



PARISH BULLETIN

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

8th April 2018

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

14/2018/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 Paweł Przybyszewski *OSPPE*

Parish Deacon (Meir/Cresswell): Rev Trevor Borthwick (*retired*)

Parish Deacon (Caverswall): Rev Peter Bowyer

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 resumes Thursday 12th April at 19:30.

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. Next session, Saturday 21st April, after 9:30 Mass, in St. Augustine's Presbytery. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday on 07764 245344.

VERY WARM WELCOME and congratulations to **Rory** and **Kimberley** who were baptised, and to **Mollie** and **Samantha** who were received into full communion with the Catholic Church at Easter Vigil. We welcome them all among us, in our Parish Community, and congratulate them, and assure them of our prayers on this new journey, this new way of life they began this Easter.

ST AUGUSTINE'S FUND RAISER :

Saturday 14th April - ST. AUGUSTINE'S 'PIG RACE' EVENING. Held at St. Francis' Church Hall, Sandon Rd., Meir Heath. Sty gates open at 19:00, 'They're Off!' at 19:30. Tickets £5 will be on sale for the next couple of weeks. Pigs are also available to buy - £5 per pig per race. Great prizes to be won by the winning owner! Many thanks for the offers of help received. More offers towards food are always welcome. Please do come along for a really good fun filled evening! See Di or Ann or sign the list at the back of the church.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW - winners in March: 1st Prize – Sandra Oakley; 2nd Prize – Philip Häferer; 3rd Prize – Angie Hartley. Congratulations!

ST FILUMENA'S TOTE - winners in March: 1st prize - Anthony Williamson; 2nd Prize - Gemma Keiher-Knapper; 3rd Prize - Andrew Williamson; Congratulations!



TRAINING AND AWARENESS FOR READERS AT MASS – First Session: Tuesday 17th April 2018, 20:00 to 21:00, led by Canon John Gilbert; the Second Session: Tuesday 24th April 2018, 20:00 to 21:00, led by Father Rob Taylerson. Both sessions at St. Teresa, Trent Vale. All Readers are asked to attend at least one of the sessions. Details on the poster at the back of the church.

ST AUGUSTINE'S MISSIO - RED BOX RESULTS: Thank you for your continued support through the Red Box offerings. Your prayers and gifts continue to sustain missionary priests and sisters in their work throughout the world. Contributions from our parish raised a fantastic £1390! However, your continued support is still needed so keep up the good work and the boxes will be collected as usual in the autumn.

Many thanks to our regular supporters but if anyone else would like to take a box for any contributions, it would be warmly received, it's amazing how loose change adds up over the year. Please see Sue Smith after the 11am Mass. Grateful thanks to Cath Häferer for her many years of hard work as our Local Secretary, happy 'retirement' Cath!

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, 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, Rosalie Summers, Marion Dovey,



For those who have died recently and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Father Kaz and Father Pawel would like to thank you all for cards, wishes and generous Easter Offerings!

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Since the year 2000, the Catholic Church has concluded the Octave of Easter by celebrating Divine Mercy Sunday. This great solemnity calls the faithful to rejoice in the merciful love of God as it is most profoundly manifested in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus Christ.

But what exactly is the Divine Mercy?

Simply speaking, the “Divine Mercy” is another name for the revelation of the magnificent love of God, which culminates in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. Christians have long known and praised this abundant mercy. In this sense, devotion to the Divine Mercy is not new.

Less than a century ago, however, Christians were challenged by God himself to a renewed awareness and trust in His mercy, which has begun to fan the old flame of devotion into a more ardent veneration. Our Lord spoke to a young Polish nun, giving her a timeless reminder for all of humanity:

“Mankind will not have peace”, He said, “until it turns with trust to My mercy. (...) Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God”.

Sister Mary Faustina Kowalska, born in 1905, was a cloistered nun of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland. On February 22nd, 1931, Jesus first appeared to Sister Faustina.

He was clothed in a white robe, with two rays of light emanating from His heart - one red and one white, representing the blood and water that came forth from His pierced side at His crucifixion. He requested that this image be painted with the signature, “Jesus, I trust in You”, and promised that even the most hardened sinners who would revere this image would be saved. Our Lord told Faustina of His great desire that the first Sunday after Easter be dedicated as the “Feast of Mercy”, and that this image of His mercy be known and venerated by the whole world.

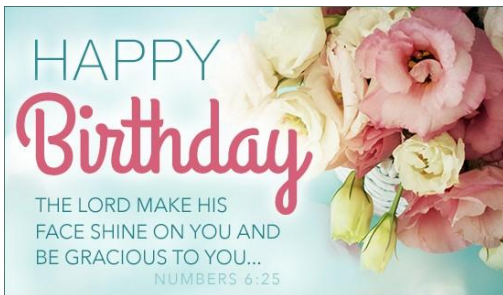
Our Lord appeared to Sister Faustina - whom He called His “apostle of mercy” - many other times over the course of several years, each time speaking of His great mercy for all souls. At the direction of her confessor, Faustina documented all of her dialogues with Christ in what she called her “Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul” (which received ecclesiastical approval from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith in 1979).

Within these pages we read the repeated and urgent plea of Our Lord’s love and the purpose of His conversations with Faustina: “My Heart overflows with great mercy for souls. (...) If only they could understand that I am the best of Fathers to them and that it is for them that the Blood and Water flowed from My Heart as from a fount overflowing with mercy” (Diary, p. 165). The feast of Divine Mercy, then, is a continuation of the celebration of Easter; it is, as Pope St. John Paul once said, Christ’s “Easter gift” to the world.

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN APRIL:

Henry Gibson, Albert Griffin, Ann Hewetson, Alyssa Oakley, Karyn Oakley, Catherine Swinnerton,
Peter Swinnerton,




Holy Mass for the birthday intentions of those listed above will be offered at St. Augustine’s Church on Sunday, 29th April 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
7th April Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Private Intention
8th April SUNDAY 2 nd SUNDAY OF EASTER - Year B DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY	11:00 – People of the Parish	9:00 –	
9th April Monday SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	9:30 – Peter Crowther RIP	9:15 –	
10th April Tuesday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 – Holy Souls <i>Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>		
11th April Wednesday <i>Memorial of St Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr</i>	9:30 – Sean Maloney RIP	9:15 – Holy Souls	
12th April Thursday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 –		
13th April Friday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 – 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 –		
14th April Saturday <i>Easter Feria</i>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) –
15th April SUNDAY 3 rd Sunday of Easter - Year B	11:00 –	9:00 – People of the Parish	
 Confessions	<i>Friday:</i> 18:00 – 18:45 <i>Saturday:</i> 10:00 – 10:30	<i>Sunday before Mass</i> 8:15 – 8:45	<i>Saturday before Mass</i> 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)