



ST AUSTIN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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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 25th February 2024

Second Sunday of Lent

Mass Book: Page 151 | Sunday Cycle: Year B

Psalter: Week 2 | Weekday Cycle: Year I

Saturday 24 th	5.00 p.m.	Holy Mass	Walter Adams
Sunday 25 th	11.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	Lesley Stevens
Monday 26 th	12.00 Noon	Requiem	Kevin Bott
Tuesday 27 th	9.15 a.m. (BWH)	Holy Mass	Anna Sliwinska
	10.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	Malachy Toner
Wednesday 28 th	12.00 Noon	Holy Mass	The Wareham Family
Thursday 29 th	9.15 a.m. (STA)	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
	10.00 a.m.	Holy Mass	Teresa Jukes
Friday 1 st	9.15 a.m. (BMT)	Holy Mass	Thelma Steele
	10.00 a.m.	Requiem	Roger Southern
	12.00 Noon	Holy Mass	Bishop Kevin Dunn

Third Sunday of Lent Year of Mark (Year B)

Saturday 2 nd	5.00 pm	Holy Mass	People of the Parish
Sunday 3 rd	11.00 am	Holy Mass	The Wootton Family

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: £218.64

Gift Aid: £252.15

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 Elsie Read, Albert Gusso, Florence Simpson, Mary Holmes, Victor Dunbar, Audrey Young, Beatrice Griffiths, John McLeod, John Harper, Roman Helming, Frank Butler, John Butler, Hannah Woods, Daniel Cambridge, Aidan Sandy, Broncho Bailkoski, Doreen Simpson, Lesley Stevens, Betty Singleton, Anne McGarry, Mary Mountford, William Halpin, Mathew McMahon, Karen Seville, Ada Mooney, Elizabeth Beardmore, Norah Ireson, Sydney Fenton, Hanna Atkinson, Kathleen Tivenan, Henry Woollaston, Nora Lenaghan, Bishop Joseph Cleary, Fr. George Brewster, Fr. George Tarrant, Fr. John Flynn, Bishop Kevin Dunn, Fr. William Diver.

Welcome: A warm welcome to all as we gather in faith to celebrate the First Sunday of lent. We respond to the Lenten Call to prayer, fasting and works of mercy.

Year of Prayer: In this Year of Prayer in preparation for the Year of Jubilee in 2025, The Bishops of England and Wales have produced a series of reflections called '**We Dare to Say**' which looks at the petitions of the Our Father in five ready-to-use sessions.

Each session includes scripture, prayers and reflection with questions. The connection of the Our Father with the sacraments and the devotional life is explored, and wisdom from the saints is offered for the spiritual growth of group participants and individuals alike.

The first of these sessions will start on Monday 26th February at 7.00 p.m. at St. Anne's and on Tuesday 27th at 7.00 p.m. at St. Austin's. They will continue throughout the Mondays and Tuesdays of Lent. All are very welcome.

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

Lent Fast Day: Thanks for all your efforts on Friday for CAFOD's Lent Fast Day. The envelopes will be taken up in the second collection this weekend. On this fast Day weekend, a generous donor has offered to match online gifts up to £40,000. Your support really can make a world of difference. It can have a double impact.<https://donors.cafod.org.uk/page/matchedlent>

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 every Saturday with opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Recently Deceased: Please remember in prayer the following people who died recently:

Kevin Bott: His Reception is this Sunday at 6.00 p.m. His Funeral Mass is on Monday at 12.00 noon.

William Joseph O'Shea: His Funeral Service is at Stafford Crematorium on Wednesday at 10.00 a.m.

Margaret Nicholls: Her Funeral Service is at Stafford Crematorium on Thursday at 12.30 p.m.

Roger Southern: Mass will be celebrated for the repose of his soul on Friday at 10.00 a.m. and will be followed by Cremation at Stafford Crematorium at 12.00 Noon

May God grant them eternal peace and rest.

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. **2284** meals were delivered in **January**. 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.

Lenten Soup Lunches: We continue with the Lunches in the Parish Room after the Friday Midday Mass to support the mission of Loreto Sealdah in Kolkata.

World Day of Prayer: All are welcome to St. Lawrence Church in Gnosall on Friday 1st March at 2.00 p.m. for the Annual World Day of Prayer. This year the Prayer Service has been written and prepared by the Women of Palestine. It is an opportunity to join in prayer with people from across the world for the people of Palestine. It will be led by the Roman Catholics of Gnosall.

Catholic Stafford St. Patrick Celebration. All are welcome to St. Anne's Parish Hall on Friday 15th March from **11.15 a.m. to 2.45 p.m.** to celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick. Children from St. Anne's School will provide entertainment. Fish & Chips at a cost of £6 will be served. Call Liz on 07305936716 to book your Fish and Chips.

Vacancies at BWH: Blessed William Howard Catholic High School has vacancies for an RE Teacher and an Apprentice of RE and a Senior Lay Chaplain. Details are 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

Monthly Prayer Meeting: The Padre Pio Prayer Group have their monthly meeting in the Parish Room on Friday next 1st March at 11.00 a.m. New members will be very welcome.

St. David's Day: To all with Welsh connections we wish you a happy Feast on Friday 1st March.

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.