

**ST. AUSTIN’S NEWSLETTER**

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

**Telephone:** 01785 223553

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

**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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| **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: £548.70**  **Loose: £223.46**  **Poor Mission Parishes: £644.90**      ***Many thanks for your offerings last week*** |
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| 15th December 2019  Mass Times & Intentions | | | |
| Mass Book: Page 88 | Sunday Cycle: Year A  Psalter: Week 3 | Weekday Cycle: Year 2 | | | |
| ***Third Sunday of Advent*** | | | |
| Saturday | Confessions | 3.45pm – 4.15pm | |
|  | Vigil Mass | 4.30 pm | People of the Parish |
| Sunday | Mass | 10.30 am | Marian Alcock | 6.00 pm | Thomas Denham |
|  | Mass | 6.00 pm | Shiels, Bowens & Trainors |
| Monday  ***Advent Feria*** | **Funeral Mass** | **12.00 Noon** | **Veronica McLaughlin** |
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| Tuesday  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass **(STA)** | 9.15 am | The Haycock Family |
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| Wednesday | Mass | **6.45 pm** | Rita & James King |
| ***Advent Feria*** |  |  |  |
| Thursday  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass **(BMT)** | 9.15 am | Jim Foley |
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| Friday  ***Advent Feria*** | Mass | 12.00 Noon | Patrick Treadwell |
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| Saturday | Mass | 10.00 am | The Lyons Family |
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| ***Advent Feria*** | Confessions & Exposition | 10.30 am – 11.30 am | |
| **Fourth Sunday of Advent** | | | |
| Saturday | Confessions | 3.45 pm – 4.15 pm | |
| ***Feria*** | Vigil Mass | 4.30 pm | Quinns & Gibbons RIP |
| Sunday | Mass | 10.30 am | C. & J. Howard |
|  | Mass | 6.00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Primary School Masses: St Austin’s (STA) & Blessed Mother Teresa’s (BMT) | | | |

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**Anniversaries**

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, Patrick Greaney, Frederick Marsden, Thomas Malone, Daniel McBride, Stafford Oliver, Flora Tassell, Mary Biddulph, Rose Smith, Anne Behan, Bertram Shotton, Bernard Gaughran, Denis Hussey, Ellen Plant, Annie Oakes, Maurice Mahar, Lottie Riley, Catherine Gonin, Hugh Bott, Minnie Till, Amy Johnson, Paul Flello, Leslie Davies, Mary Farrugia,

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

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

**Third Sunday of Advent**

Advent – a new beginning for us?

Cherish the gift

John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus’ coming. When Jesus came, the Magi brought gifts. We are preparing gifts for family and friends. When you married, and every day since, you have gifted yourself...entrusted yourselves ...to each other; do you still cherish the gift? How much has trust helped you on your journey together? Thank the Lord!

**Counters:** Group 2 this week. Group 3 next week

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

**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.

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

**Veronica Ann Mc Laughlin** whose Reception and Funeral Mass is on Monday at 12.00 Noon.

**Patrick Treadwell** whose Funeral will be held on Wednesday in Dolgellau

**Frank Turner** whose Funeral is at 10.00 a.m. on Saturday 21st December at Stafford Crematorium

Rememberalso **Fr. John Ellis,** retired priest of the Archdiocese who died on Thursday. His Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

May they rest forever in God’s peace.

**Message to the Brave.** Thanks to all who have responded to CAFOD’s Advent Project to send Christmas Cards with a message of solidarity to brave People fighting for Justice. There is a box in the porch to collect the cards this weekend. We will send them to CAFOD in the coming week. Many thanks.

**Advent Penance Service:** This year our Advent Penance Service with opportunities for individual confession will be held at St. Anne’s Church on **Tuesday next 17th December at 7.00 p.m**.

**Advent Soup Lunches**: We have the last of our Advent Soup Lunches on Friday next in the Parish Hall on Friday next after the Midday Mass. All proceeds will go to support our Friends at Loreto Sealdah in Kolkata.

**Christmas Trees Stars:** Stars for the Christmas Tree to show our solidarity with our sisters and brothers in Kolkata are available after all Masses this weekend and next weekend. All donations will be gratefully appreciated.

**Other Advent Activities:** The final meeting on the Inter Parish series “Meeting Jesus in the Gospels” will be at St. Anne’s Church from 7.30 pm to 9.00 pm on Wednesday. This week the focus will be on St. john’s Gospel.

**Brushstrokes** would like to thank everyone for their magnificent response to the appeal for Christmas gifts and toys. Food, baby clothes and toiletries, will continue to be collected except for the weekend of 21st /22nd December as we won't be able to travel to Smethwick during Christmas week

**Christian Food Help:** All atChristian Food Help wish to thank you for your continuous generous support that enabled **934** meals to be delivered during the month of **November.**

**Safeguarding Advisor Vacancy:** There are details on the notice board in the porch of a vacancy for a Safeguarding Advisor at Cathedral House in Birmingham. The closing dates for receipt of applications is Noon on Monday 6th January 2020.

**Security Notice:** Just to let you know a CCTV System has been installed to cover the Church, Presbytery and Car Park areas. This has been done on the advice of the Diocesan Authorities.

**Spare Copies:** There are still some spare copies of The Sower, Walk with Me Prayer Books and CAFOD world Gifts Catalogues in the porch. Help yourselves

**Christmas Mass Times Arrangements:**

***The following Christmas Mass times have been arranged to facilitate the three Stafford Parishes.***

**Tuesday 24th December, Christmas Eve:**

4.00 p.m. St. Patrick’s First Mass of Christmas

4.30 p.m. St. Austin’s First Mass of Christmas

6.00 p.m. St. Anne’s First Mass of Christmas

10.30 p.m. St. Anne’s Carols

11.00 p.m. St. Anne’s Mass of Midnight

11.30 p.m. St. Austin’s Carols

12.00 Midnight. Mass of Midnight

**Wednesday 25th December, Christmas Day:**

9.30 a.m. St. Patrick’s Mass of Christmas Day

10.30 a.m. St. Austin’s Mass of Christmas Day

11.15 a.m. St. Anne’s Mass of Christmas Day