

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
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Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25 July 2021

“Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life.”

John 6, 63. 68

RIP Please pray for the repose of the souls of David Day who died recently. May he rest in peace.

On Wednesdays of July 26, the final **SUMMER SCHOOL OF PRAYER** will be held in the presbytery garden from 11.00 until 12.00 noon, weather permitting.

VOLUNTEER GARDENING

Some people expressed an interest in volunteering in the parish survey. We would like to set up a **Garden Maintenance team** that could help out with some basic gardening once a month or so. If you are interested in joining, please email [ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk] or ring the office [947 1787] with your name and what you can offer. Thank you.

The **ROCK 'N' ALE FESTIVAL** is now into its 9th year. This year's event will be held on Saturday 4th September and tickets are now on sale. The event is a family event and not only generates funds for the Motor Neuron Disease Association but is also a major contributor to Parish income. A full bar is provided by the Purple Turtle, children's entertainment, three live bands playing music from the last 30 years, and a hog roast. Tickets are £10 for adults, £5 for under 16's and under 5's are free. They can be bought after Mass or by calling 0118 958 4628 during office hours or visit www.facebook.com/rocknale.

CHANGES AT MASS HERE AT OUR LADY & ST ANNE STARTING 24/25TH JULY

In response to the announcement by Boris Johnson we are keen to increase the capacity at Mass but need to be mindful of a range of situations. Here at Our Lady & St Anne's it has been decided that:

- every pew will be open
- there will still be booking through Eventbrite with more tickets available
- pews will not be allocated, people are asked to choose their own seat but please be mindful to keep a reasonable distance from those that you don't have regular contact with.
- mask wearing is still expected for the benefit of the all members of the community
- hands still to be sanitised on entry
- singing still restricted to the choir for the moment
- the church will continue to be disinfected after weekend Masses

2014 CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATES
Certificates for the following people have been found. If you would like to collect them, please contact the parish office by email or phone:

A. Gomes	O. Walters	C. Reilly
D. Buckle	J Patrick	S Totton
A Sheedy	W Sekula	A Robayo
E Parr	A Edwards	I Griffiths



OUR LADY'S LAMP This week's lamp is lit for:
Barbara Turnock. Please keep her in your prayers.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B – Mark): Very often at the beginning of Sunday Mass we are reminded that we gather, assemble as children of God and that through our deliberate act of coming together in his name, Jesus is present in the midst of us. He is present to us as a community, but he is also present to us as individuals: our concerns, our intentions, our hopes and anxieties matter to him. And that is a consoling thought. Even if our day-to-day concerns are in our minds, even if our worries cast a shadow on the sunlight of a bright summer Sunday morning, we do make a conscious effort to view all these earthly realities through the prism of our faith in God and our trust in Jesus’ providential love. In other words, when we gather for Sunday worship and celebrate the Mass, we make a deliberate effort to think of the things of God. We make a place for God, certainly during our act of Sunday worship, but we also attempt to make a place for the things of God throughout Sunday/the Sabbath and thus fulfil the third commandment of the Law: remember that thou keep holy the sabbath day.

First Reading (OT): 2 Kings 4, 42 – 44: The challenge to us in today’s Church is to become missionary disciples rather than offer all our insights and all our prayers to God, as in this incident from the life of the prophet Elisha, who attracted so many people to him through his holiness and moral goodness, where he orders the man who came with the first-fruits to go and share them with others. And he will be amazed to find that there is still plenty over. No more than if we share our faith insights and convictions with others, not only will we enrich them but we will also be richer ourselves.

Second Reading (NT): Ephesians 4, 1 – 6: At a time when there is much diversity in the Church and when we are growing in our awareness that plurality brings with it the danger of disunity, the words which Paul wrote from prison to the Christians of Ephesus gain in significance. He stresses how important it is that members of the Church remain united and focuses on what it is keeps us one, and it is a reminder to us what our belief and faith are based on.

Gospel: John 6, 1 – 15: While both the Synoptics and John reflect the Eucharistic symbolism in the account of the multiplication of the loaves and fishes (‘take, bless/thank, break, give/distribute’ – ‘break’ is missing in John), it is John who exploits this scene for a special ‘sign’ potential. In John, signs are perceived only as spectacular events, they do not lead to faith. To lead to faith, the sign must provoke God’s presence as revealed in Jesus. The scene has obvious connections to Moses. Just as Moses goes up the mountain, so too Jesus goes up a mountain. The sign performed by Jesus makes the audience conclude that Jesus is such a figure. At this point John adds a historical note wanting in the Synoptics, i.e. the people attempt to make Jesus their king because of the sign. For John, therefore, the sign does not lead the people to recognize the true nature of Jesus. It is ‘just’ a miracle. [For the next couple of Sundays we will be reading from the Gospel of John and the central mystery in question will be that of the Eucharist].

Mass Intentions for Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

All weekday Masses are now open.

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	24 th July	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	25 th July	10.00 12.30	Zygmunt Poweicki RIP Baptisms
Monday	26 th July <i>Memorial of St Joachim & St Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	09.15	Fr Philip Smyth
Tuesday	27 th July <i>Tuesday of week 17 in Ordinary Time</i>	<u>18.30</u>	Anna Sabolova RIP
Wednesday	28 th July <i>Wednesday of week 17 in Ordinary Time</i>	18.30	David Day RIP
Thursday	29 th July <i>Memorial of Saint Martha</i>	08.00	Mr & Mrs Connelly
Friday	30 th July <i>Memorial of St Peter Chrysologus, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i>	12.30	Johnson Fund Benefactors
Saturday	31 st July <i>Memorial of St Ignatius of Loyola, Priest</i>	10.00	Jesuit Friends

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	31 st July	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	1 st August	10.00	Intentions of the choir