

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

Parish Priest
Monsignor Patrick H. Daly

Presbytery
2 South View Avenue,
Caversham,
READING RG4 5AB

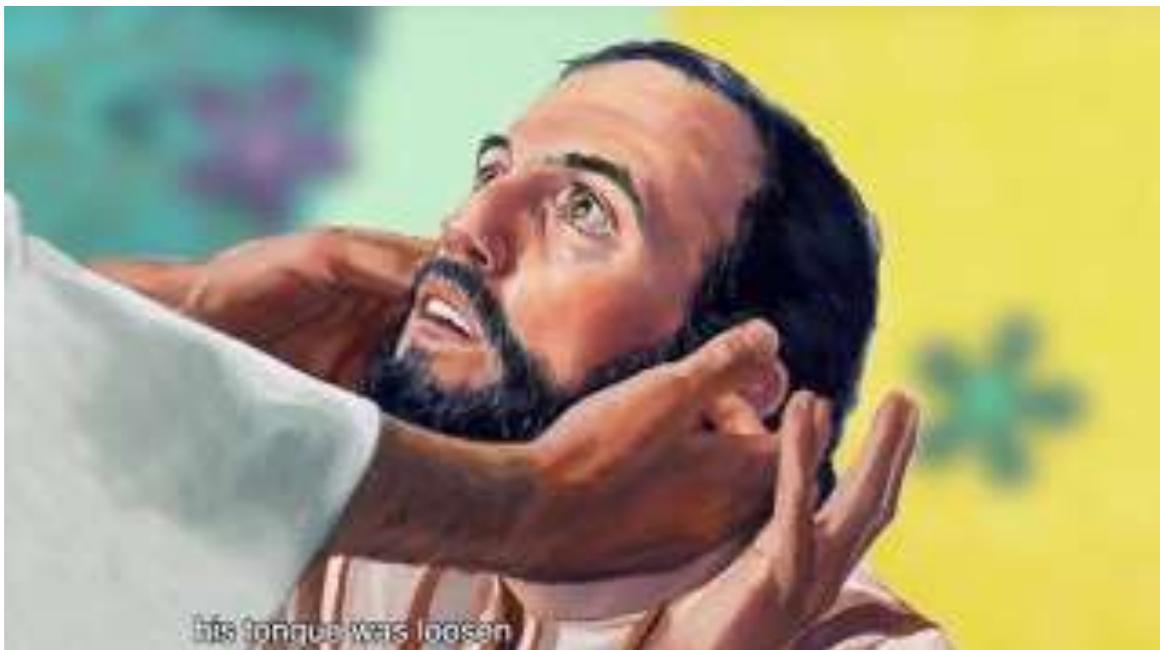
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Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4/5 September 2021

“It is the Lord who gives sight to the blind, who raises up those who are bowed down, the Lord who loves the just, the Lord, who protects the stranger.”

Psalm 145, 5 - 6

30 YEARS OF PRIESTLY ORDINATION

This year Fr Patrick celebrates thirty years of priestly ordination. To mark this special occasion there will be a sung Mass on Tuesday 14th September at 7pm followed by a canape reception in the Cenacle.

To help with catering, if you are planning to stay to the reception please either book on Eventbrite or sign the list at the back of the church.

SVP SUPPORT FOR AFGHANI REFUGEES

The SVP would like to organise some way to support Afghani refugees that find their way to Reading. If you would like to get involved and/or have any good ideas about what to do, contact Bev on

bjryan@virginmedia.com or call the parish office on 9471787.

CHURCH OPENING

As of Monday 6th September, the church will be open throughout the day for those who want to call in and pray at any time.

GIFT AID TAX LETTERS

If you need to know your gift aided donations made in the last tax year, please email/ring the **parish** office. The diocesan team are still working from home and can't send letters so please don't ring them.

SIGN UP FOR THE NEWSLETTER

There is now an option to sign up for the newsletter on the front page of the website.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Find out more about Climate Change, our Environment and COP 26 from CAFOD. Follow this link to the CADOD climate page:

<https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Climate/What-is-COP26>

CAFOD FAITH IN ACTION DAY

Online event on **September 11th 2021**.

For online details and to sign up [CLICK HERE](#).



OFFERTORY INCOME UPDATE

Whilst there have been restricted numbers at Mass our income through the offertory has been depleted. Thank you to all of those who have moved to direct debits and those who have written catch up cheques even if you have not been able to come to Mass.

2021 Income from Mass offertories :

Jan £1141 Feb £999 Mar £811
April £886 May £1143 June £1145
July £964 Aug £1008

Standing orders: £2370 per month



OUR LADY'S LAMP This week's lamp is lit:
for Stephen Aldworth. Please keep him in your prayers.

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

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B – Mark): The month of September represents new beginnings in a diversity of cultures. We associate it with the definitive end of the summer holiday and a return to school. It used to mean a return to offices and the monotony of commuting, yet the pandemic has altered things on that score. For the Jews, September brings a calendar crowded with feasts: New Year (Rosh ha Shana), the Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) and the feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot). The Orthodox world too celebrates the beginning of the year in September due to calendar alterations which go back many centuries. And, for most of us for purely practical reasons, September is considered the opening month of a new year. For us here in Our Lady & St. Anne it is our hope that a number of initiatives get off the ground this coming month: a new readers' rota, a serious look at our sacramental preparation programme, and finally some straight thinking about the re-ordering of the sanctuary. None of this has any direct connection with the themes of today's scripture readings. The prophet Isaiah strikes a note of hope as he provides a thumb-nail sketch of what the Messiah will be like and what deeds he will accomplish. We have become used to the ministry of stewards guiding us to our seats, James gives a strong piece of advice as to how seats should be assigned. And Jesus fulfils one of the aspects of the messianic mission highlighted by Isaiah in opening the ears of the deaf man. Let our ears too be open to the word of God.

First Reading (OT): Isaiah 35, 4 – 7: This excerpt from the prophetic sayings of Isaiah dates from the time of the Babylonian exile. God seemed very far away, Jerusalem was desolate, the people were despondent. And yet Isaiah assures them that, even if invisible and even if he seems distant, God is very near. For a people for whom the desert was more than familiar – familiar too for many in our world, thanks to climate change – the experience of the transforming effect of a few drops of water was a yearly miracle. The scorched land becomes like a lake, flowers bloom, plants grow. The same can be true of our hearts if we allow the water of God's word to fertilise them.

Second Reading (NT): James 2, 1 – 5: We have learned a lot during the pandemic. Most of us have been obliged to sit in a bench not of our own choosing, and be in a part of the church – some even in the side aisles! – that offers us a new perspective on the altar and the rest of the building. And we find ourselves sitting in proximity – social distancing being observed – to people we are not used to being close to. These seating arrangements which have become part of the new “post-Covid 19 normal” acquire a deeper significance from the reading of the apostle James to one of the early Christian communities.

Gospel: Mark 7, 31 – 37: Jesus finds himself in the Decapolis region, one inhabited largely by non-Jews or pagans. And it is there that he performs a miracle, having declined miracles in his home town of Nazareth. Jesus reaches out to all people, his messianic mission is to all and touches the lives of all, for the good.

Mass Intentions for Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time

All weekday Masses are now open.

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	4 th September	17.30	Noelle Schrieber RIP
Sunday	5 th September	10.00	Zygmunt Powiecki RIP
Monday	6 th September	09.15	Richard O'Brien RIP
<i>Monday of week 23 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	7 th September	09.15	St Rita of Cassia
<i>Tuesday of week 23 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	8 th September	18.30	Rosina Marsh RIP
<i>Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>			
Thursday	9 th September	08.00	Our Lady of Fatima
<i>Memorial of St Peter Claver, Priest</i>			
Friday	10 th September	12.30	Christine Francis RIP
<i>Friday of week 23 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Saturday	11 th September	10.00	Private intention
<i>Saturday of week 23 in Ordinary Time</i>			

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	11 th September	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	12 th September	10.00	Ian MacDonald RIP