

PARISH OF SAINT AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO
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PENTECOST 31ST MAY

Weekday Readings: Year 2 Week 9 Divine Office: Week One

Pentecost	31st		(The Parish)
Tuesday	2 nd		(Pat Giles RIP)
Wednesday	3 rd	Ugandan Martyrs	(Tom Regan RIP)
Thursday	4 th	Our Lord Jesus Christ Eternal High Priest	(Janet Baker RIP)
Friday	5 th	St Boniface	(Our Diocese)
Saturday	6 th	St Norbert	(Leo Quintiliani RIP)
The Most Holy Trinity	7 th		(Tom Regan RIP)

FROM FATHER MICHAEL

“The doors were closed....” The doors are still closed. How do we celebrate the birthday of the Church while still locked out of the building that represents the Church? Where will we experience that powerful wind and those tongues of fire? Where will we hear the good news each “in our own language”?

The government is in total disarray. What does this science really say? How much danger are we really in? Why is the opening of churches such a long way down the list?

I can assure you that our Bishops are negotiating hard and are exploring all possibilities. Cleaning materials and protective clothing are being purchased. Teams of volunteers are being formed to facilitate some limited re-opening. Discussions are even taking place about celebrating Mass outside.

But whether the doors of our churches are open or not we do know that the Risen Christ still comes among us and breathes upon us the Holy Spirit. We are still anointed with the tongues of fire. The Good News is being whispered into the silence of our hearts. The face of the earth is being renewed and the Church, the real Church, is still here bearing witness to our crucified and risen Lord. We are that Church. We are the apostles for the new normal. We are the ambassadors of forgiveness, the agents of renewal.

AGEISM IN A TIME OF LOCKDOWN

In asking for volunteers to provide stewards and cleaners to facilitate the opening of our churches, I stipulated that you had to be under 70. I must admit this does seem somewhat arbitrary and not very scientific. Let's hope that flexibility and common sense might prevail!

There are direct links to Daily Mass from our Website: www.augustineofhippo.com

Facebook page: **St Augustine of Hippo R C Church** (please note the space between R & C)

YouTube: **Saint Augustine of Hippo St Austell** Twitter: **augustine_rc**

PASTORAL CARE DURING LOCKDOWN

I am available on the telephone if you want to talk or pray with me. With appropriate protection and precautions I am available to administer The Sacrament of the Sick to those in danger of death. We can and must all pray for one another and discover new depths of faith and love.

FUNERALS DURING LOCKDOWN

I am still available, as required, for funeral services at the graveside or in a crematorium chapel so long as social distancing is maintained.

BOOK REVIEW

Wounded Shepherd: Pope Francis and his struggle to convert the Catholic Church by Austen Ivereigh

This is a great lockdown read weighing in at just over 300 pages. Enter into the innermost thinking of the world's first ever Latin American Bishop of Rome. In his shepherding discover a way of being a Catholic Christian that actually works for Twenty First Century humanity.

The sex abuse crisis, clericalism and cover-ups, gross financial mismanagement and Vatican infighting, celibacy and the ordination of married men, interreligious dialogue and the future of our planet, a right-wing traditionalist backlash that likes to hide behind the white cassock of Pope Emeritus Benedict, and through it all Pope Francis keeps smiling!

One possible response to all the aforementioned issues would be to pull up the drawbridge, hunker down and just go on teaching the old, old story, but not for Pope Francis!

For this truly inspirational leader evangelisation is not just about making more Catholics or telling people how they should live their lives. Evangelisation is about rediscovering Jesus Christ, and rediscovering him not just in our prayers and sacraments but rediscovering him in the prisoner and the migrant, in people of other Faiths and in people of no faith. It's about listening rather than lecturing, discerning rather than dictating, and travelling with people through their difficulties rather than condemning them for their difficulties.

Pope Francis is a wounded shepherd because he knows that he makes mistakes and gets things wrong. He knows that he is in as much need of God's love and mercy as everybody else. Being Catholic, being truly human is always a work in progress.

ST BONIFACE - Principle Patron of the Diocese.

Born as Winfrith, possibly at Crediton about 675, Boniface was killed at Dokkum in the Netherland on the 5th June 754. After several years as monk and teacher he went to evangelise the Germanic peoples. Ordained Bishop he was given wide ranging papal commissions throughout German and Gaul. With much support from England in materials and personnel he founded monasteries and established dioceses, presided at synods and liaised with kings. He is remembered as a determined missionary and as a church organiser and reformer, whose work shaped the future of Europe. He is buried at his abbey of Fulda, and is honoured as an apostle of Germany.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK and especially:-

Helen Ledwidge, Pauline Abdey, Yvonne Bradbury, Annie Turvey, Fr.Mike Stack, Denis O'Gorman, Fred Abraham, Sylvia Austin, Brendan Bowe, Teiaia Bradbury, Paul Briscoe, James & Margaret Clapp, Joanne Clarkson, Maureen Coles, Sue Dugmore, Elaine Gladwin, Nick Haskins, Suzi Hill, Teresita Hill, Elizabeth McKie, Carmen Matthews, Sarah Mitchell, Mary O'Brien, June Parsons, Edwina Porter- Duncan, Sylvia Ryan, Amanda Stickney, Paddy Wellington, Pauline Whitford and Sally Wilson.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS OF THE RECENTLY DEPARTED:-

Pat Giles, Joanna Bazen and Fran Beeler. May they rest in peace and rise in glory.