



ST AUSTIN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

Address: 82 Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 4AW

Telephone: 01785 223553

Email: staustin.stafford@rcaob.org.uk

Facebook: St. Austin's, Stafford **Twitter:** @SaintAustins

Parish Website: www.saintaustins.org.uk

Diocesan Website: www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

Parish Priest: Canon Michael Neylon **Curate:** Fr. Steven Fleming

Parish Safeguarding Representative: Mrs. Sue Kelly, sg.staustin@rcaob.org.uk

The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216



Sunday 17th March 2024

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Mass Book: Page 170 | Sunday Cycle: Year B

Psalter: Week I | Weekday Cycle: Year I

Saturday 16 th	5.00 p.m.	Holy Mass	Peter Haddock
Sunday 17 th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Monday 18 th	10.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	Joe O'Donovan
Tuesday 19 th	10.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	Agnes Nwachukwu
Wednesday 20 th	12.00 Noon	Holy Mass	Maureen Rushe
Thursday 21 st	9.15 a.m. (STA)	Holy Mass	Teresa O'Shea
Friday 22 nd	9.15 a.m. (BMT)	Holy Mass	Sharon Gregory
	9.15 a.m. (BWH)	Holy Mass	Eileen Danaher
	12.00 Noon	Holy Mass	I, A, & S Boyle

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord Year of Mark (Year B)

Saturday 23 rd	5.00 pm	Holy Mass	Connie Barnes
Sunday 24 th	11.00 am	Holy Mass	Lila Hackett

Prayer for the People of Ukraine: O God, merciful and strong, who crush wars and cast down the proud, look with mercy upon the Ukrainian people. Protect them from aggression. Grant them peace and steadfast trust in your love. Give them courage to defend what is good, right, and holy; and provide for all their needs. Through the powerful intercession of the Mother of God, Protectress of Ukraine, and St Michael the Archangel, Patron of Kyiv, banish violence swiftly from their midst and wipe away all tears. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.

OUR PARISH SCHOOLS

Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata Primary

Somerset Road, Stafford, ST17 9UZ

Telephone: 01785 413276

Website: www.blessedmotherteresas.staffs.sch.uk

St. Austin's Primary

Garden Street, Stafford, ST17 4BT

Telephone: 01785 413277

Website: www.st-austins.org.uk

Blessed William Howard High School

Rowley Avenue, Stafford, ST17 9AB

Telephone: 01785 244236

Website: www.bwh.staffs.sch.uk

CATHOLIC STAFFORD

St. Anne's: Parish Priest: Fr. Robert Devaney

Lynton Avenue, Stafford, ST17 0EA

Telephone: 01785 661012

Email: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk

Website: www.st-annes-st.org.uk

Saturday Vigil Mass: 6.00pm

Sunday Mass: 10.00am

St. Patrick's: Served from St Anne's

48 Sandon Road, Stafford, ST16 3HF

Email: stannestpatrick.stafford@rcaob.org.uk

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4.00pm

Sunday Mass: 9.00am

OFFERTORY COLLECTIONS

Loose Plate: £217.30

Gift Aid: £303.50

Thank you for your generosity. Standing Order remains the most cost-effective way to donate to St Austin's at this time. If you would like to consider using a Standing Order, please contact Phil Hood on 01785 211701 for more information.

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Spinetto, Jeremiah Collins, Mary Sankey, Elizabeth Rawlinson, Chris Shortall, Douglas McKay, Terrence Peggs, Arthur Young, Jack O'Toole, Georgina Thew, Alexander Findlay, Barbara Studninska, Douglas Gibson, Patrick Howard, Mary Haynes, George Fabre, Aileen Sima, Mary Birmingham, Doris Butler, Ann Power, Mary Byrne-Quinn, Francesco Petillo, Sean Kelly, Kevin O'Mahoney, Leonard Anderson, Sydney Elkin, John Mugan, David Sullivan, Patrick Edensor, Thomas Osborne, Anastasia Madigan, Marjorie Holding, Ludmila Gora, Alexander Finney, Thomas Treadwell, John Mugan, Arthur Meredith, Mary Howard, Hilda Brady, Fr. William Madden, Fr. Andrew Brennan, Deacon Thomas Ashcroft, Archbishop Bernard Ullathorne, Archbishop Francis Grimshaw, Fr. Laurence Crowe, Deacon John Higgins.

Welcome: A warm welcome to all as we gather in faith to celebrate the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

We also honour St. Patrick the Patron Saint of Ireland and Nigeria as this Sunday falls on 17th March. Our good wishes to all people with Irish and Nigerian connections. All are welcome to the Parish Room after the 11.00 a.m. to "Drown the Shamrock" with an Irish Coffee.

Pastoral Letter: A Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Bernard will be read at all Masses this weekend.

Please note there will be no Morning Mass in Church this Thursday.

First Reconciliation: Congratulations to the children of our two primary schools and their families who celebrated their First Reconciliation last Thursday.

Dementia Prayer Week: We continue the annual national week of prayer for all whose lives are affected by Dementia that began last Tuesday.

Memorial Mass: There is a Memorial Mass at Blessed William Howard Catholic High School **this Thursday 21st March at 6.00 p.m.** for Mr. Michael Crook, the former Head of R.E. at the school who died recently. All former staff and pupils are welcome to attend.

Lenten Soup Lunches: Thanks to all who supported the Friday Lenten Soup Lunches for Loreto Sealdah in Kolkata. We have the final one this Friday.

Lenten Stations: All are welcome to pray the Lenten Stations of the Cross at 7.00 p.m. on the Fridays of Lent.

Children's Liturgy: The Children's Liturgy is celebrated in the Parish Room at the 11.00 a.m. Mass on Sunday. Our grateful thanks to our catechists and parents for their dedication and commitment.

Holy Hour: There is a Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. with opportunities to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Lenten Penance Service: This year our Lenten Penance Service with opportunities for individual confession will be on **Tuesday 26th March at 7.00 p.m. in St. Patrick's Church on Sandon Road.**

Piety Room: The Piety Room has recently been restocked with a variety of cards and various items of piety. Easter Cards and St. Patrick's Day Cards will be of special interest at this time.

Rosary Prayer Group: All are welcome to join the Rosary Prayer Group who meet every Monday at **2.00 p.m.** in the Chapel of St. Joseph's Convent Nursing Home.

Christian Food Help: We thank all our donors and volunteers for their continuous and generous support. **1858** meals were delivered in **February**. As you consider what donations to make, be aware that a typical family food parcel will include pasta, tinned meals, tinned vegetables, tinned soup, beans, tinned puddings, tea, milk & cereal. Many thanks.

Responding to the Call of Creation: The March edition of the Diocesan Newsletter is on display on the board in the porch.

Lent support for PACT: There are details on the board in the porch of an appeal to support PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust) this Lent. Further information is available on the website www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Grateful Thanks: Our thanks to Phil Hood for his presentation at both Masses last weekend and to all who joined the Parish Gift Aid Scheme. Thanks also to all who have collected the boxes of envelopes for the weekly collection for the coming financial year. There are still some boxes to be collected. Phil is at the back of the church this weekend to assist with enquiries. Phil can also be contacted on 01785 211701.

200+ Club: The 6 Month payments are due by the end of March. Please take an envelope from the porch for your contribution and return it via the Presbytery Door.

Postponed Sessions: Because of the traffic queues and disruptions caused by the road works around town and on Wolverhampton Road we think it best postpone the **"We Dare to Say"** sessions until the works are completed.

Impressions of Britain, A Musical Journey: There are details on the board in the porch of this Presentation by the Stafford Orchestra at St. Anne's Church Hall on Saturday March 23rd at 7.30 p.m. Tickets are available at the Door @ £8. All are very welcome.

The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Mrs Sue Kelly. They can be contacted at: sg.staustin.stafford@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.