ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

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OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON



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NEWSLETTER Sunday 13th March 2022 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Every Friday during Lent immediately after the 9.30am Mass in St. Augustine's.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION): Saturdays 12.30pm to 1pm, St. Augustine's *If anyone would like to chat about any issues they may be concerned with, they are welcome at this time.*

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 12th 6.00pm	Special Intention	Tue 15th 9.30am	Special Intention
Sun 13th 9.30am	Special Intention	Wed 16th 1pm	David Mendes RIP
Sun 13th 11am	People of the Parish	Thu 17th 9.30am	St Patrick's Missionary Society
Mon 14th	No Mass	Fri 18th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP

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, and Roger Stewart. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUNERAL OF DAVID MENDES: We continue to pray for the happy repose of the soul of David Mendes. We pray also for his wife, Doris, and for his children, Danny and Deborah and their families. David's funeral will take place in St. Augustine's on Wednesday, March 16th at 1.00pm. The funeral Mass will be followed by Service and burial at Slough Crematorium at 2.30pm.

There will not be a 9.30am Mass in St. Augustine's on Wednesday 16th.

SECOND COLLECTION FOR CAFOD will be taken at Masses this weekend.

LENT: The Bishops of England and Wales have made an urgent appeal for prayers this Lent for a speedy end to the war in Ukraine. We must also pray for the people in Ukraine at this time, and the very many who are leaving their homes and relatives for sanctuary in neighboring countries. Their plight must surely speak deeply to our hearts. With this in mind, we remember that this weekend, March 12-13, is CAFOD weekend and our second collection is for CAFOD. This year, CAFOD is putting special emphasis on the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. We have seen on T.V. how pitiable is the plight of so many who are fleeing their country, so we would ask you to be especially generous in your giving this year. If you wish to make your contribution through envelopes, you will find them available at the rear of the Church or on your seats.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: The Foodbank in Slough tells us that, with the rising cost of living, our support is needed now more than ever. We would encourage you to continue being as generous as you can afford. Given the acute crisis in Ukraine there is a danger that we may forget there are many who are very needy in our own country. A copy of the 'Thank You' letter from the Foodbank, for February is at the rear of the Church.

MESSAGE FROM FR KEVIN

Dear Friends,

As Dean of our Slough Pastoral Area I am sorry to tell you that after many years the Missionaries of St. Paul will no longer be ministering in parishes in Northampton Diocese. This has a particular effect in our area because it means that Fr. Joseph will be leaving Our Lady of Peace parish and Fr. Francis will be leaving St. Ethelbert's. This is a matter of great sadness for the priests but, most of all, for the two parish communities affected.

We thank God for all they have done for the Church in Slough and we wish them every happiness in their new appointments.

Bishop David will appoint new priests to the two parishes shortly.

Kevin O'Driscoll Holy Family, Langley

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Lent is a time to remember the transfiguration moments in our lives. It's a time to trust in the Lord, like Abraham in our first reading. It's a time to withdraw to the mountain with Jesus, to listen to him, and let him lead us on our journey towards Easter, when he will 'transform these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body'. In these frightening and uncertain times, we need a light that lights up the mystery of life in depth and helps us to move beyond the struggles, the doubts, and fears of our everyday lives. Like Peter, James and John, we too are invited to climb up the mountain and contemplate the beauty of Christ transfigured, casting glimmers of light in every fragment of life and helping us to interpret his story in the light of Easter.

However, like the beloved disciples of Jesus, we can't remain on the mountain. Jesus himself brings us back to the valley, among brothers and sisters and into daily life. In the words of Pope Francis: 'going up the mountain doesn't mean forgetting reality. Praying never means avoiding the difficulties of life. The light of faith is not meant just to provide beautiful spiritual feelings. This is not Jesus' message. We are called to experience the encounter with Christ so that, enlightened by his light, we might take it and make it shine everywhere'. We must bring the light of Christ to others. So let us, in the words of the American poet, Amanda Gorman,

Step out of the shade, aflame and unafraid.

The new dawn blooms as we free it.

For there is always light,

If only we're brave enough to see it.

If only we're brave enough to be it.