

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 2nd May 2021

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Live Masses this weekend will be at **6.00pm on Saturday** and **9.30am on Sunday**.
Masses will be held in St. Augustine's Hall.

We continue to hold an online Mass every Sunday at 11am. For details of how to join the Mass, please email office@staugustines.org.uk. Obligation to attend Sunday Mass has been suspended during this pandemic. Through the hard work of Anthony and Pamela, we have our online Mass, and I would urge you to log in to it if you are able.

Private Prayer: St. Augustine's Church will be open for Private Prayer each weekday, **Monday to Friday from 12.00 noon to 12.30pm**. During this Easter Season, perhaps you might make a special effort to come – at least once in the week.

This year is dedicated to St. Joseph. We will hold a Mass in honour of **St. Joseph the Worker** in St. Augustine's Hall **at 9.30am on Saturday 1st May**.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat 1 st May 6.00 pm	Private Intention	Tue 4 th May	Private Intention
Sun 2 nd May 9.30 am (Live Mass)	Nodlaig O'Flaherty RIP	Wed 5 th May	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 2 nd May 11 am (Online Mass)	People of the Parish	Thurs 6 th May	Private Intention
Mon 3 rd May	Private Intention	Fri 7 th May	Private Intention

SICK OF THE PARISH: Please pray for the sick in the Parish, especially James Ansell, Dorrie Keating, David Mendes, Terri Nicoll, Fred Oufi and Michael Torpey. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

FOODBANK: The Foodbank has reopened for donations after a short period of closure. The need is still very great, and we would ask you to be as generous as you can. Please leave your items outside the priest's door as usual – at any time.

THE BABY BANK CHARITY aims to provide essentials to families in need with new and preloved baby and child related items. They cover towns in Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, and Hillingdon. Support is provided to newborn babies up to teenage years with items such as clothing and uniform, and beds and buggies. Last year they helped over 3500 babies and children with essential items, and other services, such as somewhere safe to sleep, activities to keep them occupied through lockdown and home schooling. This past year has seen a huge increase in the number of families needing their help. If you wish to gift the families they support with any items that are no longer needed, please contact the Baby Bank Charity via their website www.thebabybank.org, via Facebook "The Baby Bank" or via email info@thebabybank.org

INFORMATION FROM THE DIOCESE OF NORTHAMPTON

DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF ABUSE

The Holy Father has asked Bishops throughout the world to have a day of Prayer for the Victims and Survivors of Abuse. Following the resolution passed at the Assembly of the Bishops' Conference last year, this day of prayer will now take place on the Tuesday of the Fifth week of Easter which this year falls on **Tuesday May 4th**. The Service from the Cathedral will be at 6pm on May 4th.

For log in details, contact Diocesan website: www.northamptondiocese.org

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Have you ever visited a vineyard, with its rows of vines, heavy laden with clusters of ripe grapes? If you're not familiar with vines, think of an apple tree laden with apples. In today's Gospel, Jesus uses the metaphor of a vine to describe his relationship with his disciples. He tells them that he is the vine, and they are the branches. The life of Jesus flows into us and sustains us, and this is the reason our lives can bear fruit in love, in kindness, patience, compassion and welcome.

The symbolism of the vine works on many levels. If a branch is separated from the vine, it cannot flourish on its own. It must be connected to the vine from which it gets its nourishment. Each of us must be firmly rooted in Jesus and nourish that relationship. He invites us to 'remain' in him – to rest in him, to be part of him. And if you look at a vine plant or an apple tree, you will notice that while its branches are distinct from each other they grow together from the same stem. It's the same with us - one community, growing together and bound by our common love of God.

Today, we reflect on what it means to be so intimately connected with Jesus, the true vine, and also with one another. We bring to mind the many gifts God has given us, and the ways in which his love bears fruit in our lives.

Have a good week. Fr Frank