

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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**Second Sunday of Advent – 4/5 December 2021**

“Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all  
mankind shall see the salvation of God.”

**Luke 3, 4. 6**

## ADVENT

### Fr Patrick's Advent Course [On Site]

[Monday 29 November, 6, 13 20  
December 2021 at 19.30 hrs./7.30pm]  
Week 2 The Church in the Modern World  
Week 3 Church & Society  
Week 4 Ecumenical dimension

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### Our Lady & St Anne Penance Service

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December @ 19.30.  
A chance to experience the healing and  
mercy of God.

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### Advent Carol Service @

Our Lady & St Anne's  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December, 7.30pm

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 flower  
fund as usual. It is always lovely to  
decorate the church for Christmas so  
please give what you can over the next  
few weeks.

## READIFOOD REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 2021

As well as opening your own calendar  
why not buy one item for a Christmas  
food parcel each day of Advent?

Details of what would make a generous  
parcel can be found at:

[https://fcg.org.uk/news/reverse-advent-  
calendar-2/](https://fcg.org.uk/news/reverse-advent-calendar-2/)

There are also details about where you  
can deliver your items on this link.

If you can't deliver before Christmas, the  
food bank will still be grateful to get your  
parcel in the new year.

## CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING

In the Cenacle Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup>  
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  
learning a new skill
- complimentary wine and mince  
pies
- £20/head. All funds raised are for  
the Parish Building Fund
- Book your place **now** with Tina  
Colehan on 07753 605 972

## 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](mailto: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 12<sup>th</sup> 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](https://billetto.co.uk/e/Christmas-together-again-tickets-583386)



**OUR LADY'S LAMP** This week's lamp is lit for:

**Allesandro Gomes**

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

**Second Sunday of Advent (Year C – Luke):** We are living in difficult and challenging times. There is a tendency to see the pandemic and its collateral effects in negative terms. Yet there are many who say that parish life has improved since lockdown. Our attendance numbers are almost back to normal. There seems to be more vitality about our celebrations, as if everyone wants to engage in a more intense way with the scripture readings, the prayers and the singing. There is a feeling that we are running out of time, that we had better make the best possible use of the opportunity grace has given us. The OT readings in Advent focus on longing and on the anticipation of the fulfilment of God's promise to come and redeem his people. There is joy in the words of the prophets, they look forward with hope. We can best deepen our appreciation of the Saviour who has come in time by sharing the feelings of our forefathers in the faith, the feelings of those who looked forward, of those who eagerly anticipated the Lord's coming. We are invited to count the blessings that the great mystery of the Incarnation have brought us. Through imagining what the OT prophets were looking forward to and through appreciating what the Saviour, who came in time on the first Christmas Day, brought to us, we might thus be motivated to pray that he visit our Church again and come afresh into our tired, jaded and exhausted lives. Advent is the season of hope and it will help in our appreciation of what happened in the Incarnation if we reflect again on what it is we hope for and on the ways in which we expect Jesus Christ might fulfil our longings.

**First Reading (OT): Baruch 5, 1 – 9:** Baruch was the scribe of the prophet Jeremiah. It is not known when or where it was written, yet it is clearly designed to appeal to people who have had to live in exile from the Promised Land. In this reading Jerusalem, the Holy City, is addressed and given a message of hope which is proclaimed through poetic images of the return of the exiles. There is a wonderful sense of joy and an awareness of the saving presence of God bringing about a transformation of his broken-hearted people. This transformation is due to the people's repentance and their desire to live with integrity.

**Second Reading (NT): Philippians 1, 3 – 6. 8 – 11:** This letter was written by Paul to a community he knew well, whose apostolic energy he recalls and which still fills him with joy. Recollecting them in prayer brings them closer to him. It is by growth in virtue and in deepening solidarity across the community between its members that the Christians of Philippi can best prepare for the coming again of Jesus Christ.

**Gospel: Luke 3, 1 – 6:** Luke is the only evangelist who has told us about the birth of John the Baptist. He introduces him again at the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. He is in the desert inviting people to repent, to turn again to God and to show their desire for conversion by being baptised – a symbolic washing. John is thereby fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah in which there is an invitation to remove every obstacle that might stand in the way of God showing salvation to his people.

## Mass Intentions for Second Week of Advent

### Second Sunday of Advent

Year C

Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup> December	17.30	Roberto Scalzullo RIP
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00	Rosaleen Ryan RIP
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> December	09.15	Gerard Lawrence
	<i>Memorial of St Nicholas</i>		
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup> December	09.15	Anne Sabolova
	<i>Memorial of St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i>		
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> December	18.30	Angela & Joseph Caruana
	<i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> December	08.00	Holy souls
	<i>Memorial of St John Diego Cuahtlatatzin</i>		
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> December	12.30	Holy souls
	<i>Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto</i>		
Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> December	No Mass	
	<i>Memorial of St Damasus I, Pope</i>		

### Third Sunday of Advent

Year C

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> December	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00	Zygmunt Powiecki RIP

Evening prayer, Rosary:	16.45	Saturday afternoon
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