

# 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](mailto:saoc.meir@rcaob.org.uk); website: [www.augustinemaryandfilumena.org.uk](http://www.augustinemaryandfilumena.org.uk)

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

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

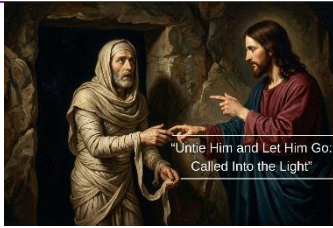
Parish Catechist: **Gabrielle Halliday** (mobile: 07764 245344)

Safeguarding representatives: **Julia McVey** [sg.stmary.cresswell@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stmary.cresswell@rcaob.org.uk)

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2026

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – YEAR A**

12/2026



The readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent bring us face to face with the mystery and painful reality of death. In fact, all of our readings today are also ones that can be chosen for a funeral Mass. In the preceding verses of Chapter 37 of the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, Ezekiel has a vision of a valley of dry bones that are brought to life by God's Spirit. We hear the prophecy that God will open the graves and raise His people. This prophecy, is of course, fulfilled in Jesus' death and resurrection. Saint Paul, in his letter to the Romans writes that those who are dead to sin can be alive through righteousness and that the Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead will also give life to our mortal bodies. On another level, he also wishes to remind us that it is the Spirit that animates and gives life to our body. In the Gospel we hear of the last and greatest of the seven "signs" worked by Jesus that St. John, in his Gospel, wishes us to see: Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead. Jesus is indeed "the resurrection and the life." As our Lord said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it more abundantly". With this in mind, let us repeat and live Martha's words: "yes Lord, I believe..."

**Baptism Preparation** – Parents wishing to arrange a Baptism for their child need to complete two preparation sessions along with Godparents where possible. The next dates are 20th & 27th April at 7:00pm at St Augustine's.

**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 meeting Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> March St Augustine's following morning Mass. **Confirmation Classes** begin on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April 17:30 Please contact: Gabrielle.

**Journey in Faith** – Meets at St Augustine's, every Tuesday in term time, 7:30 pm. For more information contact: Gabrielle.

**St Augustine's** – Piety stall open after Mass and now selling Easter cards, religious cards, rosary beads and candles

**Easter Raffle** – **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April**. Raffle tickets £1 a strip. Many lovely prizes.

**Lent Penitential Service**: There will be an opportunity for Confession on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March at 19.00 (7pm) at St Augustine's, Meir. **Fr Martin Pratt** from Leek will come to help in hearing confessions.

**St Mary's Easter Flower Collection** – A basket for all donations for the Easter flowers will be at the back of church. Many thanks in advance Kathryn and Sue.

**50/50 CLUB**

**ST AUGUSTINE'S – MARCH winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – P. Murray, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – M. Owen. Congratulations!

**ST FILUMENA'S – FEBRUARY winners:**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Natalie Hallam, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – G. Kier Knapper.

Congratulations!

Renewal of subscription is now due for March 2026

## PLEASE PRAY

**For those who are ill, especially:** Giuseppe and Loredana De Cicco, Ron Jones, Pat Bowen, Joanne Coronato, Eamon Dooley, Agnes June Jarville, John Leonard, Pauline Tranter, Beatrice Wright.

**For those who have died recently** – **John Parton; Sheila Killeen, Pat Porter, June Toplass, Dorothy Preece, Peter Davies, Kathleen Margaret Hulme, Liliana Lipiec, Adrian Walley** and those whose anniversary occurs around this time.

## Parish Offertory for last weekend:

<u>Meir:</u>	£390.80	of which	£165.00	was gift aided
<u>Caverswall:</u>	£204.50	of which	£104.00	was gift aided
<u>Cresswell:</u>	£143.50	of which	£123.00	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
<b>21<sup>st</sup> March 2026</b> <b>Saturday</b> <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i>	18:15 – (Sunday Vigil) – Gabrielle Halliday Intention		17:00 <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i> – Neville Mountford RIP
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> March</b> <b>Sunday</b> FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT YEAR A	11:00 – Private Intention	9:00 – People of the Parish	
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> March</b> <b>Monday</b> <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Gabriel Intention	8:00 – Jenna Halliday RIP	
<b>24<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Tuesday</b> <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Charles Day & Family RIP		
<b>25<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Wednesday</b> THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD	9:30 – Jozefa Madura Intention	11:00 – School Mass – Ian Halliday RIP <b>15:00 – Stations of the Cross</b>	
<b>26<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Thursday</b> <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – School Mass – Bożena Żal-Krychowska RIP		
<b>27<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Friday</b> <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Bożena Żal-Krychowska RIP 18:00 – <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament &amp; Benediction</b> 18:30 – <b>Stations of the Cross</b> 19:00 – Mariusz Intention		
<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Saturday</b> <i>Lent Feria</i>	9:30 – Gerrard Shaw Intention 18:15 – (Sunday Vigil) – Holy Souls		17:00 <i>(Sunday Vigil)</i> – Marian Dovey & Maria Faulkner RIP
<b>29<sup>th</sup> March</b> <b>Sunday</b> PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD - YEAR A	11:00 – People of the Parish	9:00 – Dorothy Ridge RIP	



## 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**