

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

**Parish Priest: Fr Joseph McLoughlin**

2 South View Avenue,  
Caversham,  
READING RG4 5AB

Telephone: 0118 947 1787

Email: [fr.joseph.mcloughlin@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:fr.joseph.mcloughlin@rcaob.org.uk)

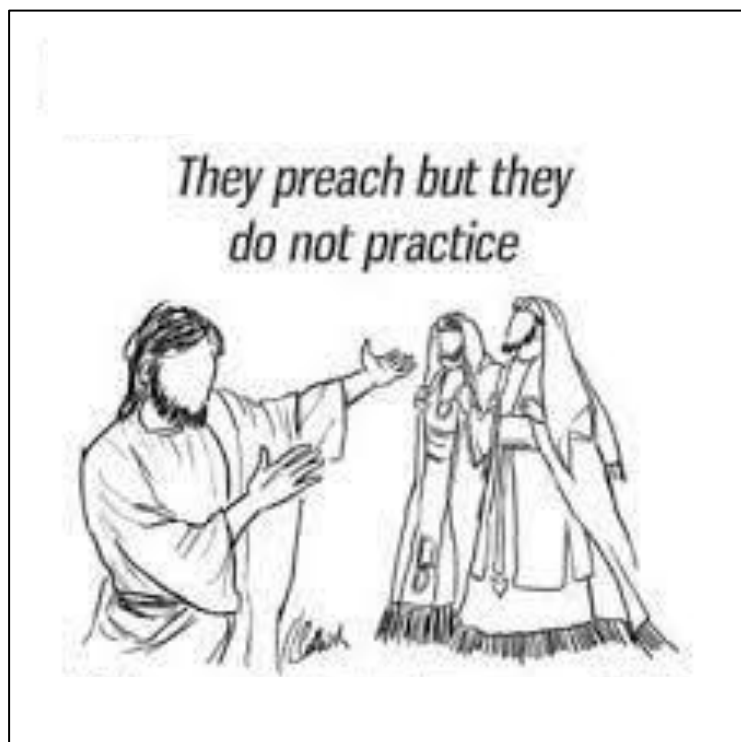
Parish Secretary: Lis Leddy

Office email: [ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk)

Website: [www.ourladyandstanne.org.uk](http://www.ourladyandstanne.org.uk)

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Julia Feeney

Safeguarding Representative Contact: [sg.ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk)



**Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A**  
**4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

You have only one Father, and he is in heaven;  
you have only one Teacher, the Christ!

## SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness-raising campaign organised by Christian Safeguarding Charity Thirtyone:eight. We will be marking this in our parish at the Masses on the weekend of 18th/19th November. In doing this we will be joining thousands of other churches across the UK to share this message and demonstrate unity. We believe that safeguarding is an outworking of our faith in a loving and just God – the God who calls us to speak up on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves and to defend the rights of the vulnerable (Proverbs 31:8). Please join us in praying for all those who work to ensure our communities and churches are safe for all.

### OCTOBER 200 CLUB RESULTS

Congratulations to October's winners:

1<sup>st</sup> A Crean; 2<sup>nd</sup> R Porter  
3<sup>rd</sup> P Melling

### NEW YOUTH GROUP

Youth Club will be every second Sunday of the month, starting on Sunday 12 November 5-7pm in the cenacle for young people age 11-16. More details to follow.

### WEEKLY PARISH INCOME

29/10/23

C'less:	£	166.00
Loose plate	£	279.60
APF Missio	£	166.62
Tea/coffee	£	53.50
Our Lady's Lamp	£	10.00

Weekly S Orders: £700

## BLESSING OF GRAVES

**Kidmore End** – 2pm, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November.

**Henley Road** – 2.30pm, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November. Please note change of time from previous years. This is to allow for more blessings to be in daylight.

### PARISH MASS FOR THE RECENTLY BEREAVED 2023

This year the Mass for the recently bereaved will take place on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** at **7.30pm**.

It is part of our Catholic tradition, in the month of November, to remember & pray for all those who have died especially those family members and friends who have been dear to us. This year the Mass of Remembrance, when we particularly focus upon those who have died in the past year in this parish, will happen on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. The families of those whose funerals have taken place in the parish have been specially invited and during the Mass a named candle will be lit and the names of the dead will be read out. If you have a family member or friend, who has died in the past year but was not one of our parishioners, you are warmly invited to add their name to the list to be read out. Please pass on this information to the parish office by **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November**.

### OUR LADY'S LAMP

This week it is lit for:

Rest of the souls of

Molly Xavier &

A C Peter

Please remember them  
in your prayers.



## Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel continues to elaborate on the tension between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees. Our Lectionary sequence at this point, however, is not quite a continuous reading of Matthew. In between last week's reading from Matthew and this week's, we find Jesus' question to the Pharisees about the Messiah being "David's son." Having concluded a series of dialogues with the Pharisees and other religious leaders, Jesus now directs his words to the crowds, warning them not to follow the example of the scribes and Pharisees.

The scribes and Pharisees were teachers of the Mosaic Law. They were entrusted with its interpretation and, thus, were influential in determining Jewish practice. In order to appreciate the conflict that is evident in this passage, we must understand that Jesus was basing his teachings on the same laws and traditions available to the Pharisees. Both were interpreting the Law of Moses in order to better adapt it to contemporary Jewish life. The differences between their teachings, therefore, are often highlighted and amplified by Matthew.

This part of Matthew's Gospel reflects aspects of the conflict between his Christian community and Pharisaic Judaism. Matthew's Church is thought to have included many Jewish Christians who may not have believed that a break with the synagogue was necessary to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus tells the crowd that it is correct to do and observe what the scribes and Pharisees teach; it is their example that is to be avoided, namely, their love of being honoured and exalted. Hence, the Gospel reflects the tension of an active internal debate within the early Church.

Jesus references two aspects of Jewish spiritual life prescribed by the Law of Moses. Phylacteries are small boxes which contain Scripture verses that are placed on the left forearm and forehead. Tassels refer to the fringes worn on the corners of a person's garments; the tassels help to remind those who wear them to keep the commandments.

The warning Jesus gives against seeking places of honour in the community was directed as much toward the Christian community as the named Jewish leaders. Indeed, it is a warning that resonates with us today. Christian leadership is a call to service for the glory of God; those who would be leaders among us must, like Jesus, be servants of all.

# Mass intentions for Thirty-first Week in Ordinary Time

## Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Year A

Saturday	4 <sup>th</sup> November	5.30pm	Jackie Clyne RIP
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	People of the parish
		12noon	Baptism
Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Int Helen & Brian
<i>Monday of week 31 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	7 <sup>th</sup> November	No Mass	
<i>Memorial of St Willibrord</i>			
Wednesday	8 <sup>th</sup> November	7.30pm	Jimmy & Bridie
<i>Wednesday of week 31 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Dec'd of Prendergast family
<i>Feast of the dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i>			
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup> November	9.15am	Thgyg Our Lady & St Anne
<i>Memorial of St Leo the Great, Pope, [school attending]</i>			

## Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Year A

Saturday	11 <sup>th</sup> November	5.30pm	People of the parish
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am	Deceased of World Wars
[Remembrance Sunday]			
		2.30pm	Blessing of graves @Henley Road

The Rosary is prayed in front of the Shrine  
before Saturday evening Mass. Everybody welcome.

*The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is **Julia Feeney**. They can be contacted at: [sg.ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.*