



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

Third Sunday of Lent

07 March 2021

Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.

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🌐 www.facebook.com/StAugustinesHW

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 07 Mar - Third Sunday of Lent
9am People of the Parish
11am Marie Thornber RIP-Anniv
6pm Private Intention

Monday 08 Mar -
9.30am Annunziata Petrino RIP

Tuesday 09 Mar -
9.30am Unborn
6.30pm Mass

Wednesday 10 Mar -
9.30am Holy Souls
6.30pm Mass

Thursday 11 Mar -
09.30am Enid & Peter Andrew RIP

Friday 12 Mar -
9.30am Helen Dunleavy RIP
6.30pm Mass

Saturday 13 Mar -
9.30am Mass

Sunday 14 Mar - Fourth Sunday of Lent
9am Mass
11am Roger Akram RIP
6pm People of the Parish

Psalm response

You, Lord, have the message
of eternal life.

Gospel acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ,
king of eternal glory!
I am the resurrection and the life,
says the Lord, whoever believes
in me will never die.
Praise to you, O Christ,
king of eternal glory!

**Acc: 1. We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you
come again.**

**RETIRING COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY
For 'Bishop's Maintenance Fund'**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Stations of the Cross continue on **Saturdays in Lent at 2.30pm**. It is not necessary to book for this service. Stations of the Cross is followed by an hour where people can come and spend some time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament until around 4.00pm. Following this, the church will remain open for a further hour for private prayer.

PRIVATE PRAYER IN THE CHURCH: If you want to pray in the church at other times, you are welcome to do so on request, but please phone the Presbytery before coming out - just to be sure that someone will be there to let you in.

CONFESSIONS: Confessions are heard on Saturday afternoon between **3.00 and 3.30pm**. If you cannot make this time you can always arrange an appointment for the Sacrament at a suitable time.

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Beginning tomorrow we are taking Bookings for the Mass of the Lord's Supper on the evening of **Maundy Thursday (1 April). The Mass will begin at 8.00pm**. Space is limited due to Social Distancing requirements, so bookings will have to be on a first come, first served basis. **DO NOT LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE**. If you make a booking and then find yourself unable to attend, please let us know as we will then be able to offer your space(s) to someone else.

MASS ATTENDANCE: While the suspension of the Sunday obligation is still in force, it is good for us to remember that the suspension is not to give us an excuse for staying away from Mass. It is there so that those who genuinely feel concern about coming to the Church in these times should not need to feel guilty about that. Most people who do 'take the plunge' and come to Mass comment on how safe they feel with the way the Church is presently set up, so in these weeks of Lent and as the lockdown restrictions themselves begin to be eased, it is worthwhile thinking about returning to Mass. After all, while it is quite possible to watch the Mass at home and join with our brothers and sisters in prayer, we cannot in this way receive the Sacrament. We have heard a lot in the

present crisis about health concerns and also about mental health concerns. We have heard far less relating to spiritual health, although in the present lockdown the government have allowed churches to remain open because of this. I am not here telling you what you should do, just encouraging you to think about what you are doing, and to pray about it. If you have not been to Mass during these months you will find the church itself quite changed, though the Mass is the same! If you decide to come to Sunday Mass, we are asking people to book in advance so as to help us control the numbers. On a weekday, when less people are present, you do not need to book.

EVC (Empowering Vulnerable Children) Uganda's 'Giving it up for Lent Campaign' During Lent, EVC Uganda is seeking to raise funds to help provide a much needed library at St Matia Mulumba Primary School. If you would like to have a part in this, donations can be made via the KindLink button on the EVC website : www.evcuganda.org or by sending a cheque made payable to EVC Uganda to EVC Uganda, 1 Church Road, Willington, Beds MK44 3QD.

HOLY WEEK: We do not yet know whether we will be able to accommodate a greater number of people in the church by this time, so at present we are assuming that the capacity will be the same as at present. With this in mind we will, over the next couple of weeks, be beginning to take bookings for Good Friday, 2 April (**3.00pm** the Liturgy of the Passion, with Holy Communion and **7.00pm** a service based on the old rites of Tenebrae for those unable to get seats in the afternoon) will begin the following week, 15 March. As some discovered on Ash Wednesday, it is better to book early than to be disappointed, so please do not leave it until the last minute. The Holy Week services will be somewhat adjusted to fit in with present requirements for social distancing and so on. Watch this space, and/or the Newsletter, for further information.

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 26. 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.

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 fine 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!

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

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



ASK YOUR MP TO SUPPORT A NEW AMENDMENT TO HELP STOP FORCED ABORTION IN XINJIANG, CHINA. There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions. **Lord Alton** is currently championing a new amendment to the Trade Bill, to help put international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forced abortions and wider human rights abuses that evidence shows is being perpetuated against the Uyghur community. **The amendment passed in the Lords on 23 February by 367 votes to 214**, and is likely to be voted on in the Commons shortly. If you would like to email your MP asking them to support the amendment, you can do this easily using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website, which can be accessed by visiting the link below: <https://genocideresponse.org/>



THE NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH will take place from **10 - 18 March 2021** at: **St Joseph's Church** in **Maidenhead**. Masses are on **Wednesday to Friday (10-12 March)**, at **7.30pm**,

Saturday, 13 March at 10.00am, **Sunday, 14 March at 11.00am**, **Monday - Thursday (15-18 March) at 7.30pm**. Masses from **St. Joseph's Church** will be available to follow on **Zoom** and **YouTube** via the parish website: stjosephsparish.co.uk and the Mill Hill website:

www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena, where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a printed Novena prayer leaflet. Please write to the **Novena Director, 41 Victoria Road, Liverpool, L37 1LW**, or email novenamhm@gmail.com.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord..

ANNIVERSARIES: Lesley King, Helen Scriven, Danny Parsons, Mary Crutchfield, Thomas Nyland, Mary Lay, John Geggus, Anna Mylott, Agnes Donovan, Sherian Longstaff, Thomas Monaghan, Julie Moffat, Veronika Kotvics, Christino Picciano.

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £379.36
+ Standing Orders of £696

CAFOD Lent Fast Day came to £441.55
Many thanks

DIARY OF EVENTS

2021

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.

