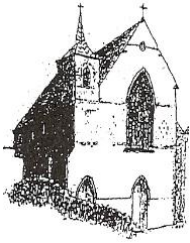


# ST. AUSTIN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER



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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](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**Parish Priest:** Canon Michael Neylon **Curate:** Fr Simon Baker

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

*The Parish is part of the Archdiocese of Birmingham: Registered Charity No 234216*



## SUNDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2021

Mass Book: Page 264 Sunday Cycle: Year B

Psalter: Week 1 Weekday Cycle: Year 1



### THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH



### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup>	5.00 pm	Holy Mass †	Milburn Family
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	11.00 am	Holy Mass †	Marie Howard
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> <i>Ss Philip and James</i>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Raymond Cowley
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> <i>English Martyrs</i>	11.00 am	Requiem Mass for Teresa Evans	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Holy Mass †	Kathleen Conway
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Mass	Farrell Family
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Holy Mass †	Nick and William Cooke

### SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Holy Mass †	Nora and Jack Williams
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Holy Mass †	Marie and Laurie Hawkins

**A warm welcome to you all.** We pray in a particular way for those of our community who are unable to be here with us and join us via the livestream. Whether here in person or joining in at home, we unite ourselves through the prayers of the Holy Mass.

Whilst Places of Worship remain open, we are all reminded of the need and importance for us all to be extra careful and diligent with social distancing and hygiene.

May we remind anyone coming to Mass to observe the following: wear a face covering whilst in church; enter and exit by separate doors; sanitize hands on entry and exit; observe social distancing at all times; only sit on seats marked with green spots.

At Holy Communion, we ask you not to move forward until the stewards direct you to. This will avoid a queue forming in the aisles. We also ask that you consume the Blessed Sacrament before you move away from the priest.

Please DO NOT attend church if you, or someone in your household, has: a high temperature or new, continuous cough or loss, or change, to your sense of taste or smell. You must stay at home and arrange a Covid test. Similarly, if anyone is awaiting a test result please do not attend.

Please remember that the obligation to attend Holy Mass is still suspended.

**COLLECTIONS**   **Loose Plate:** £135.99   **Gift Aid:** £231.00   **Clergy Training:** £229.35

**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.

**Weekly Newsletter via email:** If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please send your email request to [staustin.stafford@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:staustin.stafford@rcaob.org.uk). Of course, this means if you receive one by email, you don't need to pick one up after Mass. Our newsletter is also available each week on the parish website.

**We remember in our prayers those who have died recently: Teresa Elizabeth Evans** (Requiem Mass at St Austin's on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> May). We pray for her and her family, who mourn her loss.

**Our prayerful congratulations** to the Pearce-Ross family whose son Oak Bartholomew was recently baptised and welcomed into the Church family.

**Our prayerful congratulations to Fr Michael Dolman** who has been appointed as the next Rector of St Mary's College, Oscott. Fr Michael is currently Vocations Director and Director of Ongoing Formation of Clergy for the Archdiocese of Birmingham and will take up his appointment in July this year. We pray for him and all those at Oscott College.

**Live Streaming of Masses:** We use live streaming to enable housebound parishioners and those unable to attend Mass at this time to join in the various liturgies held at St Austin's. From time to time, at the request of the families, the livestream is also used for funerals and weddings. The new position of the camera means that only those with a need to be on the Sanctuary (e.g. the Clergy, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers) are seen, however when it comes to Holy Communion, people are briefly seen (mainly the back of heads) as they approach the priest. Images are made available live over the internet through our YouTube and Facebook pages, and can be accessed by anyone who wishes to do so. If anyone would like to clarify live streaming, please do speak with Canon Michael or Fr Simon.

**We have received a letter of thanks** from CAFOD thanking all parishioners for the generous donation of £417.85 collected for this year's Lenten appeal. To find out more about the work of CAFOD and ways to support please visit their website at [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk)

**Pope Francis is requesting that during this month of May** the entire Church invoke the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for the end of the pandemic, and in a special way, he is inviting all of us to pray fervently for those most closely affected by it. Thirty Marian Shrines throughout the world will take turns in leading this prayer, beginning on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May in Walsingham.

Each day a different prayer intention has been suggested. You may like to make these intentions part of your daily prayers at home, so that through the prayers of the Rosary, we unite with the Holy Father in praying for an end to the pandemic. (1 May) For all the deceased (2 May) For all those who have not been able to say goodbye to their deceased loved ones (3 May) For all those infected with the corona virus and all the sick (4 May) For all expectant women and their unborn babies (5 May) For all children and adolescents (6 May) For all young people (7 May) For all families (8 May) For all communication workers (9 May) For all seniors.

**Gift Aid Envelopes:** The new envelopes are available for collection this weekend. We thank you for your continued generous financial support to the parish, particularly during this challenging year. For those who have signed up for Standing Order giving, smaller boxes are available with envelopes for Second Collections, as and when needed. Our grateful thanks to Phil Hood our Gift Aid Organiser, for his continued work in support of the parish.

**The month of May** is 'a month which the piety of the faithful has long dedicated to Mary, the Mother of God. For this is the month during which Christians, in their churches and their homes, offer the Virgin Mother more fervent and loving acts of homage and veneration; and it is the month in which a great abundance of God's merciful gifts comes down to us from our Mother's throne,' wrote Paul VI in his Encyclical, *Mense Maio* in 1965. Why not make the ancient prayer of the *Memorare* part of your daily devotion to Our Lady in the month of May:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided. Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

**Christian Food Help:** The work of CFH continues and we are always happy to receive food donations at the Presbytery. In April we were able to provide 1310 meals for those in need. Since the project began back in 2012, we have been able to provide more than 91,000 meals for those in need in the Stafford community.

**The Archdiocese of Birmingham Evangelisation Office** is partnering with the Archdiocese of Southwark to promote a survey which aims to find out about the experiences of Catholics over the period of the Coronavirus pandemic. This research will help our Archdiocese to understand what has been happening during this time when churches have been closed and/or only opened for limited periods and Catholics have had to practice their faith 'at a distance'. This important survey should take about ten minutes to complete and the deadline for submissions is Sunday 4 July. If you would like to take part and complete the survey, please visit [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk)

**We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Eric Walton, Thomas Grennan, Gustav Parciankowski, Margaret Wykes, Mary Dench, Bridget Knight, Francis Walker, Alastair Arthur, Austin Brookes, Margaret Toner, Jordan Reid, John Keating, Thomas Mitchell, Colin O’Gorman, Manoli Voudouris, Albert Bray, Kazimiera Deacon, Chiarah Grantham, Seamus Ludlow, Douglas Gosling, Peter Scahill, Bernard Chadwick, Kazimiera Platek, Kathleen Hall, Elizabeth Beard, Eileen Dempsey, Peter John Godwin, Sarah Davies, James Gallagher, Margaret King, Evelyn Grant, Frederick Dean, Minnie Dykes, Fr Thomas O’Connor, Fr David Duggan, Fr Michael Byrne, Canon Bernard Hurrill, Fr James Dutton, Fr Donal O’Connor, Bishop Joseph Gray, Fr Francis Carr, Fr Walter Joret.

**We continue to ask the intercession of St Roch:** O most merciful God, who through an angel, promised St Roch that all who invoked his name will be preserved from pestilent and contagious diseases. Grant that through his intercession we may be preserved from all dangers both of soul and body. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Prayer to St Joseph:** Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy and courage, and defend us from every evil. Amen.

**Prayer to our Guardian Angel for when we cannot attend Holy Mass:** O holy Angel at my side, go to Church for me, kneel in my place, at Holy Mass, where I desire to be. At Offertory, in my stead, take all I am and own, and place it as a sacrifice upon the Altar Throne. At Holy Consecration’s bell, adore with Seraph’s love, my Jesus hidden in the Host, come down from Heaven above. Then pray for those I dearly love, and those who cause me grief, that Jesus’ Blood may cleanse all hearts, and suffering souls relieve. And when the priest Communion takes, oh, bring my Lord to me, that His sweet Heart may rest on mine, and I His temple be. Pray that this Sacrifice Divine, may mankind’s sins efface; then bring me Jesus’ blessing home, the pledge of every grace. Amen.

### **Regina Coeli: The Easter Anthem to Our Lady**

One of the most joyous anthems of the Church is the *Regina Coeli*, the Easter hymn to Our Lady. This prayer reminds us, particularly at Easter, of how much we must be thankful for, even during our daily trials. When our Lord conquered death in His resurrection, he opened the gates of Heaven for us to be able to share Eternal Life with Him.



O Queen of Heaven, rejoice, alleluia.  
For He whom you did merit to bear, alleluia.  
Has risen, as he said, alleluia.  
Pray for us to God, alleluia.  
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.  
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray. O God, who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His Mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.