

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



Parish Priest: Fr. Frank McAuliffe
Telephone: 01753 917030

OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

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



Email: office@staugustines.org.uk
Website: www.staugustines.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 22nd November 2020

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (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. 22nd Nov. 11am	People of the Parish	Wed. 25th Nov.	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Mon. 23rd Nov.	James Gibbons RIP	Thu. 26th Nov.	Margaret Moynihan RIP
Tue. 24th Nov.	Mass for Deceased	Fri. 27th 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.

CORONAVIRUS: As lockdown continues, we remember those in our parish who may be suffering acutely from the effects of Covid. We think especially for those who are ill, those living alone - far from relatives, those whose jobs are at risk, those in Care Homes, those in difficult home environments.

Today's Gospel is a stark reminder of our obligation to help such people in whatever way we can. It tells us how our care for 'the least, the last and the lost' must be a priority in the practice of our Christian Faith. Our 'Thought for the Week' might stimulate reflection on this key issue in Christ's teaching.

And let's not forget to thank God for the progress being made towards the discovery of a vaccine for COVID. We pray for the scientists and the medical personnel who have worked so hard towards its discovery, and we pray that it will be very soon available to all.

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).

ADVENT. Next Sunday we begin the Advent Season in preparation for Christmas. Because of the uncertainty regarding lockdown, it is very difficult to make preparations for the Season. Our hope is that we will be able to have our annual communal celebration of Penance shortly before Christmas. When the situation becomes clearer, we will inform you about that.

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 contact the Parish Office for his phone number.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE COMING YEAR: MESSAGE FOR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS

Do you have a child in Year 3 or above? Has your child made First Holy Communion?

If they haven't, and you would like them to join St. Augustine's programme in January, please give your details to Fr. Frank, or email Anne Cannon via office@staugustines.org.uk

With the situation as it stands at the moment, classes will be held via Zoom, starting at [10.am](#) on a Sunday morning, and finishing to allow the group to then join Mass at 11.00am. When we can, the classes will move to face to face in St. Augustine's Church Hall.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Love is Kind *(continued from last week)*

In the Morning Prayer of the Church each day there's a lovely line that speaks of "the *loving kindness* of our God who visits us like a dawn from on high". It suggests God leaving the comfort of his divinity so as to be fully with us in our poverty. The key element in kindness is here - in the selflessness that frees me from preoccupation, and lets me enter the world of others, offering a safe space in my heart where others feel wanted and loved. While they see my deep interest in them, they don't see me as prying or inquisitive. Nor do they see me as a counsellor or psychologist, ready to analyse or criticize or advise. I set no standards for them, have no expectations, but am supportively with them in all their moods, as one who understands and accepts.

This is a corrective to the popular notion of kindness, which sees it merely as being generous to those in need. This is an incomplete view. Kindness is far more than the outward gesture of giving; it is especially an *inward of listening with the heart* to the inner needs of others. The kind person reaches beyond physical needs into the damaged emotional world of those in need. If we give food or money to the needy we bring them short-term happiness. But if, through a smile or a simple greeting, they can feel love and respect in the manner of our giving, we are bringing them something far more precious and lasting. We are bringing recognition and healing to hearts that are often starved of dignity and self-esteem.

The parable of the Good Samaritan tells us more about kindness than any narrative. At the sight of the wounded person the Samaritan doesn't have to think what he'll do. The sight of the other's need *instinctively* moves him with compassion. He forgets about his plans, any expenses involved, any consequences that might ensue. His focus is solely on the need of the other. He binds his wounds, finds lodging for him, pays for his stay at the inn. And his concern doesn't stop there – for compassion has no boundaries, it sets no limits. On his return journey he calls to see if there's anything else he can do. He wants no recognition, seeks no reward other than knowing that he has helped his neighbour.

Fr. Frank