

PARISH BULLETIN

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

30th September 2018

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

39/2018/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 Jan M. Berny *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*,

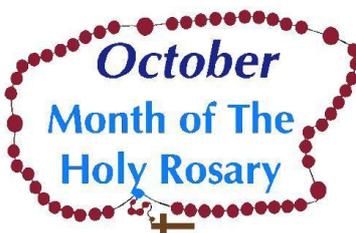
Rebecca Perkins - *Head of School*

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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 continue at St Augustine's Church on TUESDAYS at 19:30. All welcome (Catholic or non-Catholic). Details from Gabrielle 07764 245344.

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. Next meeting Saturday 6th October following Mass at 09.30 at St Augustine's Church, Meir. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday.

ST AUGUSTINE'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW - winners in September: 1st Prize – T. Borthwick; 2nd Prize – A Jewell; 3rd Prize – P Malcolm. Congratulations!



ST FILUMENA'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW - winners in September: 1st Prize – Robert Bowen; 2nd Prize – Amelia Williamson; 3rd Prize – Jacob Oakes. Congratulations!

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – The second session will be held at St Augustine's Church on Wednesday, October 3, at 19:00. Attendance at two preparatory sessions is required before a Baptism can be arranged. Please contact a member of the clergy for details.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S FUND-RAISING EVENTS (*see poster for full list*): Crafty Chat Group – sign up with Angie. First project – knitted Poppies for a Remembrance Display in **November**.

HOLY ROSARY - October is the month of the Holy Rosary, a great opportunity to restart or begin the devotion of praying the Rosary. If you have no time to come to Holy Mass weekdays or to stay after Mass to pray the Rosary in the church, I would like to invite you to and introduce to you a "**living Rosary**". How do we pray the living Rosary?



At the beginning of the month each person who joins our Parish 'Living Rosary Group' will receive a card with a short meditation on ONE decade of the Rosary. Joining the group, the person promises to say this specific decade of the Rosary every single day at their convenience for a month. At the beginning of the next

month those who want to continue will swap the mystery of the Rosary.

When we pray the Rosary our Heavenly Mother, Mary, comes as Our Lady of Grace with her hands out-stretched. Rays of light emit from her hands pierce our bodies and heal us and fill us with graces. This is our inheritance which was poured out from the heart of Jesus on the Cross, when the centurion pierced His Heart with the spear, into the only pure vessel ready to receive such graces at that time, Mother Mary. Anyone who goes to Mary and prays the Rosary regularly and faithfully cannot be touched by Satan. Anyone who prays the Rosary from the heart is blessed and protected and powerful in their prayers for others.

PLEASE PRAY

For those who are ill, especially: Pauline Adams, Mollie Blurton, Susan Brady, Joan Brindley, Leon Stefek, Michele Yon, Betty Walton, Beatrice Wright



For those who have died recently – Frederick John Toplass and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

Comboni Missions

<u>Meir:</u>	£249.80 of which £125.50 was gift aided	£174.85
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£ of which £ was gift aided	
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£133.65 of which £115.00 was gift aided	£189.00

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

This weekend there is a Second Collection for Father Hudson's Care
Next weekend there will be a voluntary Second Collection for CAFOD

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH'S SEX ABUSE SCANDAL IS A CRISIS OF FAITH

As we all know our Catholic Church is going through a deep crisis and it is in fact a crisis of faith. When I say that our Church is faced with a crisis of faith, I mean that we are in a critical period in the Church's life when millions of her faithful are confused about their beliefs. They are uncertain about what as Catholics they are to hold. And as a result, they are emotionally insecure, bewildered and, in Christ's words, wandering as sheep without a shepherd.

The crisis of faith among both the faithful and the clergy is really alarming. Conflicting, confusing and ambiguous statements on the matter of faith and morality coming from the Vatican are causing angst. The confusion and division in the Church on the most fundamental and important issues - marriage and the family, the Sacraments and the right disposition to receive them, intrinsically evil acts, eternal life and the Last Things - are becoming increasingly widespread. We are dismayed at the reported and misrepresented comments from papal interviews. Things in the Church are going from bad to worse. It is difficult for many of us to keep faith. Moreover, the insidious indifference and sex-abuse scandals involving some clergy has already led many faithful to abandon ship.

Many in the Church *did* abandon the traditional teachings of the Church, with the result that they have lost sight of what their religious commitments and obligations are, what a priest is and what a bishop is, and what their solemn duties are. It is the fault of the shepherds who water down the truth of the Gospel and give saccharin and inane homilies instead of catechesis. We hear calls for the Church to change, to become more like progressive Protestant churches that have made peace with moral relativism and ever-shifting doctrine.

The current crisis is not a crisis of Catholic Teaching or the Church Tradition. It is a crisis of *fidelity to* that Teaching and Tradition - **it is a crisis of faith**. The loss of faith reflects a loss of the sense of sin and sin's gravity. Both are surely related to the rejection of the Church's teachings, for faith is indeed a seamless garment.

What should faithful Catholics conclude from all this?

St. John Bosco had a vision of the Church. He saw the Church depicted as a ship in rough seas. The ship was anchored by the Holy Mass (Eucharist) and Our Lady Help of Christians. We need to take refuge in the Eucharist and under the mantle of Our Lady. The Church Militant – we - must remain strong even when many of our pastors have abandoned the true faith. We need to stay faithful to the traditional teaching of the Church and to wait on the Lord. The chastisement the Church is experiencing from within was predicted by many saints. However, we know how this story ends. The Mystical Body of Christ, the Church, will prevail. The gates of hell will not win. Just remember St. John Bosco's vision and stay in the boat. **This is not the moment to abandon the Church. This is the moment to fight for the Church.**

We begin October – month traditionally dedicated to the Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Rosary is dear to the Blessed Virgin Mary, our heavenly Mother and the Mother of the Church, and is powerful with heaven. I would like to invite you all to pray the Rosary frequently, and if possible, daily, especially this month. Out of love pray the Holy Rosary for our Catholic Church; pray it for the pope, for all the bishops, priests, deacons, religious and for yourselves.



Our Rosary prayer together with a good confession and the reception of Our Lord worthily in Holy Communion will be a powerful mean in purifying our Church around and healing the wounds made to the Body of Christ.

Mother Mary, Mother of the Church, Queen of families, Queen of Peace: through your loving maternal intercession, may we get closer to God, may we fall in love more with Jesus, may we help a lot of souls during this month of October by praying the Holy Rosary daily.

Mary, Exterminatrix of All Heresies, pray for us!

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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St. Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St. Mary's CRESSWELL
29th September Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) –
30th September SUNDAY <small>26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B</small>	11:00 – Intentions of those who celebrated their Birthdays in September	9:00 – People of the Parish	
1st October Monday <small>Memorial of St Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin, Doctor of the Church</small>	9:30 –	8:00 – Albert Dawson RIP	
2nd October Tuesday <small>Memorial of the Guardian Angels</small>	9:30 – Peter Chetwin RIP <i>Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>		
3rd October Wednesday <small>Feria in Ordinary Time</small>	9:30 – Michael Phelan RIP	8:00 –	
4th October Thursday <small>Memorial of St Francis of Assisi</small>	9:30 – Holy Souls	11:00 – Requiem Mass for Frederick John Toplass	
5th October Friday <small>Feria in Ordinary Time FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH</small>	9:30 – George Dean RIP 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 –		
6th October Saturday <small>Feria in Ordinary Time or Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday</small>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Marilyn Walters RIP
7th October SUNDAY <small>27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B</small>	11:00 – Sean Maloney RIP	9:00 – People of the Parish	

 <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</i> before Mass 8:15 – 8:45	<i>Saturday</i> 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!