

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



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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 20th December 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)

TIMES OF MASSES FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS

Tue. 22nd Dec. 9.30am	Mass in St. Augustine's Hall
	The Nativity of the Lord
Thu. 24th Dec. 6pm }	
Thu. 24th Dec. 9pm }	Places at these Masses have been booked and seats allocated.
Fri. 25th Dec. 9.30am }	
Fri. 25th Dec. 11am	Online Webinar Mass. Contact office@staugustines.org.uk for details
	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sat. 26th Dec. 6pm	Mass in St. Augustine's Hall
Sun. 27th Dec. 9.30am	Mass in St. Augustine's Hall
Sun. 27th Dec. 11am	Online Webinar Mass. Contact office@staugustines.org.uk for details
Tue. 29th Dec. 9.30am	NO MASS

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 19th Dec. 6pm	Private Intention	Wed. 23rd Dec.	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun. 20th Dec. 9.30am	People of the Parish	Thu. 24th Dec. 6pm	Private Intention
Sun. 20th Dec. 11am	Private Intention	Thu. 24th Dec. 9pm	Private Intention
Mon. 21st Dec.	Private Intention	Fri. 25th Dec. 9.30am	Jack Wilson R.I.P.
Tue. 22nd Dec. 9.30am	Private Intention	Fri. 25th Dec. 11am	Private Intention

RESERVATION OF PLACES FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES: The list of people who have been allocated a place at one of the Christmas Masses is displayed on the St. Augustine's Hall door.

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: 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.

And let's not forget to thank God for the progress being made towards a vaccination programme 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.

St. Augustine's Church is open every day for private prayer. (See days and times above). As the days and evenings are distinctly chilly now, rest assured that the Church is being heated.

CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY COLLECTION

In keeping with tradition, the collection in Churches at Christmas and Easter is offered by Parishioners as a sincere and personal thank you for the dedication and service of their Parish Priest. There was a period, after Fr. Séan retired, when it was looking unlikely that we would again have our own Parish Priest, but this Parish has been greatly blessed by having Fr. Frank come and serve us as our Priest.

During Easter of this year, when we were experiencing the first lock-down, our Churches were closed and despite the alternative arrangements which were made, it was not possible for all to be able to contribute to the Easter collection. Currently our Church (St. Augustine's Hall) is open for Masses, but we have strict restrictions as to the number who can attend, therefore we are putting in place arrangements to ensure it is as straight forward as possible to make your Christmas Offertory over a period of a couple of weeks.

- 1. ST. AUGUSTINE'S HALL:** As of the Mass on Tuesday 15th December, there will be buckets in the Hall clearly marked **CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY**. Donations can be made in cash or by cheque made payable to **ST. AUGUSTINE'S**, (please do not make your cheque payable to Fr. Frank). The Christmas Offertory buckets will be in the Church Hall for donations from the Mass on Tuesday 15th December through to Mass on Sunday 3rd January 2021. Please note *any envelopes* placed in the general offertory buckets in the Hall, marked with the words **CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY**, will be treated as your personal donation to our Priest.
- 2. PRESBYTERY:** By posting an envelope through the letterbox of the Presbytery. The envelope does not have to be a special parish envelope. Any envelope will do! The **ENVELOPE** is to be clearly **MARKED CHRISTMAS OFFERTORY**. Fr. Frank will give the envelope directly to Michael Reynolds our Parish Treasurer to process.
- 3. Via MICHAEL, the Parish Treasurer:** Either post an envelope through his letterbox or send it via Royal Mail. (Please only send cheques through the post).

If you have any queries or concerns about this process, please contact me via the office@staugustines.org.uk email address. Thank you.

MESSAGE FROM FR. FRANK

Christmas is a time for being grateful – grateful to God for having left the fullness of his Divinity to become one with us, so that we can, after our death, share his Divine Life.

This year, in particular, is also a time for thanking all those who have accompanied us on our journey in this dark period. In our parish, there are many who have been working, in very difficult circumstances, to keep the spirit of our parish alive. I think especially of Pamela and the days of work she has put into setting out the Hall for Masses, and towards organizing stewards and readers for our live and online Masses. We thank also Anthony for the hours of work, and his expertise in IT, that he has put at the service of the parish to facilitate our online Masses. Then there are also the stewards who have volunteered their service for many months so as it make it possible for us to have Masses in the Hall. Thanks also to our Readers who have volunteered for reading both at live and online Masses

Our very sincere thanks also to Michael who uses his expertise in Accountancy to ensure that our Finances are managed in a professional way, and in accordance with the requirements of the Diocese.

Many thanks also to Anne for the conscientious way she prepares children for First Holy Communion each year and ensures that the First Communion Day is a memorable one for the children and their parents.

Our thanks also to Lorette who does a lot of background work in seeing that the Altar and its furnishing are in order for Mass and Adoration, and also for her work on the grounds around St. Augustines and the Hall.

And thanks to all who have contributed so generously to the Foodbank, and to those who bring the collected items to the Slough Foodbank Centre on Fridays.

Thanks also to the Parish Council. We haven't met often this year because of Covid, but their advice and support is always there when needed.

And finally, a very sincere thanks to you all of you whose presence and encouragement this year have been an inspiring testimony to your strong Faith in God. We trust that God will carry us all through this dark period together to a time when we can worship together again in St. Augustine's and Our Lady of Sorrows.

I hope the Christmas will be rich in blessings for you all.

Fr. Frank