

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8 November 2020

“Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour
when the Son of Man is coming.”

Matthew 24, 42. 44

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/privacypolicy> or by request from the parish office.

Our Lady & St Anne Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham, Charity No. 234216

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A – Matthew): The last weeks of the Church's year focus our attention on the transitory nature of all earthly things. We know that all living things must die. And yet we believe in something beyond the horizon of inevitable death and all the limitations of this earthly existence, we believe in new light and something infinite in its scale. We all have questions and anxieties, yet our faith provides us with hope and a security concerning our future. A wise person adopts the perspective on life that faith provides, less as a consolation that better times will come but rather in the knowledge that the God who loves him will not let him be lost. His world has an eternal destiny and we are a part of that created world.

First Reading (OT): Wisdom 6, 12 – 16: Wisdom is here compared to a woman who is the object of male desire. He does not so much come to see here and admire her beauty. Rather it is she who takes the initiative. She comes to meet the man searching for her. Just like a bride who awaits the arrival of her beloved and rushes to the door to meet him, so is Wisdom with those who long for her and go in search of her.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Thessalonians 4, 13 – 18: One of the most urgent questions which preoccupied the early Christians was the fate of those who had already died while awaiting the Lord's return. They had live in the expectation of the Lord's imminent return and busied themselves with preparing for that momentous event. And yet they found themselves powerless to prevent the death of dear ones and lived with the realistic fear that they too might well pass away before the Lord came back. Paul is keenly aware of the distress this situation causes the community in Thessalonica. He wants to impress on them that there will be no difference between the fate of those who have died before the Lord's coming and those who may well be still alive when he does return. In these early November days nature is the full throes of autumnal decay: bare branches, leaves rotting on the ground, the days shortening rapidly. It is natural that we should think of our dead at this time. And yet the Christian hope of new life and our faith in resurrection brings great comfort and consolation.

Gospel: Matthew 25, 1 – 13: Many of the parables Jesus told focused on the return of the Son of Man and all of them suggested that of the return there would be no advance warning and warned that people be in a constant state of preparedness. The story of the ten bridesmaids is very telling. Five had made provision for the bridegroom's return regardless the hour, five had lived on a wing and a prayer! All ten were subject to human weakness, all ten fell asleep. The wise bridesmaids had oil for their lamps when the cry that the bridegroom arrived was raised. The lesson is fairly obvious. We must endeavour to live in such a way that irrespective of the hour the Lord comes to call us we will be ready. The oil is the word of God and our lamp will shine with the light of our virtuous living. The dangers which the coronavirus presents to our lives might incite us to be even more alert.

Masses and Intentions

Week Thirty-two of Ordinary Time

Fr Patrick will celebrate these Masses on his own.

Saturday 7th November 10.00 Deceased Reading Catenians

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Remembrance Sunday

Saturday 7th November 17.30

Sunday 8th November 10.00

Year A

Zygmunt Powiecki RIP

Deceased of Two World Wars

Monday 9th November 09.15

Solemnity of the dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Tuesday 10th November 09.15

Memorial of St Leo the Great, Pope, Doctor

Wednesday 11th November 09.15

Feast of St Martin of Tours, Bishop/Armistice Day

Baby George Moore

Fidelke Butler RIP

Marcin Jasinski/Martin

Stawowiak Intentions

Martin Grygara/Martin

Niemann Intentions

Eilish Hilliard

Thursday 12th November 08.00

Memorial of St Josaphat, Bishop, Martyr

Friday 13th November 12.30

Feria in week 32 of Ordinary Time

Saturday 14th November 10.00

Feria in week 32 of Ordinary Time

Holy souls

People of the parish

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday 14th November 17.30

Sunday 15th November 10.00

Year A

Frank Gratrix RIP

John Eppstein RIP