

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Eton Court
Eton, WINDSOR
SL4 6BY



Parish Priest: Fr. Frank McAuliffe
Telephone: 01753 917030
Email: office@staugustines.org.uk

Website: www.staugustines.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 12th July 2020

15th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)

Bishop David Oakley's Visit

Bishop David Oakley was ordained Bishop of Northampton on March 19th of this year, as successor to our much-loved and respected Bishop Peter. Bishop David was very anxious to visit the priests of his diocese and felt frustrated that, because of Covid-19, he was unable to do so until now.

He came to the parish on Tuesday, and I was very impressed by him as a person, and by his vision and optimism regarding the future of the Faith in this area. Even though he has spent much of his priesthood in academics and formation of priests, he is by no means an 'academic' in the narrow sense. Having spent a good number of years as parish priest, he is very much a pastoral man – very interested in strengthening of Faith among the faithful. I was especially pleased to hear of his enthusiasm for renewal in the Church, and his desire to implement the vision of the Second Vatican Council.

I spoke to him about the parish. I mentioned how unique we were in many ways - especially the challenges we have because of an ageing population and the absence of schools in the parish. But I also told him about the strong faith of those who come to Church and the very warm welcome and collaboration I found – and still find – among the Christians.

Having come from the Diocese of Birmingham, it was interesting to hear that he had never been in this part of England before. He was fascinated by Our Lady of Sorrows in Eton – unique among all the churches in the Diocese.

Let us pray for Bishop David, that God will give him the strength and wisdom to guide him in his leadership of the Church in the Diocese at this very difficult time.

Fr. Frank

Resumption of Public Masses in this Pastoral Area (Deanery)

Based on the information received from Priests and the Wednesday Pastoral Area Council meeting, the current situation across the Churches with regard to the resumption of public Masses is as follows:

Masses from this weekend at St. Ethelbert's, Holy Redeemer, Our Lady of Peace and St. Andrew's. St. Augustine's intend to have weekday Masses twice a week. The start date is not yet confirmed. Fr. Frank will continue to broadcast a Sunday Mass over a webinar. St. Anthony's have deferred a decision until they see how many stewards they have. Here at Holy Family we are not beginning to have public Masses until at least August and are continuing to have a Sunday webinar.

Fr. Kevin

Opening of St. Augustine's Hall for Mass

Here at St. Augustine's we have decided that since we are a very ageing parish, we need to be very careful in opening for public worship. Many are, understandably, still afraid and, furthermore, we have difficulty in finding stewards who are under 70.

At our Parish Council meeting, we decided that we will open on Tuesdays and Fridays for Mass at 9.30am in the Hall. We hope to be able to start this on Tuesday 21st July. The Churches in both Eton and Datchet are very small and social distancing would be very difficult. For the past seven weeks we have had an online Mass at 11am via a webinar. This seems to be quite popular and we will continue with this. We do not open the Churches for private worship, as we would not be able to find the stewards.

We continue to review the situation and we hope that it will not be too long before we can start having Sunday Mass.

Fr. Frank

Online streaming of Mass every Sunday at 11am

We continue to hold Online Masses every Sunday at 11am and will be doing so for the foreseeable future. Invitations are sent out by email on the Thursday / Friday giving the details to log into the Mass. We understand that some who used to receive the invitations, have not been receiving them recently. In this situation it is highly likely that the emails are being diverted into the spam email folder. If you cannot find the invitations please email the Parish: office@staugustines.org.uk. In order to help prevent emails being diverted into the spam folder, please save the parish email address in the list of contacts in your email system.

Pamela Bailey

Foodbank

Many thanks to those who contributed this week. We would urge you to continue, as the need is still great. If you can, bring your donation to parish house on either Monday or Wednesday between 10.00am and 1pm.

Fr. Frank

Collection of Baby Clothes and Toys for Charity

Would anyone who may have items in good condition – clothes, toys, equipment – suitable for babies please contact the Parish Office via office@staugustines.org.uk and your message will be passed onto Teresa Flynn, a Parishioner. Teresa will be happy to collect items and to deliver them to a deserving charity. Anything you can give will be greatly appreciated.