

## 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

**Advent Service** - 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:** For all those who are lonely during the Christmas Season, that they may be comforted.

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?

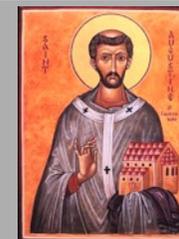
If you are going into hospital and would like a priest to visit you during your stay it is essential that you let one of the priests know. Tunbridge Wells hospital and many other hospitals do not inform us when Catholic patients are admitted.

**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

17th December 2017



## Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday – 4.00 pm 17th December



In Advent, the third Sunday is called "Gaudete" Sunday. Gaudete means "Rejoice". After the penitential focus of the first few weeks, the service reading's theme is one of celebration as we anticipate the birth of Jesus. Therefore on Gaudete Sunday we rejoice in anticipation of the coming of Christ. St. Augustine's school children will lead the procession into the church and take part in the service. As with previous years, a pictorial representation of the Antiphon will be presented and candles placed on the altar by the children before the Antiphon recitation. The antiphons will be read in various languages and repeated in English.

Our parish is truly an example of a global church. We urge you to come along and take this opportunity to celebrate with your fellow parishioners. Join us for refreshments in the Hall after the service.

### A PRAYER FOR ADVENT - Wrapping Gifts

Dear Lord, I am tired. I sit here surrounded by ribbons and paper, gifts and tags and I struggle to feel the spirit of giving. I can barely remember which gift is for whom and at moments it all seems so far from your birth. Help me to take this moment to think of the many gifts you have given to me, the many ways your grace has blessed my life. Help me to remember that each gift is a tiny mirror of the generosity I see so clearly in your life and of the many ways you shower me with such lavish and undeserved love. Let me sit here for just a moment and feel that joy in my heart. Thank you.

Thank you for the many gifts you offer us. Taken from Creighton University's Online Ministries' Praying Advent web site. used with permission.  
<http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>.

### Parish Reconciliation Service

7.15pm 17th Dec

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.



**3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
YEAR B PSALTER WEEK 3  
PARISH MASS BOOK  
Readings: from page 87  
Preface: from page 65**

## "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.

### LADIES' LUNCH & PRAYER GROUP

*Candles in the Church  
The Group will meet in the Church for Christmas prayers for our families.*

*Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
12.15 for 12.30 pm start  
ALL LADIES WELCOME*

*Why not set aside some quiet time and join in the Taizé Prayers in the church?  
On WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup>  
7.00 pm - Taizé Prayer  
All are welcome*

## 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.

### OFFERTORY

Offertory	£684.06
Offertory GA	£686.45
Outreach Cardinal	
Hume Centre	£709.97
CAFOD	£49
Mitapeep	£56.90
Postage over from the Signing of cards to prisoners sent to Open Doors	£56.90

**Thank as always for your generosity.**



## SOCIAL EVENTS TEAM QUIZ EVENING

Three unknown benefactors have offered to match **ALL** donations made to Mary's Meals until end of December. So the Social Events team was spurred on to greater effort.

After all the calculations and allowing for the doubling of the original donation, the final figure raised for Mary's Meals will be **£1390.50**. Oddly enough this is just the amount needed to feed and educate **100 children for 1 YEAR**.

## STOCKING FILLERS?

Sick of buying stocking fillers which will be broken the day after Christmas Day? Why not donate to Mary's Meals instead? Your donation will be doubled (see above) during December and if you're a UK Tax payer it could be worth 25% extra.

It costs just £13.90 to feed and educate a child for a **full year**. So fill a stomach and feed a brain, rather than just filling a stocking. <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk>  
Craig Lodge, Dalmally, Argyll  
PA33 1AR Tel No 01838 200 605



## 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 care for.

## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

God is more anxious to bestow His blessings on us than we are to receive them. For it is not God's way that great blessings should descend without the sacrifice first of great sufferings.

**St. Augustine**

## 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](mailto:dalamb0706@yahoo.co.uk)

Many thanks

Maureen McIntosh & Doreen Lambert

## A Journey Back from Addiction by Justyn Larcombe

Monday 15th January 9.30am – 4.30pm  
Burrswood Conference Centre

A fascinating talk by Justyn which will appeal to anyone looking for guidance and encouragement. £50 per person includes tea, coffee and pastries, a 3-course buffet lunch and cream tea.

## IMPORTANT

Please note that weekday Mass will only be celebrated at 10 am and 12.30pm on Wednesday between Christmas & New Year. **NO EARLY MORNING MASS UNTIL Tuesday 2nd JANUARY.**

The Church & office will be open during this time & for a short while afterwards.

The Church will open shortly before Mass and the office will be open for an hour after Mass. Adoration ends Tuesday 19th December, restarts Monday 15th January 2018.

## THIS WEEK

**SATURDAY 16th**

**2.30 pm Polish Catechism - Hall**

**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

**MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup>**

**12.15 pm Ladies Lunch & Pr Grp - Church**

**TUESDAY 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Noon Tuesday Lunch Club - Hall**

**2.00 pm ASDC - MR3**

**8.00 pm RCIA - Presbytery**

**WEDNESDAY 20<sup>th</sup>**

**7.00 pm Taizé Prayer - Church**

**SATURDAY 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**Extended times for Reconciliation  
10.30am to 1pm and 4pm to 5pm**

**SUNDAY 24<sup>th</sup> 4th Sunday of Advent  
Yr B Ps Wk 4 Christmas Eve**

Children at all Masses celebrated on Christmas Eve will be asked to bring the Infant Jesus from their cribs for blessing.

**Masses at usual times on weekend until  
First Mass of Christmas.**

**5.45 pm First Mass of Christmas**

**9.30 pm Carols & Readings before**

**10.00 pm Mass with carols**

**NO MIDNIGHT MASS**

**MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day**

**8.00 am Mass**

**9.30 am Family Mass**

**11.30 am Mass with carols**

**6.30 pm Confessions in Polish**

**7.30 pm Mass in Polish**

**MSZA SW godz 19.30**

**NO OUTREACH TODAY All Offerings on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses are a gift to our three Priests**