

PARISH BULLETIN

The Catholic Parishes of St Augustine of Canterbury, Meir; St Filumena, Caverswall & St Mary, Cresswell

28th January 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year B

4/2018/ks

St Augustine's (for Parish Office): 146 Sandon Road, Meir, Stoke-on-Trent. ST3 7DF

St Filumena's: Blythe Bridge Road, Caverswall. ST11 9EA

St Mary's: Cresswell Old Lane, Cresswell. ST11 9RF

Parish email: augustineandmary@hotmail.com;

website: www.augustineandmary.org.uk or www.stfilumena.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Kazimierz Stefek *OSPPE* - tel. (office): **01782 313734**

Assistant Priest: Fr Pawel Przybyszewski *OSPPE*

Parish Deacon (Meir/Cresswell): Rev Trevor Borthwick (*retired*) tel.: (home) 01782 388416

Parish Deacon (Caverswall): Rev Peter Bowyer - tel.: (home) 01782 393892

Administration and Social Events: Gabrielle Halliday - mobile: 07764 245344

Safeguarding representatives: (*for Meir & Cresswell*) Barbara Kitson - mobile: 07796 337075

(*for Caverswall*) Fiona Richardson - mobile: 07580 551894

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

St. Augustine's Catholic Academy – Sandon Road, Meir, ST3 7DF; tel. 01782 319504

Margaret Yates - *Executive Principal*,

Victoria Brickley - *Head of School*

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St. Filumena's Catholic Academy – Blythe Bridge Road, Caverswall, ST11 9EA;

tel. 01782 392367

Claire Tomlinson – *Principal*

NEWS FROM THE PARISHES



BIBLE STUDY meets on Thursdays at 19:30 in the St Augustine's Presbytery. We spend time looking at the Mass Readings for the following Sunday – why not join us?

JOURNEY IN FAITH – This course is for those who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith. Sessions are on Thursdays in term time at 19:30 in St. Augustine's Sacristy. Next session, Thursday 1st February.

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. Next session, Saturday 17th February, after 9:30 Mass in St. Augustine's Presbytery. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday on 07764 245344.



PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 14:30 in the St Augustine's sacristy.

ST AUGUSTINE'S QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 17th February at 19:00 in the school hall. Tickets available from Albert Griffin (adults £5, children £3, family £12).

ST FILUMENA'S COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP - There will be Social Afternoons, at the Presbytery, with various activities, including tea and biscuits, on Monday afternoons from 13:30 to 15:30 commencing February 5th. During Lent, on Wednesdays, there will be served Soup Lunch beginning from Ash Wednesday at 13:00-14:15, followed by Station of the Cross in the church at 14:30.



SICK AND HOUSEBOUND – We are concerned that there may be people in our Parishes who are no longer able to come to Mass perhaps because of illness or frailty. If you know of anyone in the Parish who would like a visit from one of the clergy, would you please let Fr. Kaz know.

PLEASE PRAY

For those who are ill, especially: Hollie Tomkinson, Susan Brady, Ursula Grocott, Kathleen Smith, Sarah Stevenson, Dorothy Swift, Josie Coates, Arthur Rushton, Mrs. Burton, Cekeera Grocott, Olivia Killeen, Frederick Blaize, Michele Yon, Dorothy Vasey, Molly Blurton, Margaret Smith, Betty Walton, Margaret Stones, Marjorie Birks, Vincent Coleman, Dorothy Tantrum, Val Emery, Rosa Coronato, Edigio Coronato, Doris Kelly, Dorothy Sawyer, Christopher and Elizabeth Browne, Jane Preston, Molly Crowther, Chris Kelsall, Joyce Brown, Lynn Kent, Christopher and Clifford Browne, Deacon Trevor, Janice Austin, Fr Joseph Tynan, Albert Dawson, Joan Brindley, Teresa Key.



For those who have died recently – Elsie Carter and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.
Elsie Carter funeral will take place at St Mary's on Tuesday 6th February at 11:30.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£262.80	of which	£ 72.50 was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£241.88	of which	£171.50 was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£174.82	of which	£159.50 was gift aided

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

WHAT IS CANDLEMAS DAY?

On February 2nd, Catholics celebrate the feast of the Purification of our Blessed Mother. The day is also called the Presentation of the Child Jesus in the Temple, or the feast of Candlemas.



According to the Mosaic law, a mother such as Mary who had given birth to a male child was considered unclean for seven days; moreover, she was to remain “in the blood of her purification” - i.e., outside the temple - for thirty-three days more. If the woman had borne a daughter, the time that she was excluded from the sanctuary was doubled.

When the time (forty or eighty days) was over, the mother was to “bring to the temple a lamb for a holocaust and a young pigeon or turtle dove for sin”; if she was not able to offer a lamb, she was to take two turtle doves or two pigeons; the priest prayed for her and so she was cleansed (see Leviticus 12:2-8).

Forty days after the birth of Christ, Mary complied with this precept of the law. She redeemed her first-born from the temple and was purified by the prayer of Simeon the just in the presence of Anna the prophetess (see Luke 2:22).

No doubt this event, the first solemn introduction of Christ into the house of God, was celebrated in the early Church in Jerusalem. From Jerusalem the feast of the fortieth day spread over the entire Church and later was kept on February 2nd, since within the last twenty-five years of the fourth century the Roman feast of Christ’s nativity (December 25) was introduced.

The name was derived from the Gospel of Luke 2:22-40, wherein Simeon the priest and Anna the prophetess met the infant Jesus in the temple at the time of his consecration. Simeon’s prophecy declared Jesus to be the Lord’s salvation and “*a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel*”. This passage continues to be the focus of the celebration. During Candlemas, candles are blessed, lit, and carried in a procession in celebration to Jesus being the light of the world.

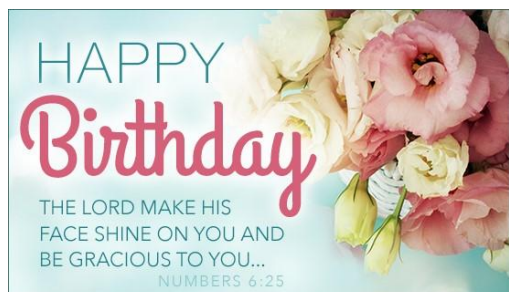
In Poland this day is called *Matki Boskiej Gromnicznej* which is translated literally as *Mother of God of the Thunder Candle*. The candles blessed this day are called *gromnice* or *thunder candles* because they are kept in the home for use especially in time of thunderstorms to protect the house from being hit by lightning. They are also a protection against other natural calamities such as floods, fire and drought. The blessed candles are also lit at the bedside of the dying to protect the individual from Satan, and to light the way to heaven. It was believed by many that at the time of death there was a contest for the soul of the dying between angels and the devil.

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN JANUARY:

Elaine Borthwick, Sue Brady, Vincent Coleman, Betty Lowe, Shelagh Tomkinson, Julia McVay

Holy Mass for the birthday intentions of those listed above will be offered at St. Augustine’s Church on Sunday, 28th January at 11:00.




**On your birthday, we pray that God continue to pour out his blessings into your life and to the people you love.
HAPPY BIRTHDAY !**

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St. Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St. Mary's CRESSWELL
27 th January Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – June & Don Halliday RIP
28 th January SUNDAY 4 th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B	11:00 – Intentions of those who celebrated Birthday in January	9:00 – Patricia Shufflebothom RIP	
29 th January Monday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – Elaine's Intentions	8:00 – Sr Maureen RIP	
30 th January Tuesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – Sheila Hewetson RIP <i>Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>		
31 st January Wednesday <i>Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest</i>	9:30 – Private Intention	8:00 – People of the Parish	
1 st February Thursday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – Holy Souls		
2 nd February Friday <i>Feast of the Presentation of the Lord</i> FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH	9:30 – 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 – Holy Souls		
3 rd February Saturday <i>Feria or Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Elsie Carter RIP
4 th February SUNDAY 5 th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B	11:00 – Private Intention	9:00 – People of the Parish	

 Confessions	Friday: 18:00 – 18:45 Saturday: 10:00 – 10:30	Sunday before Mass 8:15 – 8:45	Saturday before Mass 17:15 – 17:45
	and <i>BY REQUEST</i>		

MASS INTENTIONS – PLEASE HAND IN AN ENVELOPE (WITH SUGGESTED DATE AND CHURCH PREFERENCE) TO A MEMBER OF THE CLERGY

**When in the church
talk only to God before the service;
let God talk to you during the service;
and talk to one another after the service
but only outside the church!**

Please send items for the Parish Newsletter by Thursday evening (e-mail: augustineandmary@hotmail.com)