

Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B

27-28th January 2024

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.

Mt 11:25

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

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

The Confirmation Mass itself will be on Sunday 30th June.



FRIDAY LENTEN SOUP LUNCHES

On Fridays in Lent, there will be a soup lunch in the Cenacle following the Stations of the Cross at 12noon. A meat free soup will be served with a bread roll. All donations to the SVP.

For this to happen we need a number of volunteers to do different things.

1. Could you make a soup [free of common allergens such as nuts and celery] for 20 people and bring it to church on Friday before the Angelus at noon? We need two meat free soups each week.

2. Could you come half an hour early and get the bowls ready, set the tables etc before Friday Stations?

Please help with planning by signing up for a particular date, especially for soup making. There is a list to sign up at the back of church.

TUESDAY TEA & COFFEE



Why not come and have a chat and a cuppa at 9.30am on a Tuesday morning in the Cenacle?

Invite a friend. Everybody welcome.

WEEKLY INCOME 20-21/01/24

C'less:	£	165.00
Loose plate -announced next week		
Candles	£	3.00
SVP pea/pie supper	£	10.00
Our Lady's Lamp	£	10.00
Weekly S Orders:	£	829.00

ACCOMMODATION NEEDED

Do you know of anybody with a 2 bedroom flat to rent in Caversham? One adult, one young child [members of the parish] are looking to move into a child friendly environment. Modest monthly budget. If you think you can help contact heidinorth11@gmail.com

PIE AND PEAS SUPPER



Join us for an evening with friends, and an (optional!) Irish Sing-a-Long!

The SVP is holding a Pie & Peas Supper on **Saturday 10th Feb at 6.30pm** in the **Cenacle**. £10/person - includes supper and a drink on arrival. BYO drinks for the rest of the evening. This event is just for grown ups (18+) so mums and dads can let their hair down, and you can catch up with friends old and new. Funds raised to be used to support good causes in our community, so your support is much appreciated.

Find us after masses on Saturday and Sunday to sign up, or you can call Pam on 07786 627364. We hope to see you there!
Our Lady & St Anne's SVP Conference

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 10th Feb SVP Pie & Peas Supper
- 14th February Ash Wednesday
- 16th February First Lenten Stations of the Cross
- 16th February First Soup Lunch
- 23rd February Family Fast Day
- 9th March CAFOD Big Lent Walk
- 27th March Big Easter Clean
- 31st March Easter Sunday



OUR LADY'S LAMP

Is lit this week for:
Canon Giles Goward RIP
Please remember him in your prayers.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel continues our reading from Mark and describes what some believe was likely to have been a typical day in Jesus' ministry. Jesus and the disciples that chose to follow him in last week's Gospel arrive at Capernaum, a small village on the Sea of Galilee. Jesus teaches in the synagogue on the Sabbath. Mark reports that the people respond to Jesus' teaching with astonishment, noting Jesus' authority and contrasting it with the scribes'. Early in Mark's Gospel we already find evidence of the tension that will manifest itself fully in Jerusalem.

After Jesus' preaching, an even more astonishing thing happens. A man possessed with an unclean spirit calls out to Jesus. As we see in this example and throughout Mark's Gospel, the spirits and demons seem to know Jesus and are often fearful of him. In fact, they seem to understand Jesus' identity better than his disciples. As we will read again and again in Mark's Gospel, Jesus orders the spirit to be quiet and drives the unclean spirit out of the man. Jesus' ability to heal those possessed by demons is an indication of his power over evil.

In the prescientific age of Jesus' time, all illnesses were understood to be manifestations of evil and sinfulness. Our modern understanding of illness is very different. Possession by unclean spirits may have been a way to describe what we might call mental illness today. It may have even been a way of describing certain kinds of physical conditions. There is evidence that there were many kinds of exorcists and healers in first-century Palestine. Jesus appears to be like these healers, but he heals with unique authority and connects his healing activities with the words of his preaching.

We are missing the point that Mark is trying to make in this Gospel, however, if we try to explain away the healing work of Jesus. The crowds see in Jesus' cure of the possessed man further affirmation of his authority. Jesus' power to heal gives greater credence to his teaching. Jesus impresses the crowds through his words, which are manifested with power in his deeds. Mark's Gospel tells us that because of the authority with which he healed, Jesus' fame spread throughout all of Galilee.

Mass intentions for Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	27 th January	5.30pm	People of the parish
Sunday	28 th January	10.00am	Canon Giles Goward RIP
Monday	29 th January	No Mass	
<i>Monday of week 4 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	30 th January	No Mass	
<i>Tuesday of week 4 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	31 st January	No Mass	
<i>Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest</i>			
Thursday	1 st February	No Mass	
<i>Thursday of week 4 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Friday	2 nd February	No Mass	
<i>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord</i>			

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

Saturday	3 rd February	5.30pm	David Mott RIP
Sunday	4 th February	10.00am	People of the parish



Evening Prayer followed by the rosary is prayed before Saturday evening Mass, starting approx. 4.45pm. 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.