

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



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OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Eton Court, ETON
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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 27th November 2022

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year A)

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.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION): Each Saturday from 12.30pm to 1pm, in St. Augustine's, there is the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or for a discussion of any issue that might be on a person's mind.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 26 th 6pm	FR. Liam Kelly RIP	Tue 29 th 9.30am	Personal Intention
Sun 27 th 9.30am	People of the Parish	Wed 30 th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 27 th 11am	Personal Intention	Thu 1 st 9.30am	Personal Intention
Mon 28 th	NO MASS	Fri 2 nd 9.30am	Personal Intention

SICK OF THE PARISH: Please pray for the sick in the Parish, especially James Ansell, Maria Cordosa, Terri Nicoll, Fred Oufi, Nino Puma, Agnes Ryan and Roger Stewart. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

ADORATION TIME: There be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as usual at **St Augustines** on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of each week from 5.30pm to 6.15pm.**

A PARISH CELEBRATION FOR CHRISTMAS: You may remember the most enjoyable musical event we had during Advent last year. Danny Mendes and his friends have very kindly offered to hold another event this year, for which we are very grateful to them. We would encourage as many as possible to attend, as we feel last year's event was a great way of getting us all together and entering into the Christmas spirit. The concert will take place in the St. Augustine's Hall on **SUNDAY 4th DECEMBER IMMEDIATELY AFTER 11am MASS.** Please enter it in your diary. For planning purposes we need to know the approximate number of those who will attend. Please put your name on the **LIST AT THE REAR OF THE CHURCH.**

OFFERTORY: 20th November: £277 cash and £120 standing orders.

TEA/COFFEE AFTER MASS AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS & ST. AUGUSTINES. This Sunday we will have our usual get-together for tea/coffee immediately after the 11am Mass at St Augustines.

SYNOD FOLLOW-UP: The Zoom meeting with the Bishop David on Monday was interesting and has pointed the way forward for us as a parish. Please pay attention to the Bishop's Pastoral Letter this weekend, entitled 'On becoming a Synodal Diocese'. It points to the need to take the Synod seriously if there is to be a renewal in the way we function as a Church for the future.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Parents and godparents. Do you have a child in Form 3 or above? Has your child made First Holy Communion? If not, would you like them to join St. Augustines programme in January? If so please give details either to Fr. Frank or Anne Cannon or email office@staugustines.org.uk Classes will be held on Sunday mornings at 10am in the Church Hall and, after Class, all go to the Church for 11.00am Mass

FOODBANK – A SPECIAL APPEAL: Because of the very difficult times we are in at present, we fear that for very many people, this time leading up to Christmas will be anything but enjoyable, as they struggle to have sufficient money to afford the essentials. We all can help in some little way by being as generous as possible in relieving their anxiety and bringing some little light into their Christmas. The items that are most essential are basics items:

Food (Urgent): Soup, Long-life Fruit Juice, Tinned Meat (stewed steak, mince, chicken in sauce), Sponge Puddings, Tinned Carrots/Mixed Veg.

Toiletries and Basic Items: (Urgent): Deodorants, Disposable Razors, Shampoo, Shower gel/soap.

FOR PARISHIONERS AT ST. AUGUSTINES: At our parish council meeting a week last Wednesday we expressed concern that cars driving through to the exit after Mass are often close to people gathering outside the church for a chat, and we fear an accident could happen. With that in mind, we would suggest that you use the entrance opening when leaving the car park after Mass.

ETON PORNY SCHOOL is looking for an Office Assistant (Term Time only). The post is available immediately. Office Hours: Monday to Friday 8am – 4pm. If interested, please contact Mrs. Kate Hilton at office@etonporny.com Vacancy details: <https://www.etonporny.org.uk/school/vacancies>

Thought for the Week - ADVENT

Advent is a time of waiting – waiting for the full revelation of God's love which he shows in the coming to us of his Son. It's a time when we might reflect on the stages God has taken in order to show us how precious we are to him. The first stage of his revelation of love is in the book of Genesis which shows us God as our Creator, drawing us out of nothingness, and giving us a magnificent and beautifully ordered world for our welfare and enjoyment. The second stage is Bethlehem, which brings us to an entirely new level of his love. He is not just a gracious benefactor, living in the remoteness of heaven. He is a God who has a burning desire to be with us. But that is still not enough for this 'tremendous lover' – he wants to go further. He gives his life on the Cross for us and ascends to his Father after his most cruel death in order to prepare a place for us, so that we could be with him, and live with him face to face for all eternity.

But, as we know, love can't be just one-sided; it must be mutual. Because we have the gift of free will, we can either accept or reject God's love. The choice is ours. If we refuse his love, all he can do is stand idly by, with all the grief of a spurned lover. He is grieving not for himself but for us, because we have preferred the illusion to the reality, because we have chosen the passing values and pleasures of this present life to the eternal joy of our homeland in heaven.

Advent is a time for 'waking up' - waking up to the reckless extremes to which an infinitely loving God is willing go in order to show us how deep is his desire that we be with him forever when we leave this world.