

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
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OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON



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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 15th November 2020

33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

MASS TIMES

ONLINE WEBINAR MASS: 11am on Sundays - for further details email office@staugustines.org.uk

ST. AUGUSTINE'S HALL: During the *lockdown* it is not permitted to hold public Masses.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH PRIVATE PRAYER: Monday, Wednesday and Friday between 12noon and 12.30pm. Tuesday and Thursday between 5.30pm and 6.30pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. 15th Nov. 11am	People of the Parish	Wed. 18th Nov.	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Mon. 16th Nov.	Chris Grey Intention	Thu. 19th Nov.	Donald Zimmerman Int
Tue. 17th Nov.	Mass for Deceased	Fri. 20th Nov.	Private Intention

SICK OF THE PARISH: Please pray for the sick in the Parish, especially James Ansell, Dorrie Keating, David Mendes, Walter Stanley and Michael Torpey. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

THANKSGIVING. We are very quick to ask God for what we need, but often we forget to thank him. Today we thank God for the positive news about a vaccine for Covid 19. We thank him for the expertise and hard work of the scientists who discovered the vaccine. We pray that it will be effective and will soon be available to all the people in the country.

REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES DURING NOVEMBER. Each Tuesday during the month, Mass will be offered for the Intentions of those whose names are in the Intention Box. The box will be in front of the Altar in the Church. (See above, for times when the Church will be open).

Because **PUBLIC MASSES are not allowed** at this time, we would hope that as many as possible will join our Online Mass. It is a great opportunity that technology has given us at this time to worship as a community, and make us aware that we are praying for one another in these difficult times. Our very special thanks to Anthony for his willingness to make online Mass possible, and also to Pamela for sending out the Invitations.

Joining the **ONLINE MASS** is very easy, but if you have any difficulty you can call Anthony at 10.20am before the Mass and he will help you. Please email the Parish Office for his telephone number.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Patience towards Others (*continued from last week*)

Learning to live with the imperfections of others is one of the demanding aspects of charity. It's easy to love those who are congenial and appreciative, and those who have interests and an outlook on life similar to our own. But to love those who are petty and aggressive and arrogant, is to imitate that magnanimity which is perhaps the most characteristic feature of Christ's love for us.

We're all, by nature, narcissistic - we tend to love not the other, *as other*, but rather the image of ourselves that we'd like to see in others. We need to remind ourselves that other people are *different from us* – they have a different personality, different interests, a different outlook on life. And we must *give them permission to be different*. God created each of us in his own image, but he has imaged himself differently in each person. When Jesus prayed 'that all may be one' he's praying for *unity, not uniformity*. The union that delights the heart of Jesus is *unity in difference*. This means that we don't just allow others to be different; we *rejoice* in their difference. We see this difference not as a threat to be eliminated, but *as a gift to be celebrated*. And of course, others will have their failings, just as we have ours. And we must try to love them with their failings, just as we'd hope that they'd love us with our failings

Understanding the Other

Perhaps it's not too difficult to love those whose failings are rather minor. But we sometimes meet people who are very bitter and anti-social. One practical help towards living amicably with such people is to try *to understand* why they are as they are. If our *intellect can understand* why others behave in a negative way it will be easier for our *will to accept* them. We're all very much influenced by our past, and by the environment in which we were reared. If others see their past as largely a series of slights and hurts, it will be very difficult for them to be free of those feelings of low self-esteem and resentment that are at the root of their negative attitudes. For instance, if they have never experienced love in their families and environment it will be very difficult for them to love and trust others. If they have been abused or mistreated as children, they will likely be full of anger and guilt, which may show itself in different forms of anti-social behaviour.

We can never know that past of other people, which has done so much to shape their attitudes and behaviour. Sometimes, their past can be such that they may actually despise themselves, and hate the spiteful and jealous way they behave towards others.

So we must never, never judge. Would that we could see beneath the surface behaviour of the other and hear *the cry of loneliness and insecurity* that is so often expressed in moods of resentment, jealousy, self-pity etc.

Fr. Frank

THE SLOUGH FOODBANK has written to thank everyone involved with our recent donations. Please continue to donate, as the need is still great. Bring your donations for the Foodbank to the parish house on either Monday or Wednesday between 10am and 1pm. The items which are on their shopping list and which are in great demand currently are: sponge puddings, tinned fruit, jam, instant mash, washing-up liquid, laundry tablets, shaving gel and nappies size 3 & 4.

THE 100 CLUB, which operates within the Parish provides an opportunity for Parishioners to contribute to Parish funds, whilst also giving them the chance to win the £100 monthly prize. The cost of being a member is £1 per week, that is £52 per year, with a minimum subscription of £13. If you would like to become a member please contact Pamela Bailey via the Parish Office email: office@staugustines.org.uk

Winners of the monthly 100 Club draw this year have been: Tim O'Flynn (October), Irene Blades (September), Doris Mendes (August), Grace Torpey (July), Fred Flaherty (June), Phillip Mason (May), Tim Hurley (April), Freda Mason (March), Elizabeth Forsyth (February) and Chris Grey (January).