

ST AUGUSTINE'S DATCHET

St Augustine's
70 Eton Road
DATCHET
SL3 9AY



Parish Priest: Fr. Frank McAuliffe
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Safeguarding: Judy Hill

OUR LADY OF SORROWS ETON

Our Lady of Sorrows
1 Eton Court, ETON
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NEWSLETTER

Sunday 24th April 2022

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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): 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 24th 6pm	Special Intention	Tues 26th 9.30am	Special Intention
Sun 24th 9.30am	People of the Parish	Wed 27th 9.30am	Carolyn Ansell RIP
Sun 24th 11am	Special Intention	Thur 28th 9.30am	People of Ukraine
Mon 25th	NO MASS	Fri 29th 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, Terri Nicoll, Fred Oufi, Nino Puma, and Roger Stewart. Please pray also for those who are caring for them.

We have received news of the death of Keith de Monte on the evening of Friday 22nd April. We send our sincere sympathy to his wife Judy and family. We pray for Keith and his family at this time.

SAFEGUARDING: As you know, Jan Fredrickson has been our Safeguarding Officer for the Parish for the past number of years. She has asked to retire from her work and on behalf of the Parish I would like to express our sincere gratitude for the skilful and professional way she has performed this important task.

Judy Hill has very kindly agreed to take over from Jan and we are very grateful to her for volunteering. Should you wish to contact Judy, her contact details are given at the top of the Newsletter each week.

OFFERTORY for 9th/10th April: £415 cash/envelopes, £130 (estimated) standing orders.

GOOD FRIDAY collection for HOLY PLACES: £185.

EASTER OFFERTORY: I would like to thank you very sincerely for your most generous contribution to the Easter Offering. I do really appreciate it. Fr. Frank

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS AND OTHER PREPARATIONS FOR EASTER. Our sincere gratitude goes to those who prepared flowers for the altars in Datchet and Eton, and all who helped in making the Churches more prayerful for our Easter celebrations. Your work added a lot to the solemnity of the occasion. Our thanks also to the organists and our little choir.

ADMIN HELP FOR Fr. FRANK: Is there anyone in the Parish who could spare an hour or two a week (for a small remuneration) to help Fr. Frank with administration? The work can be done at home. The main job each week would be to type the Parish Newsletter on a Friday, though there would sometimes be additional items to be typed and emailed. If you are interested, please email or speak to Fr. Frank.

TEA/COFFEE AFTER MASS AT OUR LADY OF SORROWS. We are hoping to start having tea/coffee after Mass on Sundays at Our Lady of Sorrows. We will begin by having it once a month, with the option of increasing the frequency if this is desirable. It will be held in the Chamber of the **Eton Town Council Building**, which is near the Church. We would hope that it will help to enhance the already strong sense of community that is already present. We will start on **Sunday 1st May**. All are very welcome.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S: Very shortly we hope to restart the Tea/Coffee tradition in the Church Hall after the Sunday 11am Mass.

UKRAINE: The Bishops of England and Wales have made an urgent appeal for prayers 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.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S FLOWER ROTA: It is hoped to restart the rota. If you would like to participate, please give your contact details to Fr. Frank. The Parish will reimburse the cost of flowers. Thank you.

SLOUGH FOODBANK: With the rising cost of living, our support for the foodbank is needed now more than ever. Given the acute crisis in Ukraine there is a danger that we may forget that there are many who are very needy in our own country.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Though Mary has already shared with them her joy in meeting Christ risen, the disciples appear unmoved by such news. They remained closed and fearful in their refuge in an upper room in Jerusalem. It seems they had given up hope. It is in such a state that Jesus finds his friends when he appeared to them. His first words were not a reproach; they were simply, 'Peace be with you'.

The natural thing to do when we are feeling anxious or threatened is to hunker down and lock the doors, to become focused on our own security rather than the challenging mission to which we are called. The promise of the Gospel text is that Jesus cannot be stopped by our locked doors. Jesus comes to us as he came to the first disciples, right in the midst of our fear, pain, doubt, and confusion. He comes speaking peace, breathing into our anxious lives the breath of the Holy Spirit. What is more, he keeps showing up. As he came back a week later for Thomas, Jesus keeps coming back week after week among his gathered disciples in the Eucharist. The disciples did not want to miss out on the life and peace he gives to their troubled souls. The Eucharist was the lifeblood of the early Church. And it is the same with us today. We come to the Eucharist each week in order to be healed and strengthened. Jesus keeps sending us out of our safe, locked rooms, into a world that, like us, so desperately needs his gifts of life and peace.