

**ST. AUSTIN’S NEWSLETTER**

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

**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

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

Rev. David McCarrol

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| **19th April 2020**  Mass Times & Intentions | | | |
| Mass Book: Page 255| Sunday Cycle: Year A  Psalter: Week 2| Weekday Cycle: Year 2 | | | |
| ***Second Sunday of Easter*** | | | |
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| Sunday | Mass |  | Kath Warde |
|  | Mass |  | People of the Parish |
| Monday  ***Easter Feria*** | Mass |  | Private Intention  Anthony Donnelly |
| Tuesday  ***Easter Feria*** | Mass |  | In Thanksgiving  Bernard Ward |
| Wednesday  *Easter Feria* | Mass |  | Margaret Finney |
|  |  |  | Rose Mockler |
| Thursday  ***St. George*** | Mass |  | Parish Housebound  Eileen Healy |
| Friday  ***Easter Feria*** | Mass |  | Canon Peter Taylor  Jeremiah Sheehan |
| Saturday | Mass |  | Monica Kenning |
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| ***Easter Feria*** |  | Phyllis Whiston | |
| **Third Sunday of Easter** | | | |
| Sunday | Mass | E. & P Devlin | |
|  | Mass |  | People of the Parish |
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| Primary School Masses: St Austin’s (STA) & Blessed Mother Teresa’s (BMT) | | | |

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**Anniversaries**

Louisa Cottrill, Richard Borton, Elizabeth Rollo, Henry Gage, Louisa Dewsbury, Rose Osborne, Terence Lenahan, Ellen Eley, John Richardson, Joseph Owen, Therese Doyle, Elizabeth Mitchell, Margaret Thomas, James McKiernan, Mary Fielding, Guiseppine de Matteo, Margaret King, John Cregan, Norah Curteen-Nurse, William O’Brien, Mary Ackroyd, John Day, Arnold Maddock, William Peake, Ellen Causnett, Agnes Dingham, William Thew, Bernard Griffin, Kenneth Taylor, Catherine Cassidy, Mary O’Hara, Fr. Reginald Slade, Fr. Patrick Downey, Fr. Hugh Griffiths, Fr. Oswald Joyce, Fr. Liam Bouchier, Fr. Patrick Quilty, Fr. Benjamin Cox, Fr. Wilfred Davenport, Fr. Desmond Donnelly, Fr. Peter Dennison, Deacon Peter Seeney.

**The God Who Speaks – The Year of the Word**

**MARRIAGE MATTERS** ([www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk](http://www.twoinoneflesh.org.uk))

**Second Sunday of Easter**

Togetherness

Our ‘togetherness’ in what we do and say is a ‘sign’ of our love and a source of joy for us. Sometimes, like Thomas, we can be stubborn, with an attitude of ‘I’ll believe it when I see it’ creating a sense of separation and distance. But together we have the power to stop, reflect, be forgiven, and begin again

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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 Thursday evening at 7.30 p.m.  **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  Saturday: Confessions 5.30pm  Vigil Mass 6.00pm  Sunday: Mass 11.15am  **St. Patrick’s:** *Served from St Anne’s*  Address: 48 Sandon Road, Stafford, ST16 3HF  Sunday: Confessions 9.00am  Mass 9.30am |
| **Offertory Collection**  **Gift Aid Envelopes: £**  **Loose: £**    ***Many thanks for your offerings last week*** |
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**Counters:** Group this week. Group next week

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

**Coronavirus Update:** We are still at **Stage 3** of the Guidelines from the Bishops Conference of England & Wales in conjunction with the NHS and the Government.

Please look up on the Parish Website [**www.saintaustins.org.uk**](http://www.saintaustins.org.uk) for details from the Bishops Conference of England & Wales with regard to Liturgical Advice in light of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

You can also check the Diocesan Website on

[**www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk**](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)for details of various ceremonies at St. Chad’s Cathedral and the many churches throughout the Archdiocese that are live streaming the celebration of Mass.

This Sunday Archbishop Bernard’s celebration of the Mass of the Second Sunday of Easter will be livestreamed at 11.00 a.m.

**We are hoping to be able to live stream Mass from St. Austin’s by the end of the month**.

Fr. Michael & Fr. Joseph will celebrate Mass in private every day without a congregation and the intentions requested will be fulfilled. As always they will be printed on the opposite page.

We recognise the difficulties and the challenges of these times. This is particularly difficult as we celebrate the great Easter Feast which is at the heart of our faith. Let us continue to pay heed to the advice from the medical and scientific experts. May we continue to look out for one another and support each other in prayer.

**Christian Food Help:**All at Christian Food Help thank you for your continued generous support, which enabled us to distribute 1514 meals during March. We will now be discontinuing our regular deliveries until the lockdown has been lifted, but are still accepting food donations and are happy to help anybody who is vulnerable or at risk. If you have any queries, please contact us at [christianfoodhelp@gmail.com](mailto:christianfoodhelp@gmail.com)

**Recently Deceased:** Please remember in prayer:

**Fr. Bernard O’Connor O.S.A.** Fr. Bernard was an Augustinian Priest attached to St. Mary’s Parish in Harborne, Birmingham.

We remember also the many people who died in recent times as victims of the Covid-19 virus.

May they all rest forever in God’s peace.

**Parish Collections:** Many people have been in touch concerned about the Offertory Collection Envelopes

as we have at least another three weeks in the state of lockdown. **PLEASE DO NOT WORRY**.

We appreciate the many difficulties and hardships that people are going through with many out of work. Some have put their envelopes through the Presbytery door and for this we thank you.

If however you feel you can make a contribution at this time the finance department of the diocese has organised a means whereby people can donate online. Simply log on to the Diocesan Website on [www.birminghamdiocesee.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocesee.org.uk) and go to the **DONATE** button on the top right hand corner. The donation will initially go to the diocese and will later be transferred to the parish.

From there donations which can also be gift aided can be made to any parish via credit or debit card.

Please note that the **Standing Order** remains the most cost effective way to donate. If you would like to consider using a Standing Order, please contact Phil Hood on 01785 211701 and he will help you.

**Grateful thanks:** Thanks for your many Easter Cards phone calls and messages in recent days with offers of help and support. They are greatly appreciated.

***Fr. Michael & Fr. Joseph.***

**Final Thought:**

“Rivers do not drink their own water:

Trees do not eat their own fruit;

The sun does not shine on itself and

flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves.

Living for others is a rule of nature.

We are all born to help each other.

No matter how difficult it is…..

Life is good when you are happy;

But much better when other are happy because of you”. **(Pope Francis)**