

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 14 February 2021

“A great prophet has appeared among us.

God has visited his people.”

Luke 7, 16

LENT 2021

ASH WEDNESDAY

This falls on Wednesday 17th February this year. There will be an open Mass both at 09.15 and 19.30.

LENT COURSE

This will happen on Zoom this year -

[OLASA LENT COURSE](#)

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

Meeting ID: 849 4373 1720

Each session starts 19.30 and lasts approx. 1 hour.

This year's theme: The Passion Narratives & the Easter Story

22nd Feb - The Last Supper

1st March - The Garden of

Gethsemane & the Jewish Trial

8th March - Jesus before Pilate and Herod

15th March - The Crucifixion & Burial

22nd March - The empty Tomb & the
Easter appearances

29th March - Resurrection faith in
St Paul's epistles

CAFOD 'BIG WALK FOR WATER'

St Anne's has an active team promoting and participating in the Cafod Lent 'Big Walk for Water' event on **Saturday 20th February**, in the spirit of the need to tackle global poverty in these times more than ever. The **Big Walk for Water** is a Cafod led event to raise money for equipment for communities across the globe who have no access to clean water for washing and drinking. It is a real opportunity to transform lives. If you do intend to walk in some form, inform damianrporter@gmail.com. We will be sharing photos and anecdotes remotely of course, but the more the merrier! Please see link for our parish sponsorship page"

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/damian-porter1>

40 Days & 40 Nights Lent Book

This is now available on the website.

Unfortunately there is an unavoidable delay in printing. Hard copies will be available for Ash Wednesday.

Walk With Me

Books and calendars to accompany you through Lent are available this weekend.

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B – Mark): There are many examples from religious traditions around the world, including Christianity, which show that religion is often used as a means of excluding people or as a way of creating an elite or perfect group. As our society becomes more pluralistic and as Catholic communities in every country become more diverse thanks to mass emigration the question of entitlement to belong poses itself in a new light. It is clear from both what Jesus said and what he did that the kingdom of God which he ceaselessly proclaimed and which is a key theme of his preaching in Mark's gospel is inclusive. He reached out to those who were deemed rejected by God and even went so far as to include himself among them when he went to the cross. Let us strive to recognise and overcome our own intolerance and to replace it with the compassion of Christ. One day soon the social distancing protocols will no longer rule our lives, so let us resolve now to be as open and indiscriminately welcoming as Jesus would wish a community of Christian disciples to be.

First Reading (OT): Leviticus 13, 1 – 2. 44 – 46: The Book of Leviticus is part of the Jewish legal code for which the priestly caste were responsible for editing and administering. What is at issue today is a contagious skin disease, perhaps leprosy, which once contracted caused fear and loathing in the community. The victims had to be driven out of the community and only re-admitted once the priests were happy they had been cured. This text is directly related to the story related by today's gospel where it becomes obvious that Jesus' ministry, instead of driving people out of the community, sought to include them. The response of Jesus to this affliction is one of compassion.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 10, 31 – 11, 1: The issue here is far from our concerns today, i.e. whether or not Christians should eat meat which had been sacrificed to idols. It was a source of scandal to some in the community in Corinth. Paul argued that for the sake of charity and out of concern for the feelings of others it might be best to abstain from this practice. His reasoning is summed up in the extract from his letter we read today. As believers in Jesus we must always strive to be sensitive to others and not to simply rely on being right all the time.

Gospel: Mark 1, 40 – 45: In the NT the healing ministry of Jesus does not focus so much on his ability to heal as on what the healings mean. This is particularly clear in today's incident. The leper who comes to Jesus is not only suffering because of his physical condition, he is also excluded from his community in the manner outlined in the first reading. This clearly adds to his sense of isolation and abandonment. So when he begs for healing, Jesus is moved with compassion at the sight of his suffering. In healing him, however, he also insists that he take the steps required to be readmitted to the community. In this way, this miracle of Jesus touches not only the victim but also all those around him. Jesus is not healing the leprosy, he is also challenging attitudes to it and this is made obvious when he reaches out and touches the leper.

Mass Intentions for Week Six in Ordinary Time/ Season of Lent

Saturday 13th February 10.00 People of the parish
Feria in Ordinary Time

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

Saturday 13th February 17.30 Mary Fegan
Sunday 14th February 10.00 The Fisher Family

Monday 15th February 09.15 Holy Souls
Feria in Ordinary Time

Tuesday 16th February 09.15 Holy Souls
Feria in Ordinary Time

SEASON OF LENT

Wednesday 17th February 09.15 Robert Quilter
Ash Wednesday 19.30 People of the parish

Thursday 18th February 08.00 Eileen Quilter
Thursday after Ash Wednesday

Friday 19th February 12.30 Holy Souls
Friday after Ash Wednesday

Saturday 20th February 10.00 People of the parish
Saturday after Ash Wednesday

First Sunday of Lent Year B

Saturday 20th February 17.30 Canon Giles Goward
Sunday 21st February 10.00 Father Sean Farrell