

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

Parish Secretary: Lis Leddy

Office email: ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.ourladyandstanne.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Julia Feeney

Safeguarding Representative Contact: sg.ol.stanne.caversham@rcaob.org.uk



Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord, Year B

6-7 January 2024

We saw the star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.

Mt 2:1-12



Fr Joe would like to thank everybody who contributed to the preparation for and celebration of a wonderful parish Christmas.

He would also like to thank everybody for their kindness and generosity to him personally over the festive period.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A reminder for those at the meeting before Christmas - the first session for First Holy communion preparation will be in the Cenacle on **Wednesday 10th January**, starting at **4.15pm** and lasting for an hour.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Details of the dates for the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be announced in the near future.



FLOWERS

Thank you for your generosity in giving £497.40 to the flower fund during Advent both on the machine and in cash.

Remaining funds will be spent on weekly flowers.

WEEKLY INCOME 23-24/12/23

Contactless	£	258.00
Loose plate	£	237.49
Candles	£	9.00
Building Fund	£	35.00
200 club	£	60.00
Weekly S Orders:	£	829.00

WEEKLY INCOME 30-31/12/23

C'less:	£	165.00
Loose plate	£	445.45
Candles	£	79.54
Weekly S Orders:	£	829.00

WELCOMING OR TAKING UP THE GIFTS AT 5.30PM MASS



Welcome!

Saturday evening Mass is looking to build a team of warm welcomers and people who bring up the bread and wine in the offertory procession.

Support and guidance will be provided. If you think you could do this occasionally, speak to Julia about when you might be available.



GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW

Thank you to those who put together the hamper for the Grand Christmas Draw and everybody who participated. In total, £375.00 was donated and will go into the building fund. Maria was the lucky winner.

DEC 200 CLUB WINNERS

- 1st Prize – R Porter
- 2nd Prize – P Naxton
- 3rd Prize – B O'Hare



OUR LADY'S LAMP



Is lit for
Margaret Thomas
Please hold her in your
prayers.

Background on the Gospel Reading

“Epiphany” means manifestation. And the “Epiphany of the Lord” is Jesus’ manifestation not only to these three Magi from the East, but it’s also a symbolic but real manifestation of the Christ to the whole world. These Magi, traveling from a foreign and non-Jewish nation, reveal that Jesus came for all people and all are called to adore Him.

These Magi were “wise men” who studied the stars and were aware of the Jewish belief that a Messiah was coming. They would have been versed in much of the wisdom of the day and would have been intrigued by the Jewish belief in the Messiah.

God used what they were familiar with to call them to adore the Christ. He used a star. They understood the stars and when they saw this new and unique star over Bethlehem they realized that something special was happening. So the first lesson we take from this for our own lives is that God will use what is familiar to us to call us to Himself. Look for the “star” that God is using to call you. It’s closer than you may think.

A second thing to note is that the Magi fell prostrate before the Christ Child. They laid their lives down before Him in complete surrender and adoration. They set a perfect example for us. If these astrologers from a foreign land could come and adore Christ in such a profound way, we must do the same. Perhaps you could try literally lying down prostrate in prayer this day, in imitation of the Magi, or at least do so in your heart through prayer. Adore Him with a complete surrender of your life.

Lastly, the Magi bring gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These three gifts, presented to our Lord, show that they acknowledged this Child as the Divine King who would die to save us from sin. Gold is for a King, frankincense is a burnt offering to God, and myrrh is used for one who would die. Thus, their adoration is grounded in the truths of who this Child is. If we are to adore Christ properly, we must also honour Him in this threefold way.

Reflect, today, upon these Magi and see them as a symbol of what you are called to do. You are called from the foreign place of this world to seek out the Messiah. What is God using to call you to Himself? When you discover Him, do not hesitate to acknowledge the full truth of who He is, lying prostrate before Him in complete and humble submission.

Mass intentions for First Week in Ordinary Time

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

Year B

Saturday	6 th January	5.30pm	People of the parish
Sunday	7 th January	10.00am	Private intention
Monday	8 th January <i>Feast of the Baptism of the Lord</i>	9.15am	Roland Williams RIP
Tuesday	9 th January <i>Tuesday of the first week in Ordinary Time</i>	No Mass	
Wednesday	10 th January <i>Wednesday of the first week in Ordinary Time</i>	6.30pm	Int of Martin & Geraldine Baxter
Thursday	11 th January <i>Thursday of the first week in Ordinary Time</i>	9.15am	Private intention
Friday	12 th January <i>Memorial of St Aelred of Rievaulx, Abbot</i>	9.15am	Private intention

[school Mass]

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	13 th January	5.30pm	People of the parish
Sunday	14 th January	10.00am	Zygmunt Powiecki RIP
		12 noon	Baptism



The rosary is prayed before Saturday evening Mass.
Everybody is welcome, come down to the space in front
of the Shrine.

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.