circumstance of formal royal ceremonial, and with the assuring presence of the monarch at the heart of national life. Monarchy has lost little of its magic despite huge change in our understanding of society and the way it should be governed. Our understanding of Christianity and of the Church has also evolved considerably since Vatican II and yet today, on this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we are presented with the image of Jesus Christ as King. Of course, both the Jewish high priest and the Roman procurator Pontius Pilate asked him whether or not he self-identified as a king during his show-trial on the first Good Friday. He did not deny it and on the cross, to the fury of the Jews, was affixed a label: Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews. Today the scripture readings and the fact of this feast itself challenge us to reflect, in the light of all we know about monarchies down the ages, on the role of Christ as king. The idea of the kingdom of God was central to his preaching and so we might ask whether, thanks to belonging to him as disciples, he reigns in our hearts.

First Reading (OT): Ezekiel 34, 11 – 12. 15 – 17: The psalm which is most familiar to generations of Christians and to us Catholics for many years (Ps. 22/23 – today's responsorial psalm) casts God as shepherd. Ezekiel puts flesh on that idea in today's OT reading: a God who cares, who has the wellbeing of his flock at heart, who seeks out the lost and has a particular care for the weak and the less able. There are shepherds (in the secular world as we confront the coronavirus this is particularly true) who abandon their flocks in time of danger, and yet it is our belief that when God as shepherd takes the upper hand his people are secure in knowing they are loved and protected.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 15, 20 – 26. 28: Christ is the first-born of the dead, the first of many brothers, and when all of us are gathered together as his heirs in the eschatological kingdom of God, all the hierarchies of this world, all the power structure on which monarchies (and other societies) depend, will be swept away and all of us will be equal heirs of the glory that awaits us in the kingdom.

Gospel: Matthew 25, 31 – 46: The return of the Son of Man is a theme which all three of the synoptic evangelists place on the lips of Jesus as he approaches the end of his earthly life. The kingdom of God and its values were the focal point of his preaching. And it is on how we applied those values in our earthly lives that we will be judged when he returns at the close of the age. What is so surprising is how easy it is to make those values a reality in our lives: visit the sick, welcome the stranger, promote the welfare of prisoners, clothe the naked. We can all do that!

Masses and Intentions

Week Thirty-four of Ordinary Time

Fr Patrick will celebrate these Masses on his own.

Saturday 21st November 10.00 Joan Jiggins RIP

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ Year A Universal King

Sunday 22nd November 10.00 Dubaj Family Deceased

Monday 23rd November 09.15 Dympna Gillespie

Memorial of Pope St. Clement 1, Martyr/St. Coloman, Abbot

Tuesday 24th November 09.15 Naxton & Evans Deceased

Memorial of St. Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, Martyrs

Wednesday 25th November 09.15 Karolina & Jan Sptlák

Memorial of St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin & Martyr

Thursday 26th November 08.00 Fr. Tom Meagher, Fr. Henry

Feria of Week 34 in Ordinary Time

Donnelly, Fr. Romuald

Simpson, Fr. John Maguire

Friday 27th November 12.30 Nancy Lynch Intentions

Feria of Week 34 in Ordinary Time

Saturday 28th November 10.00 Tony Lundy

Saturday of Week 34 in Ordinary Time

First Sunday of Advent Year B

Sunday 29th November 10.00 Zarzeczny Family Deceased