

PARISH BULLETIN

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

31st March 2019

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR C

13/2019/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 **Thursday this week** at 19:30 (in term time). This course is for those who want to know more about the Catholic Church and Faith.

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 April 2019** following Mass at 9:30 at St Augustine's Church, Meir. For more information please contact Gabrielle Halliday.

ST AUGUSTINE'S FUND RAISING UPDATE: At the recent meeting to form a new Fundraising Committee, LESLEY POWELL was elected Chair and TONY JEWELL, Minute Secretary. All parishioners are asked to support future fundraising events and are encouraged to attend future meetings – the next meeting will be on **Monday 1st April at 19:00.**

To date we have received lump sum donations of £100, £200, £150 & £100 towards the Parish debt. MANY THANKS.

PADRE PIO PRAYER GROUP – We meet at St Augustine's Sacristy this Wednesday 3rd April after 9:30 Mass.

ST AUGUSTINE'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – March winners: 1st Prize – G. Halliday; 2nd Prize – B. Holland; 3rd Prize – K. M. Oakley. Congratulations!

ST FILUMENA'S 50/50 CLUB DRAW – March winners: 1st Prize – L. Preston; 2nd Prize – P. Bowyer; 3rd Prize – T. Bowen. Congratulations!

ST FILUMENA – We have Lenten Lunches at the St. Filumena's Presbytery, Caverswall, each Wednesday of Lent, at 12:30 followed by Stations of the Cross at 14:15.

READERS FOR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER – Would those from our three Parishes who offered to read at the Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil Services please take a copy of the schedule. As in previous years, these will be celebrated at St. Augustine's.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION - Evening of training and reflection at Holy Trinity Church, Newcastle, on Tuesday 2nd April 19:00. All Extraordinary Ministers are asked to attend this important event.

Young at Heart - next meeting Tuesday 2nd April 14:00-16:00. Introduction to First Aid.

PLEASE PRAY

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



For those who have died recently - Peter Killeen and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

CAFOD EMERGENCY APPEAL

<u>Meir:</u>	£539.80 of which	£162.50 was gift aided	£108.05
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£287.24 of which	£98.80 was gift aided	£213.55
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£117.81 of which	£74.50 was gift aided	£109.33

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY !

please gift aid, if possible

This weekend there is a second voluntary Collection for the POOR

WHAT IS MOTHERING SUNDAY?

Mothering Sunday is celebrated in churches on the fourth Sunday in Lent. Traditionally it is a day when we thank God for the love of our mothers, and we thank them in person for their care for us.



THE ORIGINAL "MOTHERING SUNDAY"

The exact origins of Mothering Sunday are unclear. Some have even linked it with the spring festivals for various mother goddesses held in ancient Greece and Rome. However, it is certainly known that by the 16th century Mothering Sunday began as an explicitly religious event, with no connection to mothers at all. The word "mothering" referred to the "mother church", which is to say the main church or cathedral of the region. It became a tradition that, on the fourth Sunday of Lent,

people would return to their mother church for a special service. This pilgrimage was apparently known as "going a-mothering", and became something of a holiday event, with domestic servants traditionally given the day off to visit their own families as well as their mother church.

SIMNEL CAKE

One of the tastiest traditions of Mothering Sunday was the baking of Simnel cake. Often regarded as a purely Easter-related confection, this rich fruit cake is also tied to Mothering Sunday, as a bit of indulgence to make up for the general austerity of Lent (and a nice home-baked present to take home to your mother). Consisting of layers of cake and marzipan, a traditional Simnel cake also reflects the religious overtones of the event by being adorned with 11 balls of marzipan, representing all the disciples of Jesus, minus Judas.

SAVING MOTHERING SUNDAY

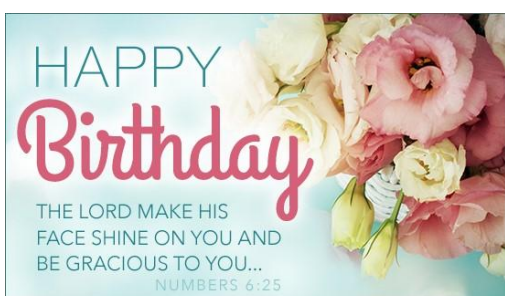
Despite its long existence in British culture, Mothering Sunday eventually fell out of fashion at the dawn of the 20th century. This is where a lady named Constance Penswick-Smith enters the picture. The daughter of a vicar, she thought the loss of Mothering Sunday was a great shame, and worked hard to rekindle interest, even writing a book whose title clearly laid out her ambition - it was called "The Revival of Mothering Sunday". As if that wasn't enough, she also founded the Society for the Observance of Mothering Sunday. Her determination paid off, and the fading festival was restored to the culture of the country, only with much more of a focus on celebrating motherhood.

Today Mothering Sunday is a popular day when Christians choose to use the occasion to think about all things which concern motherhood. We give thanks for the Church as Mother, the Virgin Mary as the mother of Jesus, we remember that God cares for us like a mother and last but not least we give thanks for our own mothers. Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Lent and it is a time of special for thanksgiving. This Sunday is the day of joy in Lent, when flowers abound in all churches and when people are allowed a time off from the penitential season. It is also known as Mid-Lent Sunday, Refreshment Sunday or 'Laetare Sunday'. The Latin name of 'Laetare', means 'rejoice'.

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BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS IN MARCH:

Evelyn Barber, Kathy Champion, Cheryl Clark, Beulah Gibson, Katie Goodwin, Pam Goodwin, Gabrielle Halliday, Moira Hewetson, Hannah Jagt, Tracy Keeling, Vicky McGowan, Pauline Murray, Mary Owen, Dot Ridge




Holy Mass for the birthday intentions of those listed above will be offered at St. Augustine's Church on Sunday, 31st March 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
30th March Saturday			18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Gerald Peter Dovey RIP
31st March SUNDAY FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT Year C	11:00 – Mona Valluzzi RIP	9:00 – Birthday Intentions	
1st April Monday	9:30 – People of the Parish	9:15 – Gordon Piper RIP	
2nd April Tuesday <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Elaine & Trevor Int		
3rd April Wednesday <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Margaret Griffin RIP	9:15 – Private Int 14:15 – Stations of the Cross	
4th April Thursday <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Michael Murray RIP		
5th April Friday <i>Lent Feria</i> FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH	9:30 – Deacon Trevor Int 17:45 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 18:30 – Stations of the Cross 19:00 – Vincent Coleman RIP		
6th April Saturday <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Christina Pyatt Int		18:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Denise Morse RIP
7th April SUNDAY 5th SUNDAY OF LENT - Year C	11:00 – Norman Wootton RIP	9:00 – Frank & Mary Simcox RIP	

 <p style="color: purple; font-size: 1.2em;">Confessions</p>	<i>Friday:</i> 17:45-18:30 <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