

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 1st August 2021

18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

Live Masses this weekend will be at 6pm on Saturday, and 9.30am and 11am on Sunday. The Masses will be held in St Augustine's Hall. There will not be an online Mass.

WEEKDAY MASSES: There will be Morning Mass **IN THE CHURCH** on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays of each week at 9.30am. We would ask those attending to observe the usual protocol regarding wearing of masks, social distancing, and hand sanitising, track and trace (for those who do not come regularly).

THERE WILL NO LONGER BE PRIVATE PRAYER IN THE CHURCH FROM 12.00 TO 12.30AM

We pray particularly at this time that the Holy Spirit will guide the leaders of our country who are making crucial decisions with regard to how to deal with Covid.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 31st July 6pm	People of the Parish	Tue 3rd Aug 9.30am	Society Intention
Sun 1st Aug 9.30am	Ronald Badger RIP	Wed 4th Aug 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 1st Aug 11am	Jesse Grey RIP, Alan Taylor RIP, and Nodlaig O'Flaherty RIP	Thu 5th Aug 9.30am	Mary Fitzgerald RIP
Mon 2nd Aug	Private Intention	Fri 6th Aug 9.30am	Private Intention (Feast of the Transfiguration)

SICK OF THE PARISH: Please pray for the sick in the Parish, especially James Ansell, John Blades, Dorrie Keating, David Mendes, Judy de Monte, Fred Oufi, Michael Torpey and Roger Stewart. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

Please remember especially in your prayers Fr. Séan 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. Séan, his address is:
ST. PATRICK'S, KILTEGAN, CO. WICKLOW, IRELAND.

FUTURE OPENING OF OUR CHURCHES: At our Parish Council Meeting on Wednesday 21st July the future opening of our Churches was discussed in detail. The opening of Eton is out of our hands, as we await permission from the College before we can open.

Having examined a very recent directive from the Diocese as well as local circumstances in our parish, it was decided that, for one month at least, it would be wise to continue with the status quo, with Mass in the Hall at the usual times.

We have arranged for another meeting on September 1st to consider the matter, and we sincerely hope and pray that by then it will be safe to revert to our pre-Covid schedule.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: 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. Please continue to support the Foodbank with your donations. The Foodbank asks that you kindly donate only the items specified on their 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.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Growing up, did you hear any 'old wives tales' about food – eating carrots helps you see in the dark, bread crusts will make your hair curly; an apple a day keeps the doctor away? These wise old sayings, passed down the generations, were employed to encourage us to eat certain foods, mainly healthy fruit and veg. These days we can easily establish the accuracy of such claims, but many parents still find themselves falling back on these nuggets of wisdom. Behind it all is a desire to see children grow up strong and healthy.

Recent years have seen an increased focus on health, both physical and mental. Nourishing one's body and mind and keeping them healthy are essential long-term projects. In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about a different type of nourishment – bread that gives life, food that satisfies, food that endures. 'I am the bread of life' says Jesus. It is Jesus who nourishes us at the very core of our being, who knows our every need and gives meaning to our lives. He tells us today: 'do not work for food that cannot last, but work for food that endures to eternal life'. As we continue learning how to best nourish our body and mind, let us not forget to nourish our spirit with Jesus, the bread of life. Let us remember the words of Pope Francis:

I invite all Christians, everywhere, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus ... whenever we take a step towards Jesus, we come to realise that he is already there, waiting for us with open arms'

(Triona Doherty)

Have a good week. Fr Frank