

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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First Sunday of Advent – 27/28 November 2021

“Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to survive all that is going to happen, and to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.”

Luke 21, 36

ADVENT

Fr Patrick's Advent Course [On Site]

[Monday 29 November, 6, 13 20
December 2021 at 19.30 hrs./7.30pm]

Week 1 What do we understand as the Church?

Week 2 The Church in the Modern World

Week 3 Church & Society

Week 4 Ecumenical dimension

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE @ OUR LADY & ST ANNE'S

Thursday 16th December, 7.30pm

This service is intended to offer us a time of spiritual preparation, as we watch and wait for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Everybody welcome, please wear a mask.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER

COLLECTION A basket is available to contribute to the Christmas flowers as usual. It is always lovely to decorate the church for Christmas so please give what you can over the next few weeks.

RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mrs Fiammetta Elvira Scola who died recently. Funeral here at Our Lady & St Anne's Thurs 2nd Dec. @ **1.15pm**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Today (28th Nov) we are launching our annual Smarties fundraising appeal in aid of CAFOD. Children's Liturgy welcomes all children who have not yet made their First Holy Communion (pre-school children must be accompanied by an adult) and we are no longer running a booking system. Come along to our session during the 10am Mass to receive your free tube of Smarties!

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

In the Cenacle Wednesday 8th
December at 7.15pm.

- watch and learn from our own professional florist and make your own special Christmas wreath for your home. All materials provided.
- Bring a friend for a fun evening while learning a new skill
- Complimentary wine and mince pies
- £20/head. All funds raised for the Parish Building Fund.
- Book your place now with Tina Colehan on 07753 605972

THE FLEXITARIAN FAMILY RECIPE BOOK

with delicious meat free meal recipes supplied by our amazing and inspiring parish community is now available. It includes many simple and delicious meals from the most surprising of contributors, quotes from Father Patrick and indeed from the Pope himself. Please email damianrporter@gmail.com or what's app on 07827302803 who will supply a PDF copy in return for a donation, of any amount, to the Cafod climate crisis appeal.

CHRISTMAS TOGETHER AGAIN

Sunday 12th December @4pm

Enjoy an afternoon of seasonal music and festive refreshments at Queen Anne's School, RG4 6DX. Tickets £10 from Glass Ensemble [947 8097] or billetto.co.uk/e/Christmas-together-again-tickets-583386



OUR LADY'S LAMP This week's lamp is lit for:
Mary Van Den Berghe

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<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

First Sunday of Advent (Year C – Luke): Today a new liturgical year opens. The season of Advent begins. We are urged to be alert, to stand up, to set ourselves a goal and to muster the spiritual strength to pursue it. The opening antiphon on this Sunday is a prayer to God to enliven our spirits and energies, and to protect us against apprehension and fear. We have to face the possibility of failure, there may be enemies plotting against us. And yet this season is generally associated with good feelings. This is a time when the Church invites us to look forward, initially to the end of days and the second coming of the Lord, and then at a later stage to the annual celebration of the Nativity. The count-down to the latter feast is signalled by the lighting of the Advent candles on the wreath, one Sunday at a time. We should accept the challenge the Church puts before us and embrace this Advent invitation as best we can.

First Reading (OT): Jeremiah 33, 14 – 16: “The Lord will work”, this is a promise of the prophet Jeremiah. God is at work still in our world today even if he is not immediately visible. Jeremiah was indeed privileged to sense God at work in his own day and to experience God’s word so directly. Today he is passing on that message to me and to you. God continues to work in our world largely through what we do in his name. Honesty and integrity come about through me. What opportunities do my daily life offer for me to display integrity and honesty, truth and fair-play? The time leading up to Christmas is a time of giving. Honesty and fairness find their place in the way we treat other people.

Second Reading (NT): 1 Thessalonians 3, 12 – 4, 2: Paul casts himself as shepherd, teacher, father figure and coach in his letter to the early Christians of Thessalonica. He shares his great faith with others. His faith is a gift to them. He is very self-assured, certain that what he has taught them will help in their relationship with God. He is convinced of what he is doing. He is not displaying arrogance or pride. He is certain of his own Christian convictions, he encourages the community in Thessalonica to follow him and join him. Not only should they learn from him, they should also teach and encourage one another. It is only in that way that the Church can live right down to today.

Gospel: Luke 21, 25 – 28. 34 – 36: Jesus acknowledges that the end times will make people fearful. They will behold awesome sights. Yet he distinguishes between how the end time will strike humanity in general and how his disciples are to react to it. They are not to be fearful and are to greet those last days in such a way that they will take the others with them. The world in which we are living today AD 2021 causes most of us to be anxious: the pandemic, mounting concerns about climate change and its impact, conflict brewing between powerful states, some of whom possess nuclear weapons. That is reality for us today. There is no escaping fear nor, in our globalised world, is there any way of getting away from the forces that threaten us. The challenge to us this Advent is to allow that hope which strengthened generations past to give hope to us too so that we can help others.

Mass Intentions for First Week of Advent

First Sunday of Advent

Year C

Saturday	27 th November	17.30	Tony Lundy RIP
Sunday	28 th November	10.00	People of the parish
Monday	29 th November	09.15	Bridie & Jim Finucane
	<i>Monday of the first week of Advent</i>		
Tuesday	30 th November	09.15	Bridie Keelan
	<i>Feast of St Andrew, Apostle</i>		
Wednesday	1 st December	18.30	Austin Gannon
	<i>Feast of St Edmund Campion, Priest, Martyr</i>		
Thursday	2 nd December	08.00	Holy souls
	<i>Thursday of the first week of Advent</i>	13.15	Requiem – Fiammetta Scola
Friday	3 rd December	12.30	Our Lady & St Anne
	<i>Friday of week 34 in Ordinary Time</i>		
Saturday	4 th December	10.00	People of the parish
	<i>Memorial of St Francis Xavier, Priest</i>		

Second Sunday of Advent

Year C

Saturday	4 th December	17.30	Roberto Scalzuilo RIP
Sunday	5 th December	10.00	Rosaleen Ryan RIP

Evening prayer, Rosary:	16.45	Saturday afternoon
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