

BULLETIN

The Catholic Parishes of

St Augustine of Canterbury, 146 Sandon Road, Meir, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 7DF

St Filumena, Blythe Bridge Road, Caverswall ST11 9EA; **St Mary**, Cresswell Old Lane, Cresswell ST11 9RF

Parish office at St Augustine's: tel.: **01782 313734**

email: saoc.meir@rcaob.org.uk; website: www.augustinemaryandfilumena.org.uk

Parish Clergy: Parish Priest **Fr Jan M. Berny OSPPE** (mobile: **07568 239216**), **Fr George Cieciora OSPPE**

Deacon **Trevor Borthwick** (retired), Deacon **Peter Bowyer**

Parish Catechist: **Gabrielle Halliday** (mobile: 07764 245344)

Safeguarding representatives: **Julia McVey** sg.stmary.cresswell@rcaob.org.uk

26th January 2025

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

4/2025

There are notable parallels as well as contrasts between the first reading and the gospel. In the first reading from the Book of Nehemiah, the priest Ezra solemnly reads a lengthy section from the Book of the Law to a large gathering of Israelites. He thus re-constitutes them as 'God's holy people' following the traumatic years of exile in Babylon. We are told that the people listened attentively and wept as they heard God's word proclaimed to them. We might ask ourselves: How attentively do we listen to God's word and does it ever touch our hearts and move us to tears?

In the Gospel from Luke, Jesus also proclaims God's word to those gathered in the Synagogue of his home town of Nazareth. The passage he reads is taken from the Isaiah, one of the great prophets of Israel: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for he has anointed me to bring good news to the afflicted. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives, sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord. Jesus then sits down, and, in words that launch his great mission of liberation, he says: 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'. The words of Isaiah serve as Jesus' manifesto. He has come to replace the old Jewish love of law with a new law of love and inaugurate the greatest revolution in human history.

Jesus' mission leads him to challenge head-on the values of Palestinian theocratic society. The afflictions of the poor, then as now, were, in large measure, caused by repression, discrimination and exploitation by the rich and powerful, the upholders of the status quo. Jesus directs his mission to those who had been ignored or pushed aside: to the sick,

segregated on cultic grounds; to tax-collectors, excluded on political and religious grounds; and to prostitutes and public sinners, despised and rejected on moral grounds. In his compassionate outreach to these outcasts, Jesus embodies God's kingly rule. This is good news for them as it means the end of their misery and the introduction of a new order of social relationships that includes them. Indeed, for Jesus no one is excluded from the love of God 'who causes his sun to rise on bad people as well as good, and sends rain to fall on the upright and the wicked alike'.

Journey in Faith – Meets at St Augustine's, every Tuesday in term time, 7:30 pm.

For more information contact: Gabrielle. 07764 245344

Children Sacramental Preparation Meeting – For Children attending Non-Catholic Primary Schools wishing to receive the sacraments or Non-Catholic children wishing to become Catholic. Next session is 1st February at St Augustine's, 11:00 am.

Confirmation Class, Thursday 30th January at 6pm.

For more information contact Gabrielle.07764245344

50/50 CLUB

ST AUGUSTINE'S – JANUARY winners:

1st Prize – R. Perkins; 2nd Prize – J. Rowe.

Congratulations!

ST FILUMENA'S – JANUARY winners:

1st Prize – Frances Campbell, 2nd Prize – Liz Marrow.

Congratulations!

PLEASE PRAY

For those who are ill, especially: Joanne Coronato, Eamon Dooley, Agnes June Jarville, Pat Porter, Dorothy Preece, June Toplass, Pauline Tranter, Beatrice Wright.

For those who have died recently – Dennis Cuningham, Marian Dovey, Betty Williamson, Pat Arnold, Ann Williamson, Margaret Evans, Patricia Woolridge, John Newton and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£279.50	of which	£ 95.00	was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£250.00	of which	£159.00	was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£148.00	of which	£100.00	was gift aided

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

please gift aid, if possible

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

	St. Augustine's MEIR	St Filumena's CAVERSWALL	St Mary's CRESSWELL
25th January 2025 Saturday <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i>	18:15 – (Sunday Vigil) – People of the Parish		17:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Holy Souls
26th January Sunday 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR C	11:00 – Egidio & Rosa Coronato RIP	9:00 – Marian Dovey RIP	
27th January Monday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –	8:00 –	
28th January Tuesday <i>Memorial of St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	9:30 – Private Intention	11.00 – Funeral service for Marie Steele	
29th January Wednesday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –	11:00 – School Mass –	
30th January Thursday <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9:30 –		
31st January Friday <i>Memorial of St John Bosco, Priest</i>	9:30 – School Mass – Jo Houlcroft RIP 18:00 – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Benediction 19:00 –		
1st February Saturday <i>Memorial of Our Lady on Saturday</i>	9:30 – 18:15 – (Sunday Vigil) – People of the Parish		17:00 (<i>Sunday Vigil</i>) – Tim Halliday Intention
2nd February Sunday FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD YEAR C	11:00 –	9:00 –	



Confession

Friday: 18:00-18:45
Saturday: 10:00-10:30

Sunday before Mass
8:15-8:45

Saturday before Mass
16:15-16:45

And
BY REQUEST



PRAY THE ROSARY DAILY!

The Rosary means "Crown of Roses". The rose is the queen of flowers, and so the Rosary is the rose of all devotions, and it is therefore the most important one.

Mass intentions please hand in an envelope to a member of the clergy

Church offerings can be made directly to each parish account:

St Augustine's - Acc No **04763483** Sort code **01-05-27**
St Filumena's - Acc No **03392775** Sort code **01-05-27**
St Mary's - Acc No **15628833** Sort code **01-05-27**

Please send items for the Parish Newsletter by Thursday evening (e-mail: saoc.meir@rcaob.org.uk)