

## ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

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## OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON



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## NEWSLETTER

Sunday 28th February 2021

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

**NO LIVE MASS THIS WEEKEND:** We are sorry that within the past day or two we have heard of a spike in coronavirus cases in the Datchet, Wraysbury and Horton areas and as a result we will **NOT** be reopening for live Masses this weekend – or until the situation in our area improves. We will keep monitoring the infection-rate closely on the Internet and we hope and pray that we will be able to open soon. I know many of you are anxious to get back the live Mass and we are taking your feelings into account.

Even when we do get back to live Mass we will be continuing with online Mass, so no one should feel under pressure to come to the live Mass.

**We continue to hold an online Mass every Sunday at 11am.** For details of how to join the Mass, please email [office@staugustines.org.uk](mailto:office@staugustines.org.uk) Obligation to attend Sunday Mass has been suspended during this pandemic. Through the hard work of Anthony and Pamela, we have our online Mass, and I would urge you to log in to it if you are able. It is a particularly good substitute at this time in helping us keep together as a Parish.

**St. Augustine's Church** will be open for Private Prayer each day Monday to Friday from 12.00 noon to 12.30pm. It will **NOT** be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the evening.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 27th Feb.	People of the Parish	Tue 2nd Mar.	Intentions of Chris Grey
Sun 28th Feb. 11am Online	Michael Fitzgerald RIP	Wed 3rd Mar.	Carolyn Ansell RIP
		Thu 4th Mar.	Fr. Emilio Lobo RIP
Mon 1st Mar.	Thomas & Mary Mulvihill RIP	Fri 5th Mar.	Frank Meehan RIP

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

**A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES:** Is your Marriage stressed, unloving, cold? Do you want to improve communication? Have you separated, divorced or are you thinking of doing so? Do you want to try again? The RETROUVAILLE PROGRAMME may be just what you need! For Information tel. or text 0788-729-6983 or 0797-338-0433 Email: [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) www. [retrouvaille.org.uk](http://retrouvaille.org.uk)

**100 CLUB WINNERS:** Congratulations to Elizabeth Forsyth and Monaliza Cadwallader who have each won £100 in the draw for January and February 2021. We have some vacancies in the 100 Club, so if you would Like to join, the subscription is £1 per week, that is £52 per year, please email Pamela Bailey via [office@staugustines.org.uk](mailto:office@staugustines.org.uk).

**CAFOD COLLECTION:** The CAFOD collection will be held this coming weekend. This year, CAFOD is focussing on helping the vast numbers of people throughout the world, and especially in Ethiopia, for whom such a basic necessity as clean drinking water is extremely difficult to come by. Many must walk up to 10 miles to find it. Your prayers and donations for such people would be greatly appreciated and would be an excellent way of engaging in the Lenten spirit.

Since the Hall will not be open for a little while yet, we would ask those who wish to donate to put their donation in an envelope and write 'CAFOD Donation' on it and drop it in the letter box in my house. Special CAFOD Envelopes are available in St Augustine's Church, which is open each day from Monday to Friday from 12 noon to 12.30 for private prayer.

You can donate online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent) . Donations can also be made by phoning 0303 303 3030.

**WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – ONLINE:** On Friday March 5<sup>th</sup> a Women's World Day of Prayer Service has been organised by the women of Vanuatu, a small country in the South Pacific Ocean. This year Datchet Baptist Church is responsible for hosting this Service, adapted to present circumstances and will be available on YouTube. Friends from the three churches in Datchet have contributed to Readings and Prayers for the Service.

Visit Datchet Baptist website to view: [www.datchetbaptist.org.uk/world-day-of-prayer](http://www.datchetbaptist.org.uk/world-day-of-prayer). Join us at this time or at any time convenient for you.

Please make donations by cheque to WDP and send to World Day of Prayer at Commercial Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2RR

**LAY CHAPLAIN AT ST. JOHN'S, BEAUMONT:** St. John's, Beaumont preparatory school for boys aged between 3 and 13 is looking to appoint a Lay Chaplain who will have primary responsibility for the day-to-day Christian life of the St. John's Beaumont community. The person appointed to the post will need to have diverse skills and interests, underpinned by an active and well-articulated Faith which accords with the life and teaching of the Catholic Church.

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Throughout Lent we hope to look this notion of 'detachment' as a means towards coming closer to Christ. Last week we reflected on what it means to be detached from material things like money. This week we'll look at how we can be overly attached to intellectual things, like our ideas, our opinions etc..

God has gifted me with intellectual ability, and he wants me to use this talent in forming my own ideas on different issues. But I mustn't stubbornly cling to my ideas in a way that makes me deaf to others' views. I must be *detached* from them, let them stay 'out there' for discussion and criticism. This implies a readiness to *listen* to others, to see issues from their point of view, while being keenly aware of my own biases and prejudices. It also asks that I be tolerant and broadminded, and give others the right to be different, realizing that there can be different approaches to the same truth, different ways of looking at it.

If I'm a person of intellectual integrity, I'll have *great respect for truth*. This will be an overriding principle for me. This means, in practice, that I'll be *humble enough* to change my views and admit I'm wrong when the views of others suggest this. A rule of thumb in testing my level of respect for the truth might be the attitude I have towards people who oppose my ideas. Do I take their opposition personally and feel they're 'against me', or am I happy that they're engaging with me in an ongoing search for the truth of the issue in question? I need great honesty here, as well as a deep humility that will let love for the truth overcome the vanity of my ego.

My intellect also enables me to have *plans* for the future. I need to make plans if I'm to live a responsible and organized life. But here again, I need a measure of detachment. My plans mustn't be so rigid and inflexible as to preclude any possible change in them. If circumstances warrant it, I must be prepared to let them go, or, at least, postpone them. For this, I need the gift of discernment, so that I might recognise what's the most Christ-like course of action in any given situation. The ability to make a true discernment comes from a selfless commitment to God's Will, to let it be decisive in every decision I'm faced with, from my most well-thought-out plans to my most cherished ambitions to my smallest, everyday wishes.

Have a good week, Fr Frank.