

St Augustine's Catholic Church High Wycombe

Trinity Sunday

30 May 2021

Please take the newsletter home with you for reference.

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🌐 www.st-augustines-church.org.uk

🌐 www.facebook.com/StAugustinesHW

Morning Prayer 9.15am Mon-Sat. Evening Prayer 6.15pm

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 30 May - The Most Holy Trinity
Vigil Mass 6pm (Sat) Yolanda Minon RIP-Anniv
& Maria Cunningham RIP

9am People of the Parish
11am Pearl O'Brien RIP & Eilish O'Connor RIP
6pm Bernard & Margaret Mongan RIP-Anniv

Monday 31 May - The Visitation of the BVM
10am Hanbury Family Intention

Tuesday 01 June - St Justin, Martyr
9.30am Adrian Anderson RIP
6.30pm Mass

Wednesday 02 June -
9.30am Peter & Francis Maughan RIP

Thursday 03 June - SS Charles Lwanga & Companions,
Martyrs
9.30am Mass
6.30pm Private Intention

Friday 04 June -
9.30am Holy Souls

Saturday 05 June - St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr
09.30am Mass

Sunday 06 June - The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ
(Corpus Christi)
Vigil Mass 6pm (Sat) People of the Parish
9am Brenda Evenden RIP
11am Fredrick Moss RIP
6pm The McConnell Family

Psalm response

Happy the people the Lord has chosen as his own.

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, the God who is, who was, and who is to come.
Alleluia!

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

CONFESSIONS IN THE CHURCH on Saturdays between 3.00 and 3.30pm

Or

CONFESSIONS - Please ring to make an appointment.

JUNE 21: We are now at the very end of May, and are still hopeful that in another three weeks many or most of the restrictions imposed on us over the last year and more will be lifted. Accordingly it is good for us to consider how things will change, for certainly things will not instantly go back, at the flick of a switch, to how they were before. Many people will be in need of reassurance that things will be safe. Bearing this in mind let us look at how things are now and how we hope they will change. Needless to say, all we can presently talk about is hopes and plans which will depend on any further guidance we receive from government or from the Bishop.

ST AUGUSTINE'S AT PRESENT: For the benefit of those who have not attended Mass recently the church is presently set out with socially distanced seating using the plastic chairs from the upper room. These have the advantage that they can be more easily cleaned after each use, along with door handles and other surfaces which people may touch. On Sundays, these chairs can be arranged to suit the people coming to each Mass, whether on their own or in twos, threes, fours etc. etc. This is part of the reason why we ask people to book (either by email or by phone) for Sunday Masses. Because of our reduced capacity we have recently introduced as a temporary measure a Vigil Mass for Sunday held on the previous evening. Some have been coming to Mass on a weekday when there are less people, instead of Sunday. This is possible because throughout the pandemic the obligation for attendance at Sunday Mass has been suspended. So far these measures have enabled us to accommodate everyone coming to Mass, and one comment that we have frequently heard from people coming back is how safe it feels with the present set-up and distancing. Many have been worried before coming and then reassured once they actually take that step. Because there are at present no kneelers in the church, some people bring their own pads to kneel on. Others stand for the Eucharistic Prayer. Naturally those who cannot kneel or stand for long periods sit down, as they normally would. Communion is brought to people at their seats, so people stand or kneel to receive the Sacrament and then sit down. At the end of Mass, people wait to allow those nearest the doors to leave first, followed by

those on the south (right) side of the nave, then the north (left) and finally those in the choir aisle. It is not possible at present to light candles or spend time in private prayer after Sunday Mass, though these things may be done on weekdays. Also please note that at present there are no toilet facilities available in the church. Also at present there is no singing in the church on the part of the congregation. Confessions are presently being heard on Saturdays between 3 and 3.30pm or by arrangement. The Church is open for private prayer on Saturdays from 3-5pm, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for the first hour. But anyone wanting to come to the church to pray is invited to come to the Presbytery door so you can be admitted. If you are thinking about returning to Mass, or if you know someone who is thinking about it, and you (or they) have any questions, please do phone and speak to myself or Fr Daniel.

WHAT WILL CHANGE AFTER 21 JUNE:

Assuming that all goes according to the government road-map, we shall be able to begin bringing some of the **chairs** back down from the Upper Room. However, we shall not bring them all back at once. The plan is that at first we will have greater space between the rows than previously and then gradually bring more chairs down as people begin to get used to things. So in the initial weeks following 21 June people can still distance themselves if and as they wish. The chairs will still be regularly cleaned, using a **fogger**, as will other surfaces that are frequently touched. We will also continue to make available hand sanitiser at the entrance. We think that **masks** may no longer be necessary but if that is so would still ask people to come with masks anyway and perhaps, if you notice that your neighbour is wearing one you might do likewise just to make things more comfortable for them. We hope to be able to have other facilities available including **toilets** and the **votive candle** stands. At present the **Collections** are taken with baskets situated at each exit, and this will likely continue. We hope that it will be possible to keep the church open for longer hours, enabling people to come in for private prayer or to light a candle as they feel the need. When there is sufficient space in the Upper Room and we are able to re-open it we hope to resume our tea and coffee after the 11.00 Mass. We

can't yet estimate just when that will be, but after the Upper Room not having been used for 15 months we will need a team of willing people to help get it cleaned up first! To sum up, there will not be any sudden and dramatic change - but things will happen gradually and we will depend on feedback from parishioners. If people feel at some point that the rows are getting closer together than they feel comfortable with, then they must let us know. For at least the first few weeks - through to the end of July - we shall continue to ask people to book for Sunday Mass. That way, if anyone might wish to make a booking depending on how many people are going to be present, we shall have the information for them. I shall also continue with these e mails through to the end of July after which, unless people ask to be kept in touch in this way, they will cease. All of this is designed to make it as easy as possible for you to come back and to have you feel as safe as possible when you do so. If anyone has any further thoughts on this please do let myself or Fr Daniel know.

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: We do not yet know when the Bishops will re-instate this duty of all Catholics, but we don't need to wait for that to happen. The suspension is not, after all, to provide us with an excuse for not being at Mass, but to reassure us that there is no sin if we cannot get there or if we are seriously apprehensive about going out with other people. Don't be like the lady on the TV who was interviewed in her town centre and who said she was too afraid to leave the house! If we can go into town we can probably also manage to go to church! Anyway the Bishops are already encouraging us to think about making the Sunday Mass once more part of our weekly lives where that is possible. I quote from a recent letter from the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales; *It is the Eucharist, the celebration of the Mass, that makes the Church; and it is the Church, in the gift of the Holy Spirit, which makes the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the lifeblood of the Church. It requires our active participation and, to be fully celebrated, our physical presence. At this moment, then, we need to have in our sights the need to restore to its rightful centrality in our lives the Sunday Mass, encouraging each to take his or her place once again in the assembly of our brothers*

and sisters...[as] something we cannot do without; to see Sunday as the soul of the week, as giving light and meaning to all the responsibilities we live out each day; to see the Sunday Eucharist as food for the unique mission with which we have been endowed. So let us be seriously thinking about this, and if we have not been to church recently, let us look forward to the day when we will be able to celebrate once more with our brothers and sisters, hear the Word of God proclaimed and receive the Holy Eucharist. Let us not wait for the Bishops to tell us once more that we **MUST** go, but let us pray for a real desire to go and to act on that desire. Start thinking and praying NOW!

THE HOUSEBOUND: We hope that after the end of lockdown we shall be able to resume a normal ministry to those who are unable to come to Mass - whether they are living in care homes or in their own homes. Do get in touch so we can arrange for you to be visited and receive the Eucharist at home. If you know someone who is housebound do talk with them about this and either encourage them to call us, or (with their consent) call us on their behalf. All of this, I repeat is plans and ideas. While we are hopeful, we do not know for sure what we may or may not be able to do after 21 June - it will depend both on Government and on the Bishops, but it is good to have some ideas ready!

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



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: The First Communion Masses this year will take place on **Saturday 19 June and Sunday 27 June. The time for these Masses will be 3.00pm**

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.

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



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.

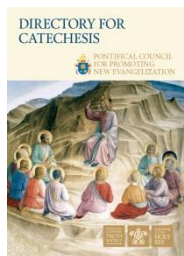
DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES 2021 are available in the Sacristy priced £3.



JUNE - MONTH OF THE SACRED HEART

RE-ENVISIONING CATECHESIS:

Unpacking the **New Directory for Catechesis**. An online course for Parishes Pentecost Term 2021. Featuring guest speakers as well as speakers from our Diocese. **Over 5 consecutive Thursday evenings starting 17 June 21.**



(7.30pm - 8.45pm) via Zoom. Please see notice in the porch. To book a place please contact Ann Collon at the NORES office at:admin@nores.org.uk There is no charge but a suggested donation of £10 per person for the whole course.

RIGHT TO LIFE: Prayers for May

30th - *"We pray for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us"*

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord..

ANNIVERSARIES: Eamon McGrory, Dorcas Kingshott, Pearl O'Brien, Geraldine Brown, Joseph Armstrong, John Harnycz, Hannah Lambourne, Errol Smart, Chris Thornton-White, Judy De Gelas, Pauline Craig, Theresa Cooney, Collin Vieyra.

LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION: £398.58
+ Standing Orders of £696

DIARY OF EVENTS

2021

06 Jun - The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

11 Jun - The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

19 Jun - First Holy Communion

27 Jun - First Holy Communion

29 Jun - SS Peter & Paul

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.



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