

## ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's  
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DATCHET  
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## OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

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# NEWSLETTER

Sunday 15th January 2023

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (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, or at other times upon request. There is the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, or for a discussion of any issue that might be on a person's mind.

**ADORATION TIME:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is held at **St Augustine's on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays of each week from 5.30pm to 6.15pm.**

### MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 14th 6pm	Personal Intention	Tue 17th 9.30am	Eileen's Intention
Sun 15th 9.30am	People of the Parish	Wed 18th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 15th 11am	Fr. Pat Scanlon RIP & Fr. Tony Prunty RIP	Thu 19th 9.30am	Fr. Jim Noonan RIP & Fr. Joe Flynn RIP
Mon 16th	NO MASS	Fri 20th 9.30am	Personal Intention

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

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION:** Our First Communion classes for this year have started. We have three from the Parish who are preparing for their First Holy Communion – George Purnell, Alexander Crichton and Nora Murray-Cusali. Let us keep them in our prayer.

We are very grateful to Anne Cannon who is conducting the preparation. As you know, Anne has been doing this for many years now, and the Parish owes her a great debt of gratitude. If you know of anyone else who may wish to join the preparation group, please let us know as soon as possible.

**TEA/COFFEE AFTER MASS:** This will be held after the 9.30am Mass on Sunday 15th at Our Lady of Sorrows.

**OFFERTORY:** 8th January: £306 cash and £120 standing orders.

**100 CLUB:** For a subscription of £1 per week (£52 per year), membership of the 100 Club enables you to contribute to the Parish as well as having the opportunity to win £100 in the monthly 100 Club Draw. For more information, please contact Pamela Bailey via [office@staugustines.org.uk](mailto:office@staugustines.org.uk).

**FOODBANK – A SPECIAL APPEAL:** Because of the very difficult times we are in at present, we know that many people are struggling as they have insufficient money to afford the essentials. We can help in some little way by being as generous as possible in relieving their anxiety by donating to the Foodbank.

When two volunteers visited the Foodbank with donations from our Parish last week, they were asked to relay thanks and appreciation to our Parish from the Foodbank. At the moment, in addition to the items listed as required below, there is a very urgent need for bottles of **WASHING-UP LIQUID** and **LONG-LIFE FRUIT JUICE**.

In general, 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.

**Always required:** Tinned Fruit, Instant Mash, Instant Coffee (small jars), Tinned Fish, Toothpaste, Washing up liquid, Shaving foam/gel, Baby wipes, Strong Carrier Bags.

**HELP WITH COST OF LIVING?** If you know of anyone needing help because of the Cost of Living crisis you might like to take with you a leaflet from Caritas, the Charity Office in Northampton Diocese. A limited number of leaflets are at the rear of the Church. More copies are available if needed.

**MARRIAGE CARE:** As Marriage Care returns to presenting the Preparing Together marriage preparation course in person, (as well as continuing to provide an online version and FOCCUS), they are looking to recruit more volunteers to facilitate courses in our area. Volunteers will be required for a couple of Saturdays in the year. Full training and support are given. To find out more visit their website [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or contact Sue Cooper on 07939495774 or at [sue.cooper@marriagecare.org](mailto:sue.cooper@marriagecare.org)

#### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

John the Baptist figures prominently in today's liturgy. He is presented as a model for all who have been baptized in the Spirit and called to witness to Jesus. We are challenged to point away from ourselves and to lead people to focus on Jesus. In meeting this challenge we have much to learn from John, who recognised that he must decrease to let Jesus increase. The following story is told about the great artist, Michelangelo. When he was at work, he wore over his head, fastened to his cap, a lighted candle, so that no shadow of himself might fall on the marble or the canvas. In our role as witnesses to the light of Christ, we need to be careful that no shadow of ourselves, our personal ambitions, our self-seeking, clouds our witness to the light of Christ.

In this regard, we have much to learn from the example of our deceased Pope Emeritus, Benedict XVI. He described himself as a 'humble worker in the vineyard to the Lord'. And that indeed he was. As Pope, he never projected himself, never played to the crowd nor sought approval. What was important for him was the office, not the person holding the office. It was this clear subordination of himself to the august office he held that gave him the freedom to retire when he felt no longer able to exercise that office. Let us pray that, like John the Baptist and Pope Benedict, we, too, may be transparent witnesses to the light of Christ, never permitting our own shadows to cut across it.

Fr. Frank