

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 6th March 2022

FIRST 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 5th 6.00pm	Special Intention	Tue 8th 9.30am	Special Intention
Sun 6th 9.30am	Special Intention	Wed 9th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 6th 11am	People of the Parish	Thu 10th 9.30am	Special Intention
Mon 7th	No Mass	Fri 11th 9.30am	Special Intention

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.

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 neighbouring countries. Their plight must surely speak deeply to our hearts.

With this in mind, we remember that next 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 today at the rear of the Church.

FAMILY FAST DAY: Next Friday, March 11, is Family Fast Day. You might think of eating simply on that day and giving what you save to the Ukraine Refugee Crisis.

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 on Wednesday, March 16th at 1.00pm. The funeral Mass will be in St. Augustine's and will be followed by Service and burial at Slough Crematorium at 2.30pm.

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 to.

SYNOD DISCUSSIONS: We are very encouraged by the number who have come to our weekly conversations on the Synod. It is surely a sign that we have a deep interest in the future of the Church in our Parish and in the wider world. Our conversations have ended, and we have collated the views and sent them to the Deanery and the Diocese. We have had an acknowledgement from the Deanery, and they were very impressed by the number who participated in our Parish.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Lord, we as a Church are inclined to remain on the banks of the Jordan, comfortable with the laws and certainties of the past. But if, like Jesus, we are filled with our Holy Spirit, we too will leave the Jordan and let the Spirit lead us through the wilderness, to be exposed to the wiles of the devil. He will tempt us to place all our hopes and ambitions in the pleasures and securities of this world, which are temporary and transient. It is only in the silent, prayerful desert that his subtle deceptions will be unmasked, and that we'll discover the true Light that will lead us out of darkness.

With this in mind, it is good to remember the difficult periods in our lives when our financial situation was precarious, when we had a succession of failures in our work, when our children were causing us problems. You were leading us through the wilderness in these times, and we felt at the time as if we had nothing to cling to. We were resentful too; were we not your children and did we not deserve better? Why could we not take up a stone and turn it into a loaf to give us strength? That, we thought, would have been the sensible thing to do.

Then, one day, the devil left us, and it came home to us that there is much more to life than having all our needs satisfied. We started to count our blessings, not our woes, and we discovered that we had loyal friends, good health, sufficient to eat and a beautiful world - and that all this was your gift to us. And, above all, we discovered the priceless gift of a living Faith and the change this would make in our lives. We came to know what Jesus knew - that man does not live on bread alone.