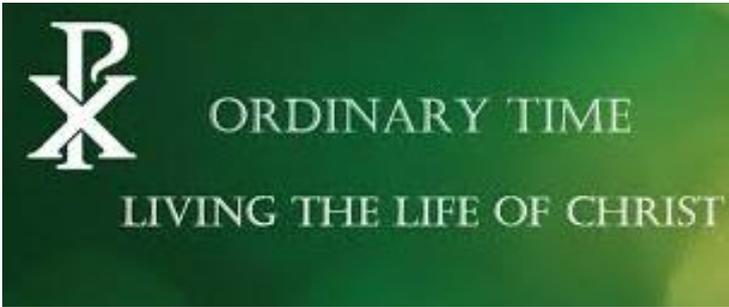


PARISH BULLETIN



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

10th February 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

6/2019/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*

* * *

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.

The Rite of Election will take place on Sunday 10th March at 15.00 in St Chad's Cathedral.

CHILDREN IN NON-CATHOLIC SCHOOLS requiring preparation for the Sacraments and **non-Catholic children in Catholic Schools** wishing to become Catholics: - Next meeting **Saturday 16th 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 – February winners: 1st Prize – M. Dovey; 2nd Prize – G. Halliday; 3rd Prize – T. Borthwick. Congratulations! Subscriptions £12 per number for the twelve months in 2019 are now overdue, please.

ST FILUMENA'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – January winners: 1st Prize – L. Dudley; 2nd Prize – N. Byrne; 3rd Prize – A. Williamson. Congratulations! 2019 subscriptions £12 per number now due, please.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - A Day of Prayer with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held at St. Filumena's, Caverswall, on Saturday 16th February; beginning with Holy Mass at 9:15 and closing at 15:30 with Benediction.

Lent 2019 - There will be Lenten Lunches at the St. Filumena's Presbytery, Caverswall, each Wednesday of Lent, beginning on Ash Wednesday, 6th March, at 12:30 followed by Stations of the Cross at 14:15.

St Filumena's: donations to the Priests' Training Fund in 2018 totalled £524.50, which is fantastic, thank you. If anyone else would like to donate to this fund please see Silvia Wright.

RAFFLE AT ST MARY'S to raise funds for a new vacuum cleaner.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE on Friday thanked 'the team' for the hard work involved in improving the heating system and the lights at St Augustine's. Thanks were also expressed to those who supported their fundraising events. There will be copies of the accounts of all three churches available soon.

However, the committee wants to bring to our attention that, after finishing all the works at St Augustine's and when the final bills are paid, the parish will have a debt of over £30,000. Unfortunately, some people who promised to donate substantial amounts towards the project have withdrawn their offer. It is crucial, therefore, that a Fundraising Committee be formed to make plans for the future. If you can offer any help and/or join this new Committee, please speak to a member of the clergy.

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 and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£325.00	of which	£167.50 was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£236.49	of which	£127.00 was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£160.71	of which	£110.50 was gift aided

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

This weekend there is a second voluntary Collection for the POOR

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION – PART 2



Do you understand the Sunday Mass obligation? Do you know a Catholic who doesn't like to go to Mass? Do you understand why it is a mortal sin to miss Sunday Mass without grave reason?

The teaching of the Church has never changed. To get directly to the point, **it is not optional**. Faithful Catholics are obligated to attend Mass **each and every Sunday**.

But we should not view the word 'obligation' as a bad thing. Going to Mass is not a punishment, it's not a chore to get out of the way so you can go to the movies or out to brunch. The Mass is celebrated at Christ's

instruction: *"Do this in memory of Me"*. If we all take a moment to understand *why* participating in Holy Mass is so important, *why* skipping Holy Mass is a mortal sin, maybe 'obligation' will no longer seem like such an imposing word. Understanding why the Mass is so important is the first step to loving the Mass. And when you come to love the Mass, going to church on Sunday no longer feels like an "I have to", but instead becomes an "I need, I want to".

The Code of Canon Law, the legal code of Christ's Church, states:

On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are obliged to assist at Mass. They are also to abstain from such work or business that would inhibit the worship to be given to God, the joy proper to the Lord's Day, or the due relaxation of mind and body.

The obligation of assisting at Mass is satisfied wherever Mass is celebrated in a Catholic rite either on a holy day itself or on the evening of the previous day. (Can 1247, 1248)

Both the code of "Canon Law" and the "Catechism" clearly state **the obligation**. There was some general teaching prior to Vatican II that one had to be present for the offertory through reception of Holy Communion to fulfil the obligation. However, this is not a part of the canon and the faithful are to participate in the complete Mass in order to fulfil the Sunday obligation.

Some consider the formal language of the "Catechism" and "Canon Law" to be somewhat inaccessible, or others may read the "Catechism" and rebuke what is said simply because they think there are "too many rules". Of course, rules are in place for a reason – even when it comes to driving, where the seemingly mundane rule of staying inside the painted lines has an enormous effect. So we can easily acknowledge that the rules about something so much more important – our faith – were not thrown together randomly, but have great meaning. Beyond the precept itself, we can also look at *why* it is so critical, and better understand the importance of participating in Mass every Sunday.

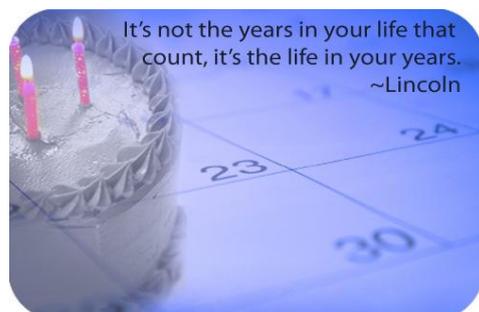
It is important to note that one's will is also factor here. The Church acknowledges a difference between missing Mass for a grave reason or for something over which you had no control, and the act of wilfully choosing not to go to Mass. The former is not a mortal sin, the latter is. In the Apostolic letter *Dies Domini*, Pope John Paul II instructed those who are prevented from participating in the Mass in the following way:

Finally, the faithful who, because of sickness, disability or some other serious cause, are prevented from taking part, should as best they can unite themselves with the celebration of Sunday Mass from afar, preferably by means of the readings and prayers for that day from the Missal, as well as through their desire for the Eucharist (Dies Domini, Pope John Paul II).

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN FEBRUARY:

Deacon Trevor, Kaiyan Kahn, Wilf Bentley, Mya Brzoska, Josie Burgess, Molly Goodwin, Tim Halliday, William Perry, Pat Porter, Mark Saxby, Nora Shepard, Pat Swift, Joseph Swinnerton, Mark Swinnerton, Mary Torjussen, Adam Williamson, Andrew Williamson, Anthony Williamson



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, 24th February 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
9th February Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Bernadette Shaw Int
10th February SUNDAY 5th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year C	11:00 – Ron Torjussen RIP	9:00 – People of the Parish	
11th February Monday <i>Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes</i>	9:30 – For the Sick & Housebound of the Parish	9:15 –	
12th February Tuesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – Peter Capper Int		
13th February Wednesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –	9:15 – Wilkinson Family Int	
14th February Thursday <i>Feast of St Cyril, Monk & St Methodius, Bishop, Patrons of Europe</i>	9:30 – Joyce Davis RIP		
15th February Friday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 – 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 – Mary & Aubrey Chetwin RIP		
16th February Saturday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time or Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9:30 –		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Private Intention
17th February SUNDAY 6th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year C	11:00 – Betty Walton 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>		



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

Please send items for the Parish Newsletter by Thursday evening (e-mail: augustineandmary@hotmail.com)