

Mass Times

Sunday Masses

- Sat 5.30 pm Vigil Mass
Sun 8.00 am
9.30 am Family Mass
11.15 am Sung Mass
5.45 pm (1st Sun Youth Mass)

Weekday Masses

- Mon, Tues, Thurs 7.30 & 10.00 am
Wed 7.30 am, 12.30 pm,
7.30 pm Extraordinary Form
(1st Wed monthly ONLY)
4.30 pm Burrswood
(2nd Wed monthly ONLY)
Fri 7.30, 10.00 am & 7.30 pm
Sat: 8.00 and 10.00 am

Reconciliation

- Sat 10.30-11.30 am. 4.30 - 5.15 pm
Also by appointment.

CONTACTS

- Parish** Canon Peter Stodart
Priest frpeter@st-augustine.co.uk
Asst Fr. Josaphat Ezenwa
Priests jcezenwa2@yahoo.co.uk
Fr Lixon Cyriac
lixoncyriac@gmail.com
Deacon Dcn. Kevin Dunne
kdunne246@gmail.com
Office office@st-augustine.co.uk
Parish Gerard Garcia
Council chair-parishcouncil@st-augustine.co.uk
Youth youthleader@st-augustine.co.uk
Leader Sorcha 07948 970 995
Catholic St Augustine's 01892 529796
Schools St.Gregory's 01892 527444
Bechwood 01892 532747

St Augustine's Catholic Church, Crescent Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2LY 01892 522525
www.st-augustine.co.uk office@st-augustine.co.uk

Prayer

Rosary with Benediction

- Sunday 4.00pm
Eucharistic Adoration
Monday - 6.30 am - 8.00 pm
Tuesday and Thursday 6.30 am -1.00 pm
Friday 6.30am - 9.00pm

Morning Prayers

Monday- Friday 7.00am, Saturday 7.40am

Rosary

Mon - Tues & Thurs - Fri before 10.00 am Mass

Rosary Intention: That, during Advent, people will remember the true meaning of Christmas and not get swept up in the commercialisation of the season.

Monday - Friday the church is usually open from 6.30am until at least 8.00pm.

Prayer Groups

- Cenacolo Thurs, 2.30 pm -
Blessed Sacrament
Charismatic Tues, 8.00 pm - Church
Christian Tues, 2.00 pm- MR3/Hall
Meditation
Mothers Tues, 10.45 am- Meet Room 3
Prayers

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

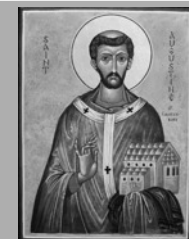
If you are going into hospital and would like a priest to visit you during your stay it is essential that you let one of the priests know. Tunbridge Wells hospital and many other hospitals do not inform us when Catholic patients are admitted.

Please note the latest items can be accepted is 4pm on Monday in any given week, although inclusion for the coming weekend can't be guaranteed. Contributions to:
newsdesk@st-augustine.co.uk or office.

Newsletter can also be printed off the website -
<http://www.st-augustine.co.uk/newsletters.php>

ST AUGUSTINE'S NEWS

10th December 2017



THE BIBLE by Maureen Ward



In the words of Sacred Scripture we find God's message. This message is found not just in the readings at Mass. There was a time when, for many Catholics, this indirect approach was their only access to the Bible. However, the Vatican Two document on Divine Revelation "Dei Verbum" calls us to go back to the Bible to read and seek to understand its message. We are called not only to hear God's Word but also to bear it to others.

When to read the Bible? Each day rushes past and where is the time to sit down for half an hour and try to immerse oneself in the page of script. Where to begin? This is where the Bible Study Group at St Augustine's is an enormous help and, surprisingly, enjoyable.

These are thoughts of those who attend Bible Study.

- We gather together in a little band of believers to discuss and study Scripture in the Church Hall on alternate Wednesdays in term time. Bible Group is open to all who are interested
- The discussion is friendly with interesting input from all of the Group who wish to contribute with the benefit of being able to clarify points in a non-confrontational atmosphere.
- Reading the Bible in a Group and paying attention together encourages us to engage in wider reflection and an openness to others. We are required to listen to the words of the chosen passage and listen to each other.
- To spend time with God we have to talk to him and let him talk to us.
- Recently we have been looking at St Paul's letters from prison and now have returned to the Gospel of Mark.
- Wherever one turns in the Bible there is always something interesting, fascinating and instructive to read. Something that makes us feel lifted up closer to God.

If you want to dig deeper and learn how God is speaking to you, come and have a taster at a meeting. The Newsletter will tell you when the next session is due.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT EVENING 'REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT'

Monday 11th December 2017 at 7.45pm

The Seminar Team invite you to enjoy another Life in the Spirit evening . Gerard Pomfret returns. Music ministry led by Anne Scripture. Come and enjoy a time of preparation and spiritual refreshment during Advent. Bring a friend with you. All are welcome. Refreshments in the Hall afterwards. For further information contact 01892 542245 or 531093

**2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT
YEAR B PSALTER WEEK 2
PARISH MASS BOOK
Readings: from page 85
Preface: from page 65**

Second Sunday of Advent by Nick Pointer

'Cloth for the Cradle' - 4.00 pm 10th December

'Cloth for the Cradle', an Advent Liturgy for the 2nd Sunday of Advent, will echo and resound with the central theme of waiting. Waiting for Christ to come, waiting for Christ to come again. The liturgy will conclude with the symbolic action of preparing a cradle for the Christ-child, a sign of our readiness to prepare, and wait, for Christ to come into our lives.

Parish Reconciliation Service 17th December at 7.15pm

Advent is a particularly fitting time to celebrate Reconciliation as we prepare to celebrate once again the mystery of God made man.

We will, as usual, be having our Reconciliation service on the 17th December, at 7.15 p.m. when the Sacrament is celebrated in a community setting with several priests available. On Saturday 23rd there will be **extended times for reconciliation from 10.30 a.m - 1 p.m. and from 4 to 5 p.m.**

****URGENT****

CHRISTMAS DAY DRIVERS

The Parish will again be hosting a Christmas Day Dinner for the Homeless, Needy or Lonely. Drivers are needed to pick up guests at about noon to transport to the Age UK Hall off Camden Road and to take them home at about 2pm. Please give your name and telephone number to the Office.

VOLUNTEERS REQUESTED FOR LIBRARY

The parish library has been reorganised and we would like to be able to open it for borrowing and returning books several times each week, either before or after daily and/or weekend Mass. If you regularly attend a particular Mass and would be willing to volunteer to open and man (or woman) the library for a short time preceding or following your Mass we would be delighted to hear from you. We would, of course, give you full instructions as to the library set-up and procedures which are very straightforward.

Please give your name to the parish office or email dalamb0706@yahoo.co.uk.

Many thanks

Maureen McIntosh & Doreen Lambert

"MIDNIGHT" MASS

At the suggestion of the Liturgy Committee, this year there will be no Mass at Midnight. Instead there will be Mass at 10 p.m. preceded by carols from 9.30 p.m.

St Gregory's Catholic School
Christmas Fair

Saturday 16th December
4pm-6pm

Gift & Craft Stalls. Tombola. Games.
Christmas Cinema. Raffle.
Hot Food. Cakes & Refreshments.
ADULTS £1 CHILDREN FREE
All are Welcome

2018 Diaries now available

Cost 60p in support of our twin parish in Kompong Thom!!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This is no time to be ashamed of the Gospel. It is the time to preach it from the rooftops. Do not be afraid to break out of comfortable and routine modes of living in order to take up the challenge of making Christ known in the modern metropolis.

Pope St John Paul II

TUESDAY LUNCH CLUB

On alternate Tuesday Lunch Times at noon, a soup lunch is served in the Hall and a growing group of parishioners has been enjoying this happy social event. The gathering is open to all and is a wonderful opportunity to make new acquaintances so do come and make new friends. The Welfare Team would welcome some more volunteers to help with serving the food, please give your contact details to the Office.

Confirmation 2018

Application forms for Confirmation next June are available from the Narthex by the inner Church doors. Please return the orange forms to Fr Lixon or the Church office. The first meeting for parents and confirmandi will be Sunday 14th January 2018 after the 5.45pm Mass.

*LADIES' LUNCH & PRAYER GROUP
Candles in the Church
The Group will meet in the Church for Christmas prayers for our families.
Monday 18th December
12.15 for 12.30 pm start
ALL LADIES WELCOME*

MANY THANKS

Veronique Gladwell would like to thank very much all those who prayed for her and sent her Get well cards after her recent operation. She is very grateful.

OFFERTORY

Offertory	£1016.89
GA	£721.50
Outreach : Crisis	£1027.64
CAFOD	£34
Mitapeeap	£50.41

Thank you for your generosity.

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 9th

Noon Winter Shelter Training - Hall

SUNDAY 10th 2nd Sunday of Advent Yr B Ps Wk 2

4.00 pm Advent Service 'Cloth for the Cradle' followed by refreshments in the Hall

OUTREACH: Cardinal Hume Centre

Founded by Cardinal Basil Hume in 1986, the Centre, based near Westminster Cathedral, gives people access to the skills and support needed to overcome poverty and homelessness. The Centre focuses on four areas of need – employment, housing, education/skills and legal status. See www.cardinalhumecentre.org.uk.

TUESDAY 12th

10.00 am Funeral: Pauline Teague with refreshments in the hall afterwards.

2.00 pm ASDC - MR2

7.30 pm In Vino Veritas – MR3

8.00 pm RCIA - Presbytery

WEDNESDAY 13th St Lucy Virgin & Martyr

THURSDAY 14th St John of the Cross

SATURDAY 16th

2.30 pm Polish Catechism - Hall

SUNDAY 17th 3rd Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday, Yr B Ps Wk 3

4.00 pm Advent Service followed by refreshments in the Hall

7.15 pm Parish Reconciliation Service

OUTREACH: St Augustine's Christmas Dinner It is our custom to offer dinner on Christmas Day to anyone in Tunbridge Wells who is lonely or in need. This is a parish effort wholly dependent on the kindness and generosity of you, our parishioners.

Sacrament of the Sick

The Sacrament of the Sick is available on request for those suffering from serious ill health; just contact either a Priest or the Parish Office whether for yourself or someone you who care for.