

PARISH BULLETIN

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

25th November 2018

SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING
34th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR B

47/2018/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) Rachel Davies - mobile: 07815 647060

(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*



At St Augustine's
we pray the Rosary
weekdays after the 9:30 Mass.

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 at St Augustine's Church on TUESDAYS at 19:30. This course is for those who want to know more about the Catholic Church and Faith. It is aimed at Catholics who want to deepen their faith and for those who are not Catholic who are interested in finding out about the Church & Faith.

PREPARATION FOR THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM – Attendance at two preparatory sessions is required before a Baptism can be arranged. Next sessions 5th & 12th December, at St Augustine's at 19:00. Please contact a member of the clergy for details.

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. Next meeting Saturday 15th December following Mass at 9:30 at St Augustine's Church, Meir. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday.

ST AUGUSTINE'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – November winners: 1st Prize – Diane Gillen; 2nd Prize – Anthony Jewell; 3rd Prize – Terry Moreton. 2019 subscriptions £12 per number now due.

ST FILUMENA'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – November winners: 1st Prize – V Pitt; 2nd Prize – S Totton; 3rd Prize – M Littler. Congratulations! 2019 subscriptions £12 per number now due, please.



ST. AUGUSTINE'S FUND-RAISING EVENTS (*see poster for full list*): Crafty Chat Group – sign up with Angie.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE – Christmas Raffle Tickets are on sale at St Augustine's (to buy one - see Roy) and at St. Mary's.

CHRISTMAS CRACKER II - Only 2 weeks to go to our last Fund Raising Evening for 2018!!! Tickets are on sale in the porches to-day and next Sunday. Please do come along to enjoy a pleasant social evening together.

Ashley's Choir will once again be entertaining us from 7:00-7:30, with Carols and 'Christmassy music' to put us all in a festive mood - which will be further enhanced by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies!

Cakes, Crafts, Gifts, Raffle etc., will be available.

We are looking forward to seeing YOU on Friday, 7th December, in the School Hall.

Donations of red wine/mulled wine, mince pies, cakes, gifts/prizes, crafts, etc., will all be gratefully received. Please sign the lists to indicate what you can provide, or see one of the tickets sellers.

Many thanks to all who supported last week's **FROG RACE**. It was a very enjoyable fun filled evening which raised £401.

A special big 'thank you' to the members of North Staffs. Catenians who very generously gave up their Saturday evening to organise the event to help OUR Parish – two of the team travelled over 15 miles to be here!

PLEASE PRAY

For those who are ill, especially: Pauline Adams, Janice Austin, Marjorie Birks, Mollie Blurton, Joan Brindley, Eamon Dooley, Leon Stefek, Doreen Thomson, Michele Yon, Betty Walton, Beatrice Wright

† † †

For those who have died recently – Sue Brady, and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

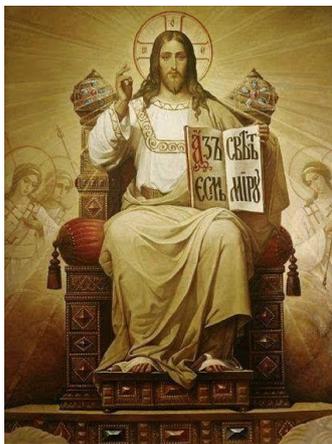
<u>Meir:</u>	£298.25	of which	£107.50	was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£	of which	£	was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£	of which	£	was gift aided

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

This weekend there is a Second Collection for the YOUTH SERVICE

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Jesus Christ is King. Jesus Christ is Lord of All. Jesus Christ is meant to become the Lord of our whole lives and form the very pattern of how we live them. The final Sunday of the Church Year, the Feast of Christ the King, is the day when we are invited to commemorate His sovereignty over all men, women and children. Jesus Christ has come. Jesus Christ is coming. Jesus Christ will come again. Jesus Christ is Lord of All.

Our Catholic faith and its Liturgical practices proclaim to a world hungry for meaning that Jesus Christ is the "Alpha" (the first letter of the Greek alphabet) and the "Omega" (the last letter), the beginning and the end.

It is hard to contemplate the world as it existed in 1925. Less than ten years had passed since the end of World War I and most of the world was still reeling from the devastation of that "Great War". It was an incredibly unsettled time. This turmoil was the context in

which the rise of fascism took place in Europe. Consider for a moment that it was in 1925 that Joseph Stalin took control of the Soviet Union. It was also in early 1925 that Benito Mussolini disbanded the Italian Parliament and became the dictator of that country. Adolf Hitler, while not yet solidly in control of Germany, was on the rise. It was in 1925 that he published his work, *Mein Kampf*. In many ways this rise of fascism was accompanied, and made possible, by an anti-Christian, anti-Church sentiment.

Because of all this Pope Pius XI in 1925 declared that the Church would universally celebrate a new feast on the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Feast of Christ the King. Pope Pius XI was an astute observer of the world in which he lived. In his encyclical, *Quas Primas*, Pope Pius XI makes it clear that this feast was created in direct response to what was happening in the world. He saw a trend growing where Christ was being "excluded from political life, with authority derived not from God but from man". It was the pope's hope that, in celebrating this feast, the Church would be reminded of where authority truly is derived from.

The pope also hoped that this new feast would inspire the faithful. He hoped that, in celebrating it, men and women would be reminded that it is to Christ we owe our fealty and that no earthly power can ever surpass that of his eternal kingship. But it is clear, as is seen in the quote below, that the pope did not see this as a passive, personal submission. Instead, he saw a need for the people of God to stand against the wave of anti-Christian sentiment that had been rising.

With this in mind, it would be wise to say that we still need this feast today, and that we may need it more than ever. The Church in our modern time does not necessarily face the threat of fascism and soviet communism, as it did in 1925, but instead we face the rise of hostile secularism, militant atheism, and radical Islam.

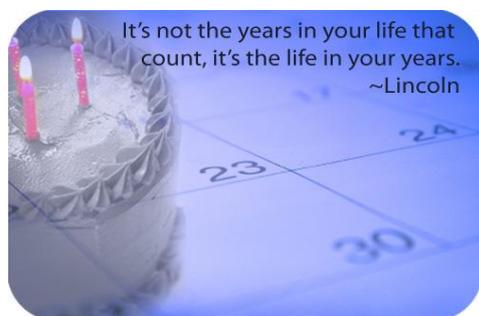
The Reading from the "Book of Revelation" for the Feast of Christ the King reminds us that Jesus is "*the Alpha and the Omega, ... the Lord God, the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty*". Our challenge today is the same as it was in 1925; to live in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and to share the joy of his reign with the world. In the words of Pope Pius XI:

He must reign in our minds... He must reign in our wills... He must reign in our hearts... He must reign in our bodies... that having lived our lives in accordance with the laws of God's kingdom, we may receive full measure of good fruit, and counted by Christ good and faithful servants, we may be rendered partakers of eternal bliss and glory with him in his heavenly kingdom (Quas Primas, 33).

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN NOVEMBER:

John Arrowsmith, Matthew Bowyer, Roy Cripps, Harriet Perry, Peter Richards, Amelia Williamson



Holy Mass for the birthday intentions of those listed above will be offered at St. Augustine's Church on Sunday, 25th November 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 !

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St. Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St. Mary's CRESSWELL
24th November Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Deceased members of the Kelsall Family
25th November SUNDAY <small>34th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - Year B</small> SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING	11:00 – Birthday Intentions	9:00 – People of the Parish	
26th November Monday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –	8:00 – Special Intention	
27th November Tuesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – <i>Followed by Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour</i>		
28th November Wednesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –	8:00 – Holy Souls	
29th November Thursday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –		
30th November Friday <i>Feast of St Andrew, Apostle</i>	9:30 – 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 –		
1st December Saturday <i>Feast of St Edmund Campion, Priest, Martyr</i>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Ted Shaw RIP
2nd December SUNDAY <small>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – Year C</small>	11:00 – David Burgess RIP	9:00 – People of the Parish	

 <p style="color: purple; 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!