

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



Parish Priest: Fr. Frank McAuliffe
Telephone: 01753 917030

Safeguarding: Jan Fredrickson

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

Email: safeguarding@staugustines.org.uk

NEWSLETTER

Sunday 24th October 2021

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

WEEKEND MASSES: St. Augustine's Church: 6pm on Saturdays and 11am on Sundays.
Our Lady of Sorrows: 9.30am on Sundays.

WEEKDAY MASSES: 9.30am on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
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).

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION): Saturdays from 12.30pm to 1pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 23rd 6.00pm	Private Intention	Tue 26th 9.30am	Private Intention
Sun 24th 9.30am	People of the Parish	Wed 27th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 24th 11am	Sylvia D'Mello, Private Intention	Thu 28th 9.30am	Society Intention
Mon 25th	NO SERVICE	Fri 29th 9.30am	Private Intention

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

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY: This weekend we will have a second collection at Masses for MISSIO, which is Pope Francis's charity for World Mission and supports missionaries around the world. If you have a **Red MISSIO BOX** in your home, please bring it to the Church this weekend. Many thanks for your generosity towards this valuable work over the years.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: The CURRENT WISH LIST IS:

FOOD. Long Life Milk, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Meat (stewed steak, mince, chicken in sauce), Jam, Long Life Fruit Juice, Long Life Sponge Puddings, Coffee (small jars), Pasta Sauce.
TOILETRIES AND BASIC ITEMS: Razors, Deodorants, Washing up liquid, Strong Carrier bags, Shampoo

VOLUNTEERS FOR READINGS: We have a shortage of readers for the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses at St Augustine's. We would be very grateful if you would agree to volunteer. We will commission the new volunteers as soon as possible.

ALTAR SERVERS: We hope to begin shortly a few training sessions for the new Altar Servers, both for St Augustine's and Our Lady of Sorrows. Would anyone who wishes to join the list, please give their names as soon as possible.

THE FORTHCOMING SYNOD OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH: The Church of God is convoking a Synod. The opening ceremony took place on Sunday 10th October in the Vatican. The opening of the Synod in our Diocese took place on Sunday 17th October. Each Diocese and Parish is asked to play its part in this very important initiative of Pope Francis. A principal aim of the Synod is to get the Parish together and listen to each other, so that we can, collectively, discover what the Spirit is asking of us in our mission to renew and strengthen the Faith in our Parish/Diocese. Bishop David has asked that a special prayer be said before the final blessing at each Mass for the success of the Synod. We are preparing a copy of this prayer and it will be said by the community from next weekend.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Letting go of Hurts and Slights

Forgiveness is probably the most difficult demand in our Christian Faith, but Jesus is very insistent on it. It means being ready to let go of *hurts and slights* – e.g. being overlooked, unappreciated, put down, not trusted, dealt with unfairly, unjustly blamed or criticized. These experiences naturally cause a great deal of upset. But I mustn't, as St. Paul warns, 'store them up' in my mind. If I do, they can grow like a cancer in me. They can breed a lot of negativity, destroy my inner composure and seriously damage my relationship with God. It takes strict disciplining of my thinking and imagination, as well as perseverance in prayer, if I'm to engage in what is often a long and painful road towards forgiveness.

Scarcely ever is forgiveness a once-off act. It is usually a slow, painful process and in asking me to forgive, Jesus is asking only that *I begin this process*. Before I enter it we may pass through the stages of hatred, outrage at what has happened, desire for revenge. These *feelings* don't matter provided I don't deliberately "store them up", and allow them to become hardened attitudes.

Probably the most liberating effect of forgiving is the sense of *freedom* it brings. The anger and turmoil are banished from my inner world. I'm rid of the dictator that would give me no peace and kept me imprisoned in bitterness and negativity. I'm free to be myself again. My life is no longer dictated by the deeds of another. I'm free to live my own life, *acting* as I want to act rather than *reacting* to what others have done to me.

Forgiving, however, does not imply forgetting. If the hurt has been deep, the memory of it will likely return again and again, but, in Archbishop Desmond Tutu's words, 'the sting that threatened to poison my entire existence will have been drawn from it'. Its tendency to return tells me that forgiveness is an *on-going process*, not a once-off act. I need prayerful *perseverance in the effort* until the memory of it, over time, recedes into the background.

Fr. Frank

Have a good week. Fr Frank