

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A
11th-12th November 2023

Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know
the hour when the Son of Man is coming.

Mt 24:42-44

NEW JOURNEY IN FAITH GROUP

Are you curious about the Catholic faith? Or a non-Catholic who comes to Mass with your partner every week and would like to know more? Maybe you'd like to join the Catholic Church?

First meeting in the Cenacle @ 7.00pm on Wed. 15th November. No obligation to continue if it's not for you - come and see.

BLESSING OF GRAVES 12/11/23

Kidmore End - 2pm,
Henley Road - 2.30pm Note change of time from previous years- to allow for more blessings to be in daylight.

SAFEGUARDING SUNDAY

Safeguarding Sunday is an awareness-raising campaign organised by Christian Safeguarding Charity Thirtyone:eight. We will be marking it on the weekend of 18th/19th November and 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 pray for all those who work to ensure our communities & churches are safe for all.

SECOND COLLECTION 19-20/11/23

For the Johnson Association which looks after retired and infirm clergy.

WEEKLY PARISH INCOME

5/11/23

C'less:	£	115.00
Loose plate	£	217.88
Shop	£	24.48
Building fund	£	18.00
Our Lady's Lamp	£	10.00
Weekly S Orders:	£	829

NEW CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES 2023

Sun 24th Dec - Christmas Eve

Vigil Mass (children's nativity)	5.00pm
Christmas Carols	7.30pm
Mass of Christmas Night	8.00pm

Monday 25th Dec - Christmas Day

Mass of Christmas Dawn	8.00am
Mass of Christmas Day	10.00am

PARISH MASS FOR THE RECENTLY BEREAVED 2023

This year this will take place on **Thursday 23rd November** at 7.30pm.

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 16th November**.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2024

The next cycle of preparation for First Holy Communion will start after Christmas in January at time and date to be confirmed.

All interested parents & children must attend a meeting with Fr Joe on Sunday 10th December at 11.30am in the Cenacle.

Information about times and dates for the programme will be confirmed at this time.

Please note change of Mass time on Wednesday evening this week. Mass will start at **6.30pm**

OUR LADY'S LAMP



This week it is lit for:

For those who have

died in conflict.

Please remember them

in your prayers.

Background on the Gospel Reading

In this week's Gospel, Jesus talks about what it means to be prepared to receive the Kingdom of Heaven. This week's reading follows a series of warnings and predictions by Jesus about the coming of the Son of Man. Jesus wants his disciples to understand that the exact day and time cannot be predicted. He teaches the disciples that they must remain vigilant so that they will not be caught unprepared.

When thinking about the parable of the wise and foolish virgins, it is important to consider the first-century wedding traditions of Palestine. Scholars tell us that it was the custom of the day for young maidens—friends and family members of the bride—to meet the bridegroom when he came to bring his bride to her new home.

As with many of Jesus' parables, several levels of interpretation are possible. In last week's Gospel, we heard Jesus warn against following the example of the Pharisees and scribes. If read in the context of early Christianity's struggle to define itself against Pharisaic Judaism, this parable is a continuing critique of Judaism. It suggests that the Jewish leaders were like the foolish virgins, unprepared to meet Jesus, the bridegroom of Israel.

In the chapter preceding this parable, however, Jesus warns about the destruction of Jerusalem, the tribulation of the end times, and the coming of the Son of Man. When read in this context, today's parable is a warning to the Christian community to remain vigilant and prepared to receive Jesus, the Son of Man who will return at the end of time. This interpretation is supported by the reference to the delay of the bridegroom. The Christian community for whom Matthew wrote this Gospel was coming to terms with the realization that the promise of Jesus' return would not be fulfilled within their lifetimes. The question remains for us to ask ourselves, Are we ready to receive Jesus? Will we be prepared to receive him?

Mass intentions for Thirty-second Week in Ordinary Time

Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Saturday	11 th November	5.30pm	People of the parish
Sunday	12 th November	10.00am	Deceased of World Wars
[Remembrance Sunday]		2.30pm	Blessing of graves @ Henley Road
Monday	13 th November	9.15am	Repose of holy souls
<i>Monday of week 32 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	14 th November	No Mass	
<i>Tuesday of week 32 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	15 th November	<u>6.30pm</u>	Diane Parris RIP
<i>Memorial of St Albert the Great, Bishop Doctor of the Church</i>			
Thursday	16 th November	9.15am	Repose of holy souls
<i>St Margaret of Scotland</i>			
Friday	17 th November	9.15am	Zygmunt Powiecki RIP
<i>Memorial of St Hilda, Abbess</i>		<i>[Lower school attending]</i>	

Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Saturday	18 th November	5.30pm	Kitty Quirke
Sunday	19 th November	10.00am	People of the parish
		12 noon	Baptism

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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.*