

# Parish of Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham

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**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B**

**10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

Ep1:17,18



## ASH WEDNESDAY

There will be two Masses with distribution of ashes on Wednesday this week. Morning Mass at 9.15am and a sung Mass in the evening at 7.30pm.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

These will be prayed at 12noon on Fridays followed by a soup lunch in the Cenacle.

### FRIDAY LENTEN SOUP LUNCHES

A meat free soup with a bread roll will be served after Stations on Fridays. All donations to the SVP.

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. Sign up on clipboard at back of church.
2. Could you come half an hour early and get the bowls ready, set the tables etc before Friday Stations?

### RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Colin Clarke and for his family and friends who mourn him. Funeral details to follow.

In February, we pray with Pope Francis for the sick who are in the final stages of life, and for their families; may they receive the necessary medical and human care they need.

### WEEKLY INCOME 3-4 Feb

C'less:	£	194.00
Building Fund	£	36.00
Loose plate	£	191.91
Candles	£	32.80
SVP pie/peas supper	£	30.00
Weekly S Orders:	£	829.00

### 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.

### CAFOD LENT WALK

“Come and join your Reading Catholic community on a walking tour through our historic churches with hymns and history at every stop. All to raise funds for Cafod's Lent campaign for the world's poorest and most marginalised. Start will be gathering at St Anne's Caversham at 10.15 a.m on Saturday 9th March, via St James, Reading Abbey, St William of York, Our Lady of Peace and Blessed Dominic Barberi, and ending at Christ the King. Total walking time 2 hours. You are free to join and leave at any stop. It is a whole lot of fun and does a whole lot of good!

<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/reading-parishes-big-lent-walk> to sponsor anybody on the walk or just make a donation.



### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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



### OUR LADY'S LAMP

No dedication this week

## Background on the Gospel Reading

In today's Gospel, we continue to hear Mark report the miraculous healings that Jesus performed in Galilee. The Gospel begins with Jesus healing a man with leprosy. Leprosy is a disfiguring, infectious skin disease that has been surrounded by many social and religious taboos throughout history. In 1873, the cause of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was identified. We now know that leprosy is caused by a bacterial infection. Although it is infectious, modern medical studies have shown that transmission is more difficult than previously thought. Since the 1940s, medical treatments have been available, and the patient no longer needs to be isolated once long-term treatment has begun.

In Jesus' time, however, religious and social taboos dictated the behaviour of those with leprosy and other skin diseases. The Law of Moses provided for the examination of skin diseases by the priests, and if leprosy was identified, the person was declared unclean. People with leprosy lived in isolation from the community. They were instructed to rip their clothes and to announce their presence with loud cries when moving in the community. If the sores of leprosy healed, the Law of Moses provided a purification rite that permitted the person to return to the community.

In today's Gospel, the man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean. His request to Jesus can be interpreted as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. But his words can also be read as a challenge to Jesus, asking just how far Jesus was willing to extend himself in order to heal someone. While healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses.

Although Jesus touched the leper, he did not break completely with the Law of Moses. He instructed the man not to tell anyone about the cure and told him to present himself to the priests as prescribed by the Law of Moses. The first instruction sounds nearly impossible to honour. Certainly, the man would want to share the good news of his healing, and his quick improvement would require an explanation. The second instruction honours the Law of Moses.

# Mass intentions for Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

## Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Year B

Saturday	10 <sup>th</sup> February	5.30pm	Int. Patty & Mike Naxton
Sunday	11 <sup>th</sup> February	10.00am	People of the parish
Monday	12 <sup>th</sup> February	9.15am	Private intention
<i>Monday of week 6 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup> February	7.30pm	Tony McAdden RIP
<i>Tuesday of week 6 in Ordinary Time</i>			
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup> February	9.15am	Frances Waldron RIP
<i>Ash Wednesday</i>			
		7.30pm	Luis Garzia RIP
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup> February	9.15am	Thgyg Our Lady & St Anne
<i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>			
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup> February	No Mass	
<i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>			

## First Sunday of Lent

## Year B

Saturday	17 <sup>th</sup> February	5.30pm	Eileen Leahy RIP
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup> 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](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.*