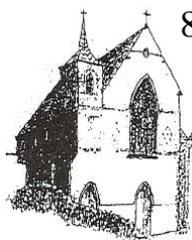


# ST. AUSTIN'S PARISH NEWSLETTER



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staustin.stafford@rcaob.org.uk

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

**Parish Website:** www.saintaustins.org.uk

**Diocesan Website:** 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 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

Mass Book: Page 160

Sunday Cycle: Year B

Psalter: Week 2

Weekday Cycle: Year 1



### THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH



### SOLEMNITY OF CHRIST THE KING

Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Holy Mass †	Lexi Rogers
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	11.00 am	Holy Mass †	Bridie Carter
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Mass †	McDonald and Finn RIP
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Mass †	Paddy O'Leary
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> <i>St Andrew Dung-Lac</i>	12 noon	Holy Mass †	John Porter
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup>	10.00 am	Holy Mass †	Christina Smith
	7.00 pm	Holy Mass †	Deceased Parishioners
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	12 noon	Holy Mass †	Jimmy Howard

† Masses open  
to the public.

### FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup>	5.00 pm	Holy Mass †	Ann Vallely
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	11.00 am	Holy Mass †	Noel Cooney



**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.

**The Diocesan Vision Prayer:** Spirit of God, descend on me this day. Grant me the Spirit of joy, to lift me, the Spirit of hope to inspire me, the Spirit of love to surround me and the Spirit of truth to enlighten my path. Holy Spirit, I pray for a new outpouring of your grace, so that I may grow in worship of your name in love of you in my prayer and in my actions towards others. Come Holy Spirit into my life to guide me. Strengthen and defend me, so that I may be drawn ever closer to you. Help me this day and always to be a channel of grace in all I say and do and invite others into relationship with you. Amen.

For more information about the Diocesan Vision, please visit the Birmingham Diocesan website at [www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/vision](http://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/vision)

**We pray for the soul of Renee Wright** who died recently. We pray for her and her family here at this time. We pray also for the family of **Aurora Rose Thorley** who was baptised yesterday, and for the family of **Arthur Joseph** as they prepare for his baptism next week.

**Daily Masses at St Austin's** are now open to the public. Please remember that Track and Trace is still needed, so you can sign in using the NHS App or by writing your name and contact number on a piece of paper and placing it in the box. This new Mass schedule will be reviewed at the end of the month.

**Masses during the week** will no longer be livestreamed, unless they are a Requiem Mass and the family have requested it. We shall continue to livestream the 11.00am Sunday Mass, but this will not be uploaded and thus not available for later watching.

**Annual Memorial Masses:** The final one will be held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm.

**Our Piety Stall** will be open for 30 minutes before the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Masses and has a wide variety of Christmas cards and gifts available.

**Second Collection** after Masses this weekend for the Catholic Youth Services. Pope Francis has made the Feast of Christ the King an international day for young people – World Youth Sunday. The collection today will help support parish-based youth ministry, local events and new groups starting within our Diocese. For more information about the work of the Youth Service in our Archdiocese, please visit their website [www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk](http://www.kenelmyouthtrust.org.uk)

**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, 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.

**Blessing of Graves:** As we were unable to gather last year for the Annual Blessing of Graves service and because of uncertainty this year, we have decided to offer something which other parishes have done. At all Masses this weekend, we shall bless holy water, candles, and a prayer card. These will be available in small packs, and you are welcome to take one home after Mass, with the intention of using them to bless your loved ones grave yourself. It is our hope that next year we can return to the usual gathering at our cemeteries which is a great witness to our faith and a comfort to our departed loved ones.

**In the Advent season,** the prophet Isaiah calls us to 'prepare a way for the Lord,' but with the busyness of our daily lives, this can often be difficult and before we know it, Advent has gone, and Christmas is upon us. This Advent we would like to invite you to be part of two events happening in our parishes, that we enable us all to make time and space in the season and truly prepare ourselves for Christmas. BELONG & BELIEVE is a CaFE Film Resource which looks at how our Celtic past can help us today and provides simple ways of refreshing communities and renewing our mission. The BELONG & BELIEVE will take place on three consecutive Wednesday evenings at St Anne's Parish Hall starting at 7.30pm on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December. Tea and coffee will be available from 7.00pm.

**BWH PTFA** will be holding a Christmas Shopping Event on Friday 3rd December 6pm - 9pm. All are welcome. Entrance is 50p per adult and children are free. If you would like to have a stall at this event, please contact the PTFA at [ptfa@bwh.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:ptfa@bwh.staffs.sch.uk) for further details

**Brushstrokes:** Thank you for all the donations that you have so generously given to Brushstrokes. In addition to the items that you are sending at the moment, there is also a need for the following: Winter clothes; Ladies clothes (size 12); and girl's clothes (ages 6-7 and 7-8). Could they all be washed and bagged and marked with size and sex. Many thanks again for your generosity. **Any items can be dropped off and left at the Presbytery.**

**The new Nationality and Borders Bill** is due to come forward for its final reading in the House of Commons at the end of this month. All involved with and who support Stafford Welcomes Refugees will have grave concerns about this Bill, and we encourage everyone to write to their local MP's (Theo Clarke in Stafford and Bill Cash in Gnosall) asking them to vote against this Bill. Further details of the Bill, together with the UNHCR's response can be found at <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3023>

**Blessed William Howard School** are looking for retired teachers/tutors/instructors or people who have the skills to teach one or more students on a 1:1 basis to GCSE level. This is an exciting paid opportunity for those who have some free time to help us as school to start to recover. We need to support in the following areas: Maths, English, Science (Physics, Chemistry and Biology), RE, French, Spanish. You do not need to be a graduate or hold QTS, but would need relevant understanding, skills and knowledge (maybe from your employment/technical qualifications). Fully paid online training is available and we have the flexibility to work around your current commitments to secure the best for our students. This role would suit someone who is retired or works part time who could offer their talents to support our students. All 1:1 tutoring is paid at £25 per hour which covers planning time too. Application forms, available at <https://www.bwh.staffs.sch.uk/Jobs/> need to be returned by 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021 to Kerry Collins at [kec@bwh.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:kec@bwh.staffs.sch.uk)

**Beware of spam emails** which often include 'parishpastor' and the name of parish priests, but they are not being sent from priests' email accounts. Proactive action has been taken by the Diocesan IT team to block such emails, but they can still be generated elsewhere and infiltrate email accounts. Diocesan clergy and staff should now be using email accounts that end in [@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:@rcaob.org.uk). If you are in any doubt about an email, please contact your parish priest / parish office and check.

**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 Facebook page and can be accessed by anyone who wishes to do so. Please do speak with Canon Michael or Fr Simon for more details.

**We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** John Hackett, Peter Bamber, Mary Stubbs, Arthur Albrow, Mary O'Shea, Mary Cooney, Kevin Heywood, Agnes Dolan, Agnes Money, James Kear, Sydney Hingerty, Edward Martinez, Norah Shelley, Wilfred Faulkner, Christine Allen, William Stubbs, John Holford, Maria Kubicka, Peter Conlon, John Harrison, Veronica McLaughlin, Charles Burgess, Christopher Shortall, George and Martha Payne, Tess Moon, Patrick Sheridan, Teresa Worsfold, Anna-May Smith, Bridget O'Rourke, David Latta, Frederick Vance, Roy Winterton, Iris Burgess, Fr Francis Lockett, Canon Philip Coyne, Archbishop John McIntyre, Fr Gerry Jackson, Fr David Higham, Deacon Pat Linthwaite, Canon Maurice Woulfe, Fr Michael Connolly.

**COLLECTIONS****Loose Plate: £130.87****Gift Aid: £209.50**

**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.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

**Hymn for Communion at 11.00am Mass:**

Hail Redeemer, King divine!  
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine;  
King, whose reign shall never cease,  
Prince of everlasting peace.

*Angels, saints and nations sing :  
"Praise be Jesus Christ our King;  
Lord of life, earth, sky and sea,  
King of love on Calvary!"*

King most holy, King of truth,  
guard the lowly, guide the youth;  
Christ the King of glory bright,  
be to us eternal light.

Shepherd-king, o'er mountains steep  
homeward bring the wandering sheep;  
shelter in one royal fold  
states and kingdoms, new and old.

Eucharistic King, what love  
draws thee daily from above,  
clad in signs of bread and wine :  
feed us, lead us, keep us thine!

King, whose name creation thrills,  
rule our hearts, our minds, our wills;  
till in peace, each nation rings  
with thy praises, King of kings.

**Prayer to 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 of St Gertrude for the Holy Souls:** Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

**May we remind anyone coming to Mass to observe the following:** wear a face covering whilst in church (unless exempt for medical reasons); 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.

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.

The seating capacity at St Austin's is 89. 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.

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