

## ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's  
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## OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows  
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# NEWSLETTER

**Sunday 4th December 2022**

## SECOND 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 3rd 6pm	Personal Intention	Tue 6th 9.30am	Nodlaig O'Flaherty RIP
Sun 4th 9.30am	Mary Yeomans (ill)	Wed 7th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 4th 11am	Personal Intention	Thu 8th 9.30am	Personal Intention
Mon 5th	NO MASS	Fri 9th 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.**

**SYNOD FOLLOW-UP:** Please pay attention to the Bishop's Pastoral Letter entitled 'On becoming a Synodal Diocese'. It is on the Website on the "Previous Newsletters" page. The Letter 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. Augustine's programme in January? If so please give details either to Fr. Frank or Anne Cannon or please email [office@staugustines.org.uk](mailto: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.

**OFFERTORY:** 27th November: £394 cash and £120 standing orders.

**A PARISH CELEBRATION FOR CHRISTMAS:** Don't forget our annual Christmas Concert immediately after 11.am Mass this weekend, beginning with refreshments at **12.00 noon**. Even if you have not already put your name on the List, feel free to come. Again, we express our sincere gratitude to Danny Mendes and friends for generously giving their services in leading this event.

**TEA/COFFEE AFTER MASS AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS & ST. AUGUSTINE'S.** Due to Christmas Concert after the 11am mass at St Augustine's, there will not be coffee after the 9.30am mass at Our Lady of Sorrows this Sunday.

**ANNUAL ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE:** Our communal Penance Service in preparation for Christmas will be on **Wednesday December 14th at 7.00pm in St. Augustine's**. Penance is a very important sacrament in the Church, and this Penance Service offers the opportunity to celebrate this Sacrament communally. We have booklets for this Service (available at rear of Church) and the many who have attended this Service in previous years have found it very fruitful. We strongly encourage you to avail of this opportunity to receive the Sacrament.

**PARTY FOR SENIOR CITIZENS WITH ST. VINCENT DE PAUL AND CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE:** Senior Citizens are invited to a Tea Party on **Saturday December 17th from 2pm to 4pm** at St. Andrew's shared Church, Cippenham. Transport will be provided, if needed. If you would like to come, please put your name on the list at the back of the Church this weekend. Alternatively contact a member of the SVP or CWL. The deadline for acceptances is Thursday 8th December.

**CAROLS ON THE HILL:** The annual Carol Concert with the Band of the Household Calvary will be held on **Friday 9th December from 6.15pm**, outside Windsor Castle by the Christmas Tree.

**ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE AT ST. MARY'S, DATCHET.** This service will be on **Sunday December 11th at 6.30pm**. It is being held at St. Mary's, Church of England Church in Datchet. This is one of the few opportunities to show our willingness to be involved with other Christian Churches in the parish and we would like our Church to be well represented. We have been invited to do some readings at the Service.

**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. Please continue to donate to the Foodbank.

**SECOND COLLECTION - SLOUGH HOMELESS OUR CONCERN:** Next weekend Saturday 10th / Sunday 11th we will hold our annual collection for SHOC.

#### **Thought for the Week**

John the Baptist is one of those people you pay attention to. He's not gentle like Jesus or persuasive like Paul – in fact, he's a holy terror! You get the feeling that when he speaks, he is talking straight at you and that he means every word he utters. He was no man to trifle with. He had already a huge following before Jesus came. People flocked to hear his message, and even though it was very tough and challenging, they felt it was authentic.

When John and Jesus came face to face, the sinless one seeking baptism from God's rottweiler, John didn't know what to do. At first he hesitates, for he knew Jesus was infinitely greater than him. But then a voice came from heaven telling him to go ahead, for this is what God wanted.

Their lives next meet through messengers. John has been imprisoned by Herod for denouncing his adulterous relationship with Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. In prison, he wonders why Jesus is acting so strangely, associating with the very sinners he wanted to scare into salvation. So John hesitates; he sends messengers to ask Jesus "are you really the one we have been waiting for?" Jesus doesn't tell him – he just points to the good works he was doing – curing the sick and preaching good news to the poor. This convinced John that God was with Jesus. When Jesus is informed of John's death he now steps onto centre stage, while the greatest prophet who ever lived faded into the back ground. But John died a happy man, for he knew his work was complete. He had done God's will and prepared the way for Jesus.