

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 7 February 2021**

“He took our sicknesses away, and carried our diseases for us.”

Matthew 8, 17

## LENT 2021

### ASH WEDNESDAY

This falls on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb - The Last Supper

1<sup>st</sup> March - The Garden of

Gethsemane & the Jewish Trial

8<sup>th</sup> March - Jesus before Pilate and Herod

15<sup>th</sup> March - The Crucifixion & Burial

22<sup>nd</sup> March - The empty Tomb & the Easter appearances

29<sup>th</sup> March - Resurrection faith in St Paul's epistles

## Requiem Mass for Fr Giles - Monday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb @ 12 noon

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Giles, a much loved former parish priest of Our Lady & St Anne's parish. May he rest in peace.

Unfortunately, due to COVID restrictions, many people who would have liked to attend Fr Giles's funeral will not be able to. In light of this, his funeral Mass will be live streamed from St Mary's College, Oscott on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February @ 12 noon. Details of the link for this can be found on the college website [www.oscott.net](http://www.oscott.net) from Friday evening onwards. The link to the service will go live at 11.45am on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February. There will also be a link to the order of service should you wish to follow that during the Mass.

## 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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>

## Memorial Mass for Fr Giles at Our Lady & St Anne's

An additional, public, memorial Mass will be celebrated on **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 19.30** to pray for the repose of the soul of Fr Giles who served the parish faithfully for 12 years. **Please book on Eventbrite.**

## 40 Days & 40 Nights Lent Book

The 2021 version will be available in hard copy on 13/14 February. Please let the stewards know if you would like one. The plan is to print to order this year.

For those who read on electronic devices it will also be available for download on the website that 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

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B – Mark):** A distinguished Oxford historian wrote a major study on the role of the crowd in the French Revolution. A similar study could be written about the crowd in the Russian Revolution or in many of the major turning points in world history, e.g. the recent march on the Capitol in Washington DC. The gospel of Mark shines the spotlight on the role of the crowd in the public ministry of Jesus, on the magnetic power of attraction Jesus seemed to exercise over masses of people who gathered around to hear him speak and on the way the spread of his reputation in the Palestine of his day drew crowds to wherever he was known to be speaking, be it a synagogue or public square. The scene depicted in the gospel extract the Church puts before us today is a particularly touching one. Again, the spotlight is on the interaction between Jesus and the crowd. This time it is the sick and the lame who gather around the house where he is known to be staying, brought there in some cases by able-bodied relatives or friends. We know that he cured the mother-in-law of Simon Peter who had a fever, but all the others who were touched by his healing power remain nameless. Most of the people whom Jesus encountered only met him once, he was an occasional presence in their lives, a bird of passage. We are in Jesus' company every week, we have been listening to his word for many years and the majority of us have been his disciples since birth. But Mark's gospel reminds us of the many in our world today who know of Jesus' reputation, may have been touched by him for a fleeting moment at some stage in their lives, but otherwise he made little impact. And yet that impact may have been an enriching one, it may even have changed something for the good in their lives. And that impact may have been the result of just one meeting with you or with me.

**First Reading (OT): Job 7, 1 – 4. 6 – 7:** The life of man hangs on the thinnest of strings. This extract comes from Job's answer to friends who see his fate and his misery as God's punishment for sins. Job refuses to see things quite that way although he does contemplate human misery. He gloomily reflects on how short life is, how much unhappiness there is, and yet he was a man who could later claim "I know that my Redeemer lives". (Job 19, 25).

**Second Reading (NT): 1 Corinthians 9, 16 – 19. 22 – 23:** This is an eloquent elucidation of the calling of the preacher. Paul preaches in answer to a call, he makes known the Good News but with no intention of gain in this-worldly terms. He puts himself in the shoes of those to whom he is preaching.

**Gospel: Mark 1, 29 – 39:** One of the predictions made in the early days of the pandemic was that large numbers of people would not return to church after the lockdown was over. That has turned out not to be the case, people have even had to be turned away due to the limited spaces conceded by the Covid – 19 regulations. The gospel presents us with a scene not unlike those returning to church in our day: people with wounds, worries, and need for the healing power of the Lord.

## Mass Intentions for the Week Five in Ordinary Time

Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00	Juraj
<i>Memorial of St. Paul Miki &amp; Companions</i>			
<b>Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			<b>Year B</b>
Saturday	6 <sup>th</sup> February	17.30	Brian McGrath
Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00	Zygmunt Powiecki
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup> February	09.15	John McGrath
<i>Memorial St. Jerome Emiliani, Priest</i>			
Tuesday	9 <sup>th</sup> February	13.15	Requiem Maria Anna Franco
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	10 <sup>th</sup> February	09.15	Jim & Bridie Finucane
<i>Memorial of St. Scholastica, Virgin</i>			
		19.30	Memorial Mass Fr Giles
Thursday	11 <sup>th</sup> February	08.00	Canon Giles Goward
<i>Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes</i>			
Friday	12 <sup>th</sup> February	12.30	James Deacey
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00	People of the parish
<i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>			
<b>Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>			<b>Year B</b>
Saturday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	17.30	Mary Fegan
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00	The Fisher Family