

PARISH BULLETIN

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

20th January 2019

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

3/2019/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*

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

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 are on **Tuesdays** at 19:30 (in term time). 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. [*Topic this week The Mass-all welcome*]

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics. Next meeting **Saturday 2nd February 2019** 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 – subscriptions £12 per number for the twelve months in 2019 are now overdue, please.

ST FILUMENA'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – December winners: 1st Prize – W. Bentley; 2nd Prize – A. Collinge; 3rd Prize – D. Hope. Congratulations! 2019 subscriptions £12 per number now due, please.

CHILDRENS LITURGY: At St Augustine's we are looking for suitable people to celebrate the liturgy with young children during Mass on one Sunday a month. Training will be given.

YOUNG AT HEART - next meeting on Tuesday 22nd January, 14:00-16:00. Talk on new Men's Outreach Group and quizzes.

2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME THEME: "Proclaim His Marvellous Deeds". This Sunday's Gospel reading of the Wedding Feast at Cana is closely associated with the celebrations of the Baptism of the Lord (last Sunday) and the Visit of the Wise Men to the Lord (two Sundays ago). All three are considered epiphanies or manifestations of Jesus' divinity. Turning the water into wine was the first recorded miracle which Jesus had performed in public to manifest His glory. Some theologians believe that He had before wrought many miracles, known only to the Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph, which gave Her the confidence to ask for one now. It also serves to convince all Christians of the efficacy (effectiveness) of our Lady's intercessions for us. His disciples believed in Him. They had believed in Him before or they would not have followed Him. This miracle helped confirm their faith, as it should also help confirm ours.

Catechism 1613 – *On the threshold of His public life Jesus performs His first sign – at His Mother's request – during a wedding feast. The Church attaches great importance to Jesus' presence at the wedding at Cana. The Church sees in it the confirmation of the goodness of marriage and the proclamation that thenceforth marriage will be an efficacious (effective and powerful) sign of Christ's presence.*

PLEASE PRAY

For those who are ill, especially: Pauline Adams, Janice Austin, Marjorie Birks, Mollie Blurton, Joan Brindley, Ruth Brock, Eamon Dooley, Leon Stefek, Margaret Stones, Doreen Thomson, Michele Yon, Fiona Borthwick, Beatrice Wright



For those who have died recently – Alan Birks, Betty Walton, Mona Monica Valluzzi who died recently and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

FUNERALS

St Augustine's - Tuesday, 22nd January at 12 noon – Funeral Service for Alan Birks

St Augustine's – Wednesday, 23rd January at 11:15 – Requiem Mass for Elizabeth Walton

St Augustine's – Thursday, 24th January at 12 noon – Funeral Service for Mona Monica Valluzzi

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£292.70	of which	£117.50 was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£332.22	of which	£170.00 was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£142.30	of which	£104.50 was gift aided

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

CONVERSION OF PAUL THE APOSTLE

On the 25th January many Christians celebrate the conversion of St. Paul who became an apostle to the Gentile nations. Paul testified how he first opposed the gospel and persecuted Christians but was converted when Christ appeared to him on the road to Damascus (Acts 22:3-16). Paul's encounter with the person of Christ radically changed his life and opened his eyes to the truth of the Gospel.

“Paul's conversion matured in his encounter with the Risen Christ; it was this encounter that radically changed his life. What happened to him on the road to Damascus is what Jesus asks in today's Gospel: Saul is converted because, thanks to the divine light, “he has believed in the Gospel”. In this consists his and our conversion: in believing in Jesus dead and risen and in opening to the illumination of his divine grace. In that moment Saul understood that his salvation did not depend on good works fulfilled according to the law, but on the fact that Jesus died also for him the persecutor and has risen. This truth by which every Christian life is enlightened thanks to Baptism completely overturns our way of life. To be converted means, also for each one of us, to believe that Jesus “has given himself for me”, dying on the Cross (cf. Galatians 2: 20) and, risen, lives with me and in me. Entrusting myself to the power of his forgiveness, letting myself be taken by his hand, I can come out of the quicksands of pride and sin, of deceit and sadness, of selfishness and of every false security, to know and live the richness of his love.” (from the reflection Benedict XVI on the significance of Paul's conversion for the whole Christian people, given on January 25, 2009):

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OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** is an international **Christian** ecumenical observance kept annually between 18th January and 25th January. It is an **octave**, that is, an observance lasting eight days.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2019 material has been prepared by Christians from Indonesia, which is the largest country in South East Asia, made up of more than 17,000 islands, 1,340 different ethnic groups and over 740 local languages. It is united in its plurality by one national language Bahasa Indonesia. With some 86% of its 260 million people estimated to be Muslim, Indonesia has the largest Islamic population of any country. About 10% of Indonesians are Christian from various traditions, as well as Buddhist and Hindu communities. The nation is founded on five principles called Pancasila, with the motto ‘Bhineka Tunggal Ika’ (Unity in Diversity).

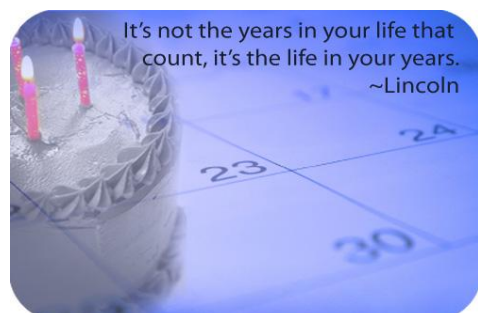
The theme of this year Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is “ONLY JUSTICE” and is based around “Deuteronomy” 16:18-20: “*Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue...*”. The Christians of Indonesia found that these words of “Deuteronomy” spoke powerfully to their situation. Across the diversity of ethnicity, language and religion, Indonesians have lived by the principle of ‘gotong royong’ which is to live in “solidarity and by collaboration”. This means sharing in all aspects of life, regarding all Indonesians as brothers and sisters.

Celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity revive the emphasis on solidarity in faith between believers in service of the Gospel and the World that is very opportune.

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN JANUARY:

Vincent Coleman, Shelagh Tomkinson, Julia McVey



It's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years.
~Lincoln


Holy Mass for the birthday intentions of those listed above will be offered at St. Augustine's Church on Sunday, 27th 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 !

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St. Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St. Mary's CRESSWELL
19th January Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Patrick McVey RIP
20th January SUNDAY <small>2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year C</small>	11:00 – Holy Souls	9:00 – People of the Parish	
21st January Monday <small>Memorial of St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr</small>	9:30 – Betty Walton RIP	9:15 – Wilcox Family Int	
22nd January Tuesday <small>Feria in Ordinary Time</small>	9:30 – Catholic School Children		
23rd January Wednesday <small>Feria in Ordinary Time</small>	9:30 –	9:15 – Breese Family Int	
24th January Thursday <small>Memorial of St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</small>	9:30 – Holy Souls		
25th January Friday <small>Feast of the Conversion of St Paul</small>	9:30 – Dorothy Vasey RIP 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 –		
26th January Saturday <small>Memorial of Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops</small>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – David John Wheawell RIP
27th January SUNDAY <small>3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – Year C</small>	11:00 – Trevor & Elaine Int	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>		



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

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