



### ST. AUSTIN'S NEWSLETTER

**Address:** 82 Wolverhampton Road, Stafford, ST17 4AW

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**Parish Website:** www.saintaustins.org.uk

**Diocesan Website:** www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk

**Parish Clergy**

**Parish Priest:** Canon Michael Neylon

**Priest in Residence:** Fr. Joseph Narikuzhi

**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. Louis Livesey

**Parish Safeguarding Representative:** Mrs. Sue Kelly, 07875549906



## 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017

### First Sunday of Advent

Mass Book: Page 82    Sunday Cycle: Year B

Psalter: Week 1    Weekday Cycle: Year 2

#### Mass Times & Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	Confessions	3.45 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.	
	Vigil Mass	4.30 p.m.	Stan Highfield
<b>Sunday</b>	Mass	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish
	Mass	6.00 p.m.	Allan Clews
<b>Monday</b> <i>Advent FERIA</i>	Mass	9.15 a.m.	Johanna & John Stubbs
<b>Tuesday</b> <i>St. Birinus</i>	Mass (In Church)	9.15 a.m.	C.D. & E.G. Sillito
<b>Wednesday</b> <i>St. Nicholas</i>	Mass	7.00 p.m.	Joe Sweeney
<b>Thursday</b> <i>St. Ambrose</i>	Mass (BMT)	9.15 a.m.	Elizabeth & Sidney Elkin
<b>Friday</b> <i>Immaculate Conception</i>	Mass	7.00 p.m.	The Meredith Family
<b>Saturday</b> <i>Feria</i>	Mass	10.00 a.m.	Jimmy Taheny

**Exposition & Confessions 10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.**

#### Second Sunday of Advent

<b>Saturday</b>	Confessions	10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	
	Vigil Mass	4.30 p.m.	Tony Jakes
<b>Sunday</b>	Mass.	10.30 a.m.	Thomas O'Donovan
	Mass	6.00 p.m.	People of the Parish

**School Masses:** (STA) = St. Austin's, (BMT) = Blessed Mother Teresa's

#### Quote from Pope Francis Apostolic Exhortation, "Amoris Laetitia" (The Joy of Love)

##### Chapter 4. LOVE IN MARRIAGE. *Love is not irritable or resentful*

104. The Gospel tells us to look to the log in our own eye (cf. Mt 7:5). Christians cannot ignore the persistent admonition of God's word not to nurture anger: "Do not be overcome by evil" (Rom 12:21). "Let us not grow weary in doing good" (Gal 6:9). It is one thing to sense a sudden surge of hostility and another to give into it, letting it take root in our hearts: "Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger" (Eph. 4:26). My advice is never to let the day end without making peace in the family. "And how am I going to make peace? By getting down on my knees? No! Just by a small gesture, a little something, and harmony within your family will be restored. Just a little caress, no words are necessary. But do not let the day end without making peace in your family" Our first reaction when we are annoyed should be one of heartfelt blessing, asking God to bless, free and heal that person. "On the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing" (1 Pet 3:9). If we must fight evil, so be it: but we must always say "no" to violence in the home.

#### Weekly Events in the Parish

##### Monday - Convent Prayer Group:

St Joseph's Nursing Home in the Convent Chapel at 1.30 p.m.

##### Tuesday - Knit & Natter Group:

Meets in the Parish Room at 2.00 p.m.

##### Thursday - Choir Practice:

Every Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m.

##### Staffordshire County Hospital:

11.00 a.m. - 12.00 Noon.

##### Rosary:

A Decade of the Rosary is said after each weekday Mass in Church.

##### Our Parish Schools

##### Blessed Mother Teresa of Kolkata Primary

Address: Somerset Road, Stafford, ST 17 9UZ

Telephone: 01785 413276

Website: www.bmtschool.co.uk

##### St. Austin's Primary

Address: Garden Street, Stafford, ST17 4BT

Telephone: 01785 413277

Website: www.st-austins.org.uk

##### Blessed William Howard Catholic High School

Address: Rowley Avenue, Stafford, ST17 9AB

Telephone: 01785 244236

Website: www.bwh.staffs.sch.uk

##### Other Catholic Churches in Stafford

##### St. Anne's:

Parish Priest: Fr. Robert Devaney

Address: Lynton Avenue, Stafford, ST17 0EA

Telephone: 01785 661012

Email: stannes.stafford@gmail.com

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

Sat: 5.30 pm. Confessions before 6 pm. Vigil Mass

Sun: 11.15 a.m. Mass

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

Address: 48 Sandon Road, Stafford, ST16 3HF

Sun: 9.00 a.m. Confessions before 9.30 a.m.

Mass

#### Thanks for your Offerings last week

Gift Aid Envelopes: £672.70

Loose: £402.27

Catholic Youth Service, Gift Aid: £304.48

Loose: £252.31

#### Anniversaries

Noreen Gilliatt, Matthew Hyland, John Mullane, Mary Draper, Rosaleen Blackborough, Sydney Martin, William Brown, Ivy Brock, Alice McLoughin, David Allan, Cyril Buckingham, May Lynch, Andrew Russell, Monica Keenan, Patrick McMahon, Geoffrey Nielsen, Catherine Slack, George Monaghan, Reginald Beardmore, Blanche Martin, Linda Pooler, Terry Fitzgerald, Francis Doyle, Elizabeth Fradley, Horst Hupka, John Trainor, Richard O'Callaghan, Bridget Dale, Terry Cosgrove,

## General Notices

**Counters:** Group 4 this week. Group 1 is next week.

**Refreshments:** Refreshments are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.30 a.m. Mass every Sunday. All are welcome.

**Piety Room:** Thanks for your continuous support of the Piety Room. As well as weekly catholic papers, a variety of cards, rosaries and statues are available on sale.

**Advent:** This Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, we begin a new year in the life of the Church. Copies of the Walk With Me Prayer Books and calendars are available in the porch this weekend.

**Message from the Justice & Peace Group:** This weekend we invite you to think of those around the world who are in prison for their beliefs and who have been subjected to torture. We invite you to take five minutes to sign a card and send a message of hope to those imprisoned for their beliefs.

Some may wish to take the list home and send their own card. Alternatively some may wish to look on the website

<http://www.acatuk.org.uk/index.php>

**Message from the Bishops of England & Wales:**

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them?

Then we need to make our voice heard.

*The government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it. Now we need to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.*

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for "catholic Education" in your search engine to write to the government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

**Carol Service in Church:** All are welcome to join the Students and Staff of Blessed William Howard Catholic High School for their Annual Carol Service here this Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.00 p.m.

**Advent Soup Lunches:** All are welcome to the Soup Lunches in the Parish Hall after the Midday Friday Masses in Advent. The proceeds will go to

support our parish project in Loreto Sealdah in Kolkata. Thanks to all who provide and partake.

**St. Austin's Senior Citizens:** The Group will meet on Wednesday next, 6<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00 p.m. in the Parish Room. It will have an Advent / Christmas theme with Bring & Share Refreshments.

**New Canons:** Congratulations to Fr. John Batthula of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Bicester, Fr. John Gilbert of St. Gregory's in Longton, and Fr. Brian McGinley of St. George's in Worcester who will be installed as Canons at St. Chad's Cathedral during the Patronal Mass of the Immaculate Conception on Friday.

**Please note Mass will be at 7.00 p.m. here on Friday.**

**Note also Soup Lunch will take place at 12.00 Noon.**

**A Message from Brushstrokes:**

Thank to everyone for your generous response to our appeal for children's Christmas gifts and for your food and other items donated. The appeal for children's gifts will end on Sunday next, 10<sup>th</sup> December and for other donations on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. The appeal for food will resume on the weekend 30<sup>th</sup> / 31<sup>st</sup> December.

**Welcome the Stranger:** All are welcome to the Parish Room on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 p.m. when Teresa Clement, formerly of Brushstrokes and now with Father Hudson's Society will give a talk entitled "Welcoming the Stranger"

**Christian Food Help:** Thanks for your continuous and support of Christian Food Help that enabled 944 food parcels to be delivered during October.

**Christmas Eve / Day Mass Arrangements:** Christmas Day is on a Monday this year. We have made the following arrangements for Masses in the three Stafford Parishes.

Saturday evening 23<sup>rd</sup> December / Sunday Morning 24<sup>th</sup> December Masses are of the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

The First Masses of Christmas are as follows:

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

4.00 p.m. St. Patrick's. **5.00 p.m.** St. Austin's.

6.00 p.m. St. Anne's.

Masses of Midnight are as follows:

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

11.00 p.m. St. Anne's. **12.00 Midnight** St Austin's

Daytime Masses are as follows:

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30 a.m. St. Patrick's. **10.30 a.m.** St. Austin's

11.15 a.m. St. Anne's.