

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
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DATCHET
SL3 9AY



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OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows
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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 2nd January 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (Year C)

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).

FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY: Thursday 6th January is the Feast of the Epiphany. Mass will be as usual at St. Augustine's at 9.30am. Please try to attend Mass on this important Feast Day.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION): Saturdays 12.30pm to 1pm, St. Augustine's.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 1st 6.00pm	People of the Parish	Tue 4th 9.30am	Andrew Mullen (ill)
Sun 2nd 9.30am	Blessing of Parish for 2022	Wed 5th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 2nd 11am	Ron Budd RIP	Thu 6th 9.30am	Ann Fitzpatrick RIP
Mon 3rd	NO MASS	Fri 7th 9.30am	Special Intention RIP

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

SYNOD IN OUR PARISH: As we mentioned previously, Pope Francis has formally opened a 2 year Synod for the universal Church. The purpose of the Synod is to renew the Church. The Synod asks all of us – priests, religious and lay people to come together and discern what we can do collectively towards making the Church more vibrant, and relevant to the needs of the present day. In our Deanery, it is suggested that each parish organise small groups – say 5 – 7 people – so that our views can be known, and these will be passed on to the Diocese.

We encourage as many as possible to participate in this process. Please let us know – either by phone or email - if you are willing to be involved. We can then arrange a time and day for different groups to meet. Now that Christmas is nearly over we hope to begin our meeting shortly. Please give this matter serious thought - we are all called to evangelise!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Would anyone who wishes to have their child enrolled please get in touch with the Parish as soon as possible.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: Because of the worsening economic situation in the country many families are experiencing serious financial problems. We make a special appeal to you again today to be as generous as you can towards our Foodbank. We thank the Foodbank and its volunteers for the valuable service they are giving to those who are in dire need at this time. The CURRENT WISH LIST for the Slough Foodbank 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.

MESSAGE FROM Fr. FRANK: I was deeply moved by the astounding generosity of all who contributed to the Christmas Collection. It was far in excess of anything I expected. Part of it will go to some of the causes in Kenya that I was involved in, and which are now being managed by people I know and worked with.

NEW YEAR MESSAGE: Earlier today I got the following New Year wish from a classmate in Kenya.

As the year comes to an end I urge you to take care of yourself and avoid accidents because spare parts for old models like you and I are no longer in stock. Forward to other old models you care about. A HAPPY NEW YEAR. Fr. Frank

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

At Christmas time our minds and hearts are drawn to the truth that God is Love. With this in mind, we will explore some of the practical implications of God entering our sinful world. We will do it in the form of prayer.

*O Jesus, coming from a state
where, from all eternity, only Love prevailed,
what a culture-shock to find yourself in an environment
where there is so much evil,
so much violence and hatred.
How you must have recoiled from it all
and longed to return home,
to the culture you were used to -
that of perfect love within the Trinity.
And then, Lord, to feel these forces of evil
directed so personally against you,
raging a relentless war
on your person and your message -
forces that would torture you, humiliate you
and eventually kill you.
How sorely you must have been tempted
to abandon your mission and return to your Father.
How you must have felt like saying:
'I came to bring these people
the most precious gift imaginable -
a share in my Divine Life.
I came to ennoble their humanity in a way
that is infinitely beyond their hopes and dreams -
and this is how they've treated me!
This, Lord, would be the normal human reaction.
But you, Jesus, came to show us
a vastly superior way of being human.
You came to teach us God's way
of reacting to violence and injustice,
and to us it seems very strange indeed.
It's not the way of retaliation or running away from it.
It's the way of meeting it and turning the other cheek.
It's the way of non-violence, a way that's endlessly patient and forgiving -
a way of unconditional love
that goes to the ultimate extreme of Calvary.*