

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



Parish Priest: Fr. Frank McAuliffe
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OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows
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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 30th January 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (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).

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 29th 6.00pm	Ann Lee (ill)	Tue 1st 9.30am	Wall and Cooney Families RIP
Sun 30th 9.30am	David Mendes (ill)	Wed 2nd 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 30th 11am	Simon & Telsey Vas (Wedding Anniversary)	Thu 3rd 9.30am	Jean Gabriel RIP
Mon 31st	No Mass	Fri 4th 9.30am	Special Intention

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

VISIT OF BISHOP DAVID OAKLEY

We were very happy to welcome Bishop David to the Parish last weekend. We thank him for his words of encouragement and inspiration, and for the warm way he greeted Parishioners. We will continue to pray for him, and also for the success of the Synod – a topic that is very close to his heart.

Thank you to all those who helped organise and contributed to the reception we held for Bishop David after the 11am Mass last Sunday. It was a wonderful occasion, and it was excellent that so many Parishioners were able to attend and give him a warm welcome to our Parish.

SHOC (SLOUGH HOMELESS OUR CONCERN)

This weekend a Second Collection will be taken on behalf of SHOC. Please be generous in your contribution to this very worthy cause.

SYNOD DISCUSSIONS

We are very encouraged by the number who have come to our weekly conversations on the Synod. It is a sign that we have a deep interest in the future of the Church in our Parish and in the wider world. Our conversations will end this coming week and after that we will put together our presentation to the Pastoral Deanery in Langley.

SLOUGH FOODBANK

We have received a 'thank you' letter from the Foodbank, a copy of which is on display at the rear of the Church. The Foodbank is obviously very grateful of our generous donations, and it says that your support is needed now more than ever. Slough Foodbank statistics for 2020 show a shocking increase in the number of people needing help, with 37% more food parcels distributed versus 2019.

Should you wish to make a donation please visit their website www.slough.foodbank.org.uk/give-help

They would like you to only donate items on their shopping list:

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.

Donations for the Foodbank can be left at both of our Churches at Mass times. In St. Augustine's the donations' box is near the Altar. In Our Lady of Sorrows, the donations' box can be found in the alcove at the rear of the Church. Please note that there is no longer a donations' box outside the Presbytery, as the weather makes it impractical to have outside. Please bring your donations to the Churches when you attend Mass. Thank you.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The story of Jesus' rejection by his own people is sad and disturbing. After all, those who rejected him were his neighbours and friends. He had probably attended their wedding and funerals, visited them when they were sick and joined in their festivals. With Joseph, he may even have built their houses. They were people he knew and loved. This makes their rejection of him all the more poignant.

At first, the peoples' reaction to Jesus' words was one of admiration and praise. It is shocking to see how quickly this mood changed to one of hostility and, in the end, murderous rage. What was in the message of Jesus that made them so angry? We get an inkling of this in the words of Jesus, reminding them that God was not just their God, but the God of all peoples – a God who showed mercy to the hated Gentiles like the widow of Zarephath and the Syrian, Naaman. Like most of Jesus's contemporaries the people of Nazareth believed that they, and they alone, were 'God's chosen people'. Jesus challenges their narrow vision of God and his ways, and draws them toward a more inclusive vision. This was not what they wanted to hear.

The incident should challenge us to think about our own prejudices. How selective we can be in choosing the sections of Jesus' message that are pleasant and glossing over those that take us out of our comfort zone.