



**St Augustine's Catholic Church
High Wycombe**

First Sunday of Lent

21 February 2021

Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.

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🌐 www.facebook.com/StAugustinesHW

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 21 Feb - First Sunday of Lent

9am Christine Romaniak
11am People of the Parish
6pm Bernard Cullen RIP

Monday 22 Feb - St Peter's Chair

9.30am Patrick McTiernan

Tuesday 23 Feb - St Polycarp, Bishop & Martyr

9.30am Kelly Family
6.30pm John Joe O'Brien RIP

Wednesday 24 Feb -

9.30am Teresa Pynikow RIP
6pm Foundation Mass - Rutledge

Thursday 25 Feb -

09.30am No Mass
6.30pm Moira McAfee

Friday 26 Feb -

CAFOD Lent Fast Day
9.30am No Mass
6.30pm John Walsh RIP

Saturday 27 Feb -

9.30am Patrick Dunleavy RIP

Sunday 28 Feb - Second Sunday of Lent

9am People of the Parish
11am Rory Lavery
6pm Theo Francis

Psalm response

Your ways, Lord, are faithfulness and love
for those who keep your covenant.

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ,
king of eternal glory!
Man does not live on bread alone,
but on every word that comes
from the mouth of God
Praise to you, O Christ,
king of eternal glory!

Acc: 2. When we eat this Bread and drink
this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord,
until you come again.

**CONFESSIONS IN THE CHURCH on
Saturdays between 3.00 and 3.30pm**

OR

**CONFESSIONS - Please ring to make an
appointment.**

**RETIRING COLLECTION Next Sunday:
CAFOD Lent Fast Day (26 Feb)**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: This is, I am afraid, a week late. I should have been thinking about it last week so that we could begin today. My apologies for that. Beginning next Saturday (**27 February**) there will be a Stations of the Cross service in the Church **each Saturday at 2.30pm**. We are not (initially at least) taking bookings for places at these services as we expect to be able to accommodate the numbers easily enough.

CAFOD FAST DAY: Friday will be our **CAFOD Lenten Fast Day**, where we should (health permitting) do without a meal and offer the proceeds to the poor and needy. **Envelopes are available at the exits which should be returned next Sunday or in the days following. For those unable to come to Church you can make a donation on CAFOD's website**, where you will also find information about specific projects and activities by which you can help CAFOD in their work in different parts of the world.

CAFOD Family Fast 26th February.

Abdella lives in an extremely remote and mountainous part of Ethiopia. It takes him ten hours a day to collect water and he says his life is being wasted as he has no time for anything else. Can you give today to reach vulnerable communities around the world with water to provide vital support. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/give or use the envelopes provided. You can also easily give via Text. **Text LENT to 70460.** Some members of **St Augustine's CAFOD group** are also walking alongside Abdella this Lent by challenging ourselves to walk 10,000 steps, every day, for 40 days. If anyone would like to sponsor or join us find out more at cafod.org-uk/walk or sponsor us on: justgiving.com/st.augustines-cafod-group-high-wycombe.

ST AUGUSTINE'S PSALM PROJECT: Our Live-streaming of ten-minute talks covering the Psalms continues on You-Tube most Tuesdays and Fridays at 11.00am. So far we have reached Psalm 24. If you can't join us live for these talks, they remain posted on our You-Tube Channel for you to view at any time.

PRIVATE PRAYER: As well as the time when the Church is open on a **Saturday afternoon, between 3 and 5**, anyone who would like to come to the Church for private prayer is encouraged to ring the Presbytery before coming and, if there is anyone in, we will be happy to let you in. We look forward to the day when we can simply leave it open again!

CLEANING CHURCH AFTER MASS: Again, it is worth periodically reminding people that all who are tolerably fit and healthy should really take a turn at cleaning down the chairs and surfaces after Mass. If you have not done it yet, how about doing it next week? It is only fair that this work should be spread around rather than mostly being done by the faithful few, since it is only because of this work that we are presently able to come to Mass.

KEEPING SAFE: I would like to encourage people to assist with the measures we are taking at St Augustine's to keep safe those who come to Mass here. There are two or three matters in particular that are, it seems to me, worth mentioning.

CAR-PARKING: Because we have a small car park it can be difficult to keep social distancing when people are leaving the church and going to their cars. Accordingly I would ask people to make fuller use of the two car-parks across the road opposite the church, behind the offices of **MRIB** and **ICWG**. On Sundays we have use of both these car parks for parishioners.

INTERACTING WITH OTHER

PARISHIONERS: While under normal circumstances we are frequently trying to persuade people to stay and chat with one another before dashing off home, at present we are doing the reverse! While it is obviously to be saying 'Good morning?' or 'How are you?' we should not be standing around making conversation in the church, or even in the car-park.

MASKS: While nearly everyone is complying with the requirement to wear a face-mask in the church, there are still a few people who have been attending with uncovered faces. Please remember that wearing of face-masks is a **mandatory** requirement and not a mere recommendation. If you get to church and find you have forgotten to bring your mask we can usually help you out!

CHECKING-IN: It would be a great help if a couple of people at each Sunday Mass could be available to check in parishioners as they arrive, marking their names off on the list and, if necessary, direct them to their seats. Welcomers should, of course, not be in 'at-risk' groups.

NEWSLETTER: The Parish Newsletter may be picked up by those attending Sunday Mass in paper form, or it can be found on the Parish website.

CELEBRATION OF MASS AND OTHER SERVICES: Mass at St Augustine's continues at all the usual times. Please check on the Newsletter for weekday Mass times. For Sunday Masses please book in advance either by phone or by e mail. E mails for Sunday Mass requests will not normally receive a reply unless there is a problem with the booking. The church remains open on **Saturday afternoons between 3pm and 5pm** for private prayer. Usually the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for the first hour of this time.

CELEBRATION OF BAPTISM: Baptisms are able to go ahead, by arrangement, with 6 people attending.

URGENT APPEAL-Laptops for **St Michael's Catholic School** required as soon as possible. Whilst the Government has supplied some, families continue to face challenges with supporting youngsters from home. They could really do with a greater number than the government were able to provide. Fast Android tablets also welcome. Please contact Viviane Gifford, (SVP) on tel: 07748657729 or email: viviane.gifford@ntlworld.com Donations to help support the refurbish, clean and reset- also very welcome.

VITAEOPUS – EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

For Parishioners who may be job hunting or going self-employed due to the pandemic, Sacred Heart Parish Luton has set up a free online career coaching programme www.vitaeopus.co.uk providing a wealth of information, tools, practical advice and activities to help anyone wanting to find new employment opportunities, especially if they are not receiving any outplacement or other back to work support. Please pass on the web link to anyone who might find it useful.

RIGHT TO LIFE PRAYERS FOR FEBRUARY 21st - *“As we begin this season of Lent, we offer up the merits of our daily sacrifices to the needs of the most vulnerable in society. We offer them especially for the poor, the lonely and the unborn. That the Lord would see their needs and pour out his love and blessing upon them. Lord hear us”*

COMPANIONS IN CHRIST: Zoom Meetings on Tuesday's All welcome. 7.30pm doors open, 7.45pm start, 9pm finish. Although there is no obligation to attend **every** week and you can just drop in on a Tuesday evening if you feel like it. Please email Sarah Priestley mrs_s_priestley@hotmail.com or Catri Plummer c.plummer@ntlworld.com for the Zoom details if you would like to attend.

ROSARY GROUP - ALL WELCOME Every Wednesday evening

7.45pm - 9pm via Zoom. The evening includes group prayer, readings, praise and worship and praying the Rosary. Please feel free to join in on a flexible basis. For joining details, contact Deacon Brin on 07931 607249 or email: brin.dunsire@gmail.com



ALPHA ONLINE: There will be an Alpha course taking place online via Zoom meetings, on **Monday evenings at 7:45 sign-in for an 8pm start, beginning on Monday 1 March.** The Alpha course is a series of informal evenings, designed as an introduction to the basics of the Christian faith in a way which allows for questions, discussions and a free exchange of views, in a welcoming and easy-going

atmosphere. While Alpha courses are traditionally offered as physical evening meetings featuring a meal, in the current unusual circumstances the online version has been found successful and effective, and can be experienced from the comfort of your own home! It is something that any churchgoer can feel confident about inviting their relatives and friends to attend. Existing Christians may find it useful to renew and deepen their faith. Anyone interested, please contact Deacon Brin by phone or text to 07931 607249 or on brin.dunsire@gmail.com, for the Zoom codes or any other queries.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord..

ANNIVERSARIES: Gary Styles, Giovanni Albanese, Steve Quinn, Elsie Saxby, Eamon McAlinden, Laura Sanders, Tom McCormack, John B O'Brien, David Pooley, Christopher Hawkins, Denise Michael.

**LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £364.73
+ Standing Orders of £696**

**Second Collection for Sick & Retired
Priests' Fund was £342.78 Many thanks**

DIARY OF EVENTS

2021

28 Feb - CAFOD (Lent Fast Day on Friday 26 Feb.)

19 Mar - St Joseph, Spouse of the B.V.M.

25 Mar - The Annunciation of the Lord

28 Mar - Palm Sunday

01 Apr - Maundy Thursday

02 Apr - Good Friday

03 Apr - Easter Vigil

04 Apr - Easter Sunday

23 Apr - St George, Patron of England

13 May - Ascension of the Lord

23 May - Pentecost

30 May - The Most Holy Trinity

Useful Websites:

<https://northamptondiocese.org>

<http://www.catholicreadings.org>

<http://www.heavensroadfm.com>

<http://www.walsingham.org.uk>

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

<https://northamptondiocese.org/donate/>

<http://cafod.org.uk/coronavirus>

PRAYER TO ST MICHAEL

Holy Michael, the Archangel defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust down to hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.

