

**ST. AUSTIN’S NEWSLETTER**

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

**Telephone:** 01785 223553

**Email:**[staustins\_rc@btinternet.com](mailto:staustins_rc@btinternet.com)

**Parish Website:** [www.saintaustins.org.uk](http://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

Rev. David McCarrol

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**Quote from Pope Francis Apostolic Exhortation, “Amoris Laetitia” (The Joy of Love)**

***Chapter 4.* LOVE IN MARRIAGE.** *Love Forgives*

105. Once we allow ill will to take root in ourhearts, it leads to deep resentment. The phrase*ou logízetai* to *kakón* means that love “takes no account of evil”; “it is not resentful”. The opposite of resentment is forgiveness, which is rooted in a positive attitude that seeks to understand other people’s weaknesses and to excuse them. As Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do” (Lk. 23:34). Yet we keep looking for more and more faults, imagining greater evils, presuming all kinds of bad intentions, and so resentment grows and deepens. Thus, every mistake or lapse on the part of a spouse can harm the bond of love and the stability of the family. Something is wrong when we see every problem as equally serious; in

this way, we risk being unduly harsh with the failings of others. The just desire to see our rights respected turns into a thirst for vengeance rather than a reasoned defence of our dignity.

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**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 Thursdayevening 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

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| **Thanks for your Offerings last week**  Gift Aid Envelopes: £457.40  Loose: £390.65 |
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**Anniversaries**

Matilda Scarlett, Ellen Duggan, Mary Doherty, Michael Molloy, Jean Harrison, John Shortall, Wladyslaw Gratowski Cyril Campbell, Valentine O’Toole, Louis Good, Rose Beardmore, Helen Sefton, John Livesey, John Moore, Gladys Honeyford, Ted Gough, Kathleen Fitzgerald, Carmel Norman, Mary Brookes, Florence Betteridge, William McGraney, Frederick Key, George Braswaskas, Doris Sillito, Rachel Foreman, Leonard Gibson, Mary Martin, Laura Ross, Tony Rogers, John Stubbs, Mary McIlree, Jeanie Hales, Monica Currall, Pauline Adams, Christine Merricks Rose English, Rose Winters, Patrick Smith, Macauley Gilbert, Brenda Dodd, Arnold Jones, Joseph Bishop, George Oliver, Patricia Thomas.

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| **10th December 2017** | | | |  |  |
| **Second Sunday of Advent** | | | |  |
| Mass Book: Page 85 | | Sunday Cycle: Year B | |  |
| Psalter: Week 2 | | Weekday Cycle: Year 2 | |  |
| **Mass Times & Intentions** | | | |  |
| **Saturday** | Confessions | 3.45 p.m. – 4.15 p.m. | |  |
|  | Vigil Mass | 4.30 p.m. | Tony Jakes |  | - |
| **Sunday** | Mass  Mass | 10.30 a.m.  6.00 p.m. | Thomas O’Donovan  People of the Parish |  |
| **Monday**  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass | 9.15 a.m. | The Walsh Family |  |
| **Tuesday**  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass **(STA)** | 9.15 a.m**.** | Gay Smallwood |  |
| **Wednesday**  ***St. Lucy*** | Mass | 7.00 p.m. | David Allan |  |
| **Thursday**  ***St. John of the Cross*** | Mass **(BMT)** | 9.15 a.m. | Marie Twomey |  |
| **Friday**  ***Advent Feria*** | **Funeral Mass** | **11.30 a.m.** | **Margaret Fuller** |  |
| **Saturday**  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass | 10.00 a.m**.** | Rita & James King |  |
| **Exposition & Confessions 10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.** | | |  |
| **Third Sunday of Advent** | | | |  |
| **Saturday** | **Confessions** | **10.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m**. | |  |
| Vigil Mass | 4.30 p.m. | Peter Dunne |  |
| **Sunday** | Mass. | 10.30 a.m. | Lucy Charlampowicz |  |
|  | Mass | 6.00 p.m. | People of the Parish |  |
| ***School Masses:*** (STA) = St. Austin’s, (BMT) = Blessed Mother Teresa’s | | | |  |

**Counters:** Group 1 this week. Group 2 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.

**Poor Parishes Fund:** The second collection at all Masses this weekend is the annual one to support the Poor Mission Parishes of the Diocese

**Recently Dead:** Please pray for Margaret Fuller whose Reception is on Thursday at 6.00 p.m. and her Funeral Mass is on **Friday at 11.30 a.m.**

May God grant her eternal peace and rest.

**Advent Soup Lunches / Christmas Tree Stars:** All are welcome to the Soup Lunches in the Parish Hall after the Midday Friday Masses in Advent. The Stars for the Christmas Tree are on sale after all Masses this weekend. The proceeds will go to support our parish project in Loreto Sealdah in Kolkata. Thanks to all who provide and partake.

**Welcome the Stranger:** All are welcome to the Parish Room on Wednesday next, 13th 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”

**Penitential Services:** Advent Penitential Services with opportunities for individual will be at:

1) St. John’s in Great Haywood at 7.00 p.m. on Monday 11th December.

2) St. Austin’s, Stafford at 7.00 p.m. on Tuesday 19th December.

**Grateful Thanks:** Thanks to all the Students and Staff of Blessed William Howard Catholic High School for their excellent Carol Service here on Monday last. Thanks also to all who contributed the sum of £234.54 in the collection for the Donna Louise Trust that gives Palliative Care to children and their families throughout Staffordshire.

**Carol Concert:** There are details on the board in the porch of a Christmas Concert at Blessed William Howard Catholic high School on Monday 11th December at 7.00 p.m. All are welcome.

**CAFOD World Gifts:** Copies of CAFOD’s 2017-2018 World Gift Catalogue are available in the porch with ideas for the true spirit of Christmas giving.

**Diocesan Year Book:** Copies of the 2018 Diocesan Year Book are available in the Piety Room. It costs £2.75.

**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*](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.*

**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 this Sunday, 10th December and for other donations on Sunday 17th December. The appeal for food will resume on the weekend 30th/ 31st December.

**Christian Food Help:** Thanks for your continuous and support of Christian Food Help that enabled 1040 food parcels to be delivered during November.

**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 23rd December / Sunday Morning 24th December Masses are of the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

The First Masses of Christmas are as follows:

**Sunday 24th 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 24th December**

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

Daytime Masses are as follows:

**Monday 25th December**

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

11.15 a.m. St. Anne’s.