

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Presbytery

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Third Sunday of Lent – 19/20 March 2022

Repent, says the Lord,
for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Matthew 4, 17

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT OUR LADY & ST ANNE

Vigil of Palm Sunday [Sat]	9 th April	16.45 – 17.15	Confessions 17:30 Mass
Palm Sunday	10 th April	10:00	Mass
Monday of Holy Week	11 th April	09:30	Mass
Tuesday of Holy Week	12 th April	09:30	Mass
Wednesday of Holy Week	13 th April	17.45-18.15 18:30	Confessions Mass
Maundy Thursday	14 th April	19:30 up to 22:00 21:45	Mass of the Last Supper Watching Night prayer
Good Friday	15 th April	10.00 12:00 15:00	Children's Liturgy Stations of the Cross Stations of the Cross Liturgy of Good Friday – church remains open until 19.00
Easter Vigil	16 th April	21:00	
Easter Sunday	17 th April	10:00	

SISTERS OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY/PRINKNASH PROJECT

Fr Paul will be making an appeal for the Sisters of the Blessed Virgin Mary/Prinknash Project on Saturday 26th /Sunday 27th of March (4th Sunday of Lent). There will be a second collection towards the appeal. Cash or on the contactless machine.

More information can be found at <https://stbarnabassociety.org.uk/sistersbvm>. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

EASTER FLOWER DECORATIONS

Following the success of the Christmas wreath making, an evening making Easter door decorations has been planned. Bring your own flowers of choice and Paul will guide you in making a fabulous decoration. Indulge in a cheeky glass of wine and an evening of fun.

Date: Thurs 31st March; Time: 7.15pm

Place: Cenacle; Cost: donation of £25

Message Tina [07753 605 972] to secure a place.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - MORE LEADERS WANTED

We are looking for more people to join our leaders' team. You don't need to have children yourself, just a love of God's word and a desire to share it with the children of the parish. Sessions take place during the 10am Sunday Mass. Full support and DBS check provided. Interested? Talk to a current leader or email childrensliturgy.stannes@gmail.com

PARISH INCOME

Feb Contactless Sun. offering:	£ 520.00
Feb Building Fund:	£ 105.00
Standing Orders:	£2935.00



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

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

Third Sunday of Lent Cycle C

Background on the Gospel Reading

Now into the third week of the Season of Lent, our Sunday Gospel prepares us to hear Lent's call to conversion and repentance. Today's reading is found in the chapters of Luke's Gospel that describe Jesus' journey to Jerusalem. During this journey, Jesus teaches and heals. He must also respond to those who question and challenge his authority and actions. There is no parallel in Mark's or Matthew's Gospels for today's reading from Luke. While Mark and Matthew describe an incident in which Jesus curses the fig tree, today's reading makes the barren fig tree the subject of a parable.

Luke tells us that some among the crowds report to Jesus a massacre of Galileans by Pilate. The intention of the crowd seems to be to ask Jesus to explain why these people suffered. It was commonplace to render people's suffering as evidence of their sinfulness. Jesus challenges this interpretation. Those who were massacred were no more or less sinful than the ones who report the situation to Jesus. Jesus replies that even a fatal accident, a natural disaster, ought not to be interpreted as punishment for sin.

Jesus' words at first appear to have a fire-and-brimstone quality. Jesus says in essence, "Repent or perish as these people did; all are sinful before God and deserving of God's punishment." The tone changes, however, in the parable that follows. The parable of the barren fig tree contrasts the patience and hopefulness of the gardener with the practicality of the property owner. When told to cut down the fig tree because it is not producing fruit, the gardener counsels patience. If properly tended, the barren fig tree may yet bear fruit.

Throughout his journey to Jerusalem, Jesus has been teaching about the Kingdom of God. In this parable, we find an image of God's patience and hopefulness as he prepares his Kingdom. God calls us to repent, and it is within his power to punish us for our failure to turn from our sinfulness. And yet God is merciful. He delays punishment and tends to us so that we may yet bear the fruit he desires from us.

This, then, is our reason for hope: Not only does God refuse to abandon us, he chooses to attend to us even when we show no evidence of his efforts. Next week's Gospel will give an even clearer picture of the kind of mercy that God shows to us.

Taken from <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/third-sunday-of-lent-cycle-c-sunday-connection/>

Mass Intentions for Third Week of Lent

Third Sunday of Lent

Year C

Saturday	19 th March	17.30	Mrs Anna O'Rourke RIP
Sunday	20 th March	10.00	Keith Durrant RIP
Monday	21 st March	No Mass	
<i>Monday of the third week of Lent</i>			
Tuesday	22 nd March	No Mass	
<i>Tuesday of the third week of Lent</i>			
Wednesday	23 rd March	No Mass	
<i>Commemoration of St Turibius of Mongrovejo, Bishop</i>			
Thursday	24 th March	No Mass	
<i>Thursday of the third week of Lent</i>			
Friday	25 th March	12 noon	Stations of the Cross
<i>SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</i>			
Saturday	26 th March	No Mass	
<i>Saturday of the third week of Lent</i>			

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Year C

Saturday	26 th March	17.30	People of the parish
Sunday	27 th March	10.00	Blessings for Janka Grestiakova

Rosary before Saturday evening Mass
