

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 27th June 2021

13th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Live Masses this weekend will be at **6.00pm on Saturday** and **9.30am on Sunday**.
Masses will be held in St. Augustine's Hall.

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. 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.

Private Prayer: St. Augustine's Church will be open for Private Prayer each weekday, **Monday to Friday from 12.00 noon to 12.30pm.**

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 26 th June 6pm	Private Intention	Tue 29 th June	Private Intention
Sun 27 th June 9.30am	People of the Parish	Wed. 30 th June	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 27 th June 11am	Private Intention	Thur. 1 st July	Private Intention
Mon 28 th June	Private Intention	Fri. 2 nd July	Private Intention

SICK OF THE PARISH: Please pray for the sick in the Parish, especially James Ansell, Dorrie Keating, David Mendes, Fred Oufi, Michael Torpey, Sharon Westby, John Blades, Judy de Monte.

Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

Please remember especially in your prayers Fr. Sean Rynn. He had a stroke some time ago and seemed at first to be responding to treatment, but now finds that his right leg is paralysed, and he is unable to walk. If you wish to send greetings to Fr. Sean, his address is ST. PATRICK'S, KILTEGAN, CO. WICKLOW, IRELAND.

'PETER'S PENCE' COLLECTION WILL BE TAKEN UP THIS SUNDAY

The Collection supports the most needy and ecclesial communities who approach the Holy See for help.

BAPTISM: Congratulations to Fabricia and Rui de Agrela from Datchet on the christening of their daughter, Luana, in St. Augustines last week. We welcome Luana into our community and let us pray for her and for her family.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: Our Parish received a lovely 'Thank You' letter from Slough Foodbank. It is rather long, and the following is a summary.

'We would like to thank you for your support and recent donation to Slough Foodbank. We received your donation during May which weighed a total of 70kg. Each gift makes an enormous difference to families and individuals who are most in need.

Our prime function is to supply a 3-day emergency food parcel to those who suddenly find themselves in an unexpected crisis. In addition to food, we also supply basic toiletries and household products, as well as nappies, baby wipes and pet food if required. However, our support does not stop there. Slough Foodbank also provides useful information to our clients about relevant specialist organisations that are able to help resolve any longer term problems our clients may have.

Your support is needed now more than ever. Statistics for 2020 show a shocking increase in the number of people needing help – up 37% from 2019. So we hope you will continue to support us. We would ask that you kindly donate only the items specified on our shopping list. These items are:

LONG-LIFE MILK, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED MEAT, TINNED VEGETABLES (NOT SWEETCORN), LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE, LONG-LIFE SPONGE PUDDINGS, LONG-LIFE RICE PUDDING, TINNED SPAGHETTI, TOILETRIES AND BASIC ITEMS SUCH AS RAZORS, DEODORANT, STRONG CARRIER BAGS'.

ONLINE MASSES: We will be ending our online streaming of Mass as from this Sunday, June 27th. As from next Sunday, July 4th we will have 3 live Masses each week – all in the Hall. The times will be as they were prior to the arrival of Covid.

We will have the usual Saturday Mass at 6pm. On Sundays we will have live Mass at 9.30am and another live Mass at **11.am**. All Masses will be in the Hall until restrictions are fully lifted.

We would like to offer a very special word of thanks to Anthony Dias who has, for over a year, has generously given of his time and expertise to facilitate the online Mass. The Mass has been of great benefit to our parish, especially during the time when Masses were not allowed in parishes.

And special thanks also to Pamela Bailey who, during that time, took on the task of organising Readers for the Masses, composed the Prayers of the Faithful, and looked after the distribution list. May God reward you both for their generosity.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK
(THE Eucharist - continued)

THE EUCHARIST AS EMPOWERING (continued from last week)

Not only does the Eucharist call us to a life of communion with our neighbour; it also *empowers us* to live it. As a sacrament, it *'effects what it signifies'*; it both *signifies unity* and *enables us achieve it*. In Holy Communion it is not the historical Christ I receive – 'what is flesh is flesh'. It is the Risen, dynamic Christ coming with power to transform my life. It's very important for us to *really believe this* – to believe in the *power* the Eucharist gives us to bring healing and harmony to our lives and to the world. This was the firm belief of the early Church, and that is why it was so vibrant and fruitful. If left to ourselves, it's impossible for us to achieve the level of communion that Christ proposes. But we are not on our own. Christ is within us, and it's his love that empowers us, that urges us on the ever-greater levels of generosity.

As we consciously yield to this Power within us, we'll gradually find ourselves changing. We'll find ourselves capable of new levels of patience, forgiveness, generosity etc., deeper levels of concern for the poor and the outcasts – levels that perhaps some time ago seemed impossible. Yes, this can and will happen!

But this power does not become active merely through a mechanical, routine reception of the Eucharist. Personal prayer *is* vital, as is a determined, conscious effort to make our own the attitude of Christ towards the world. With prayer and effort, we will find growing in us a deep sympathy with the world, and an upsurge in zeal to work for the unity for which Christ died. The words '*Go, the Mass is ended*' at the conclusion of Mass give us confidence in our mission as we realize that, in virtue of the Eucharist, there is in us *a creative energy that can transform the world*.

Have a good week. Fr Frank