

# PARISH BULLETIN



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

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2018

16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

29/2018/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](mailto:augustineandmary@hotmail.com);

website: [www.augustineandmary.org.uk](http://www.augustineandmary.org.uk) or [www.stfilumena.org.uk](http://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

**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** – Sessions resume in September.

**CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday on 07764 245344.

**ST AUGUSTINE'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW** - winners in June: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Vince Lumia; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Terry Moreton; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Chris Minor. Congratulations!

**ST FILUMENA'S TOTE** - winners in June: 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Susan Bowyer; 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Neil Warburton; 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – Vicky Pitt. Congratulations!



**PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM** – Attendance at two preparatory sessions is required before a Baptism. Please contact a member of the clergy for details.

**Fr. Paul** - I am sorry to inform you that Fr. Paul has been notified by the Order's Superiors that he is to be moved. This means that, sadly, he will be leaving us and returning to Poland. It is expected that another priest of the Order will replace him shortly after his departure. I am sure you that will keep Fr. Paul in your prayers and wish him well in his priestly ministry. His final Mass at St Augustine's will be on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August at 11:00.

**It is hoped to mark the occasion with a barbeque on that afternoon. Keep this date free. More details next week.**

**HOG ROAST** at St Mary's Cresswell on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> August at 12:30 tickets £8 (children £5).

**WORLD MEETING OF FAMILIES** - Travelling to Dublin this August to represent the Archdiocese of Birmingham will be a number of families from across the area. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers as they make this unique pilgrimage.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY:** resumes at St Augustine's during 11:00 Mass on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September.

### 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, Peter Killeen, Frederick Blaize, Michele Yon, 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, Marian Dovey, Joanne Walker, Marie Mitchell.



**For those who have died recently:** Dorothy Vasey and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

### Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£396.05 of which	£162.50 was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£291.20 of which	£185.50 was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£140.90 of which	£107.90 was gift aided

**MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !**

*please gift aid, if possible*

*St Augustine's* - This weekend there is a Second Collection for the Poor

## **IMPORTANCE OF PARTICIPATION IN HOLY MASS ON SUNDAYS**

Each Sunday, we gather together as a Church with hearts filled with joy to worship Almighty God. We remember and profess our faith once again in the mystery of our salvation, that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered, died, and rose for our salvation. The saving actions of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday coalesce in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. The "Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy" of the Vatican Council II asserted: "For it is the liturgy through which, especially in the divine sacrifice of the Eucharist, 'the work of our redemption is accomplished', and it is through the liturgy, especially that the faithful are enabled to express in their lives and manifest to others the mystery of Christ and the real nature of the true church" (#2).

Moreover, at Mass, each faithful Catholic is fed with abundant graces: First, we are nourished by the Word of God – God's eternal truth that has been revealed to us and recorded under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. We then respond by professing our Holy Catholic Faith as presented in the Creed, saying: "I believe".

Second, if we are in a state of grace, then we have the opportunity to receive our Lord in the Holy Eucharist. We firmly believe that our Lord is truly present in the Holy Eucharist, and that we receive His body, blood, soul, and divinity in Holy Communion. Not only does the Holy Eucharist unite us intimately with the Lord, but also unites us in communion with our brothers and sisters throughout the universal Church. The Holy Eucharist is such a precious gift!

With this in mind, no one should simply think of attending Mass as fulfilling an obligation. To attend Mass is a privilege, and any faithful Catholic should want to attend Mass. Our perspective should not be: "I have got to do this"; rather, we should think: "I want to go and participate in this".

Nevertheless, because the Mass offers such precious gifts, provides the nourishment of great graces, and unites us as a Church, we do indeed have a sacred obligation to attend Mass. Remember that the Third Commandment stated: "Keep Holy the Sabbath". For the Jewish people, the Old Testament Sabbath was on Saturday, marking the "Day of rest" after creation. For Christians, we have always kept holy Sunday, the day of the resurrection. Just as creation unfolded on the first day of the week with God commanding, "Let there be light", our Lord, the Light who came to shatter the darkness of sin and death, rose from the dead on that first day marking the new creation.

Given how precious the Mass is plus the Old Testament precedent which was rightly adapted by the Church, the Code of Canon Law (#1246) proscribes: "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church". Moreover, "**On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass...**" (#1247). Therefore, the Catechism teaches: "Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit grave sin" (#2181), and grave sin is mortal sin. Pope John Paul II repeated this precept in his apostolic letter "Dies Domini" (Observing and Celebrating the Day of the Lord, #47, 1998).


Of course, serious circumstances arise which excuse a person from attending Mass, such as if a person is sick, has to deal with an emergency, or cannot find a Mass to attend without real burden. A pastor may also dispense a person from the obligation of attending Mass for serious reason. For instance, no one, including our Lord, expects a person to attend Mass who is so sick he can not physically attend Mass; there is no virtue in further hurting one's own health plus infecting everyone else in the church. Or, in the case of a blizzard, a person must prudently judge whether he can safely travel to attend Mass without seriously risking his own life and the lives of the others. When such serious circumstances arise, which prevent a person from attending Mass, he should definitely take time to pray, read the prayers and readings of the Mass in the Missal, or watch the Mass on television and at least participate in spirit. Keep in mind when such serious circumstances arise, a person does not commit mortal sin for missing Mass.

When a person negligently "bags Mass" to go shopping, catch-up on work, sleep a few extra hours, attend a social event, or not interrupt vacation, the person is allowing something to take the place of God. Something becomes more valuable than the Holy Eucharist. Sadly, there are families who could walk to the church but choose not to attend Mass; ironically though, they send their children to the Catholic school. Yes, such behaviour really is indicative of turning one's back on God and committing a mortal sin.

God must come first in our lives. On Sunday, our primary duty is to worship God at Mass as a Church and to be nourished with His grace. The "Didascalia", a third century writing, exhorted: "*Leave everything on the Lord's Day and run diligently to your assembly, because it is your praise of God. Otherwise, what excuse will they make to God, those who do not come together on the Lord's Day to hear the word of life and feed on the divine nourishment which lasts forever?*" Yes indeed, what excuse will they make?

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St. Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St. Mary's CRESSWELL
<b>21<sup>st</sup> July Saturday</b>			18:00 ( <i>Sunday Vigil</i> ) – Josie Murphy Int
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> July SUNDAY</b> 16 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B	11:00 – Monsignor Peter Ryall RIP	9:00 – People of the Parish	
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July Monday</b> <i>Feast of St Bridget, Religious Patron of Europe</i>	9:30 – Grace Capper RIP	8:00 –	
<b>24<sup>th</sup> July Tuesday</b> <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – Dorothy Vasey RIP <i>Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i> 18.30 -Reception of Dorothy Vasey RIP		
<b>25<sup>th</sup> July Wednesday</b> <i>Feast of St James, Apostle</i>	9:30 – 10.30 Funeral Mass for Dorothy Vasey RIP	8:00 –	
<b>26<sup>th</sup> July Thursday</b> <i>Memorial of SS Joachim and Anne, Parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	9:30 –		
<b>27<sup>th</sup> July Friday</b> <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – 18:00 – <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Benediction</b> 19:00 –		
<b>28<sup>th</sup> July Saturday</b> <i>Feria in Ordinary Time or Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9:30 –		18:00 ( <i>Sunday Vigil</i> ) – People of the Parish
<b>29<sup>th</sup> July SUNDAY</b> 17 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year B	11:00 – Birthday Intentions	9:00 – Holy Souls	

 <p style="color: purple; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">Confessions</p>	<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](mailto:augustineandmary@hotmail.com))