



## Parish of St Augustine of Canterbury **Helping Hands**

This leaflet offers a brief insight into the activities that exist within our Parish of St Augustine of Canterbury, Matson. If you are new to the parish – welcome! The parish groups look after the practical and spiritual needs of our church and its community, as well as beyond our needs. Please do contact the named person in each group if you want to know more or get involved. You'll receive a very warm welcome – this parish needs you!

### **Altar Servers**

Altar servers assist at both the 6.30pm Mass on Saturday evening and 11am Mass on Sunday morning. There is no formal rota and you can serve at whichever Mass you prefer. You must have made your First Holy Communion. If you would like to volunteer, you will be helped by experienced servers who will teach you the ropes. Contact *Ufuoma Bakpa* ([ufiman@yahoo.com](mailto:ufiman@yahoo.com))

### **CAFOD**

The Catholic Agency For Overseas Development is the official overseas aid agency for England and Wales. Our group raises considerable funds especially with Lent lunches and Harvest Festival lunch. Contact *Ann Kinghorn* ([534752/amk.larkham@gmail.com](mailto:534752/amk.larkham@gmail.com)).

### **Catechists**

Catechists support our young people in preparing for the Sacraments. They help every year with the preparation programme for First Holy Communion and every few years with Confirmation. This is a particularly rewarding role, if you would like to help please contact *Tony Sharpe* ([tonysharp@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:tonysharp@blueyonder.co.uk))

### **Children's Liturgy**



Unfortunately we do not have volunteers to run this at present but will be able to provide this important part of the liturgy when we have helpers. If you are interested please contact *Fr. Gerry*. At the back of church is a children's corner with play materials, several with a religious theme, for you to use with your child if needed.

### **Church choir & music**

Join the SAS!! The St Augustine Singers welcomes new members. Instrumentalists wanted – if you play an instrument and would enjoy making music with others, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact *Moni* up in the choir loft or see *Fr Gerry*.

### **Cleaners**

Can you help clean our beautiful church by joining our rota system? Along with other helpers this privilege of helping keep our church beautiful can be undertaken at convenient times, all materials supplied. Please contact *Ann Kinghorn 534752*. If you could help with cleaning of the hall on a rota basis then *Pat Poyzer611488* would be very pleased to hear from you.

### **Coffee after Sunday mass**

This is a valuable social time for us after 11am mass on most Sundays, so please consider coming into the hall to meet up. If you could help occasionally there is a list of dates on the hall notice-board outside the kitchen door, please add your name to help make & serve the refreshments on dates to suit yourself.

### **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist our parish priest, when required, by distributing Holy Communion during Mass and taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound at home or in hospital. Contact *Fr Gerry* for further details.

### **Fairtrade**

Fairtrade items are on sale monthly after weekend masses. This helps ensure that the world's poorest small-scale farmers and producers are able to earn a decent living. Further details from *Ann Kinghorn 534752*.

### **Faith Discussion Group**

Meets on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm in the hall, refreshments at 7.15, and all are welcome – parishioners or non-parishioners, catholic or non-catholic, young and old. A Bible book or gospel is frequently discussed, normally using the Ignatius Study Guide, however other books have been discussed. We have some lively discussions and learn at the same time. More information from [ptaylor@cantab.net](mailto:ptaylor@cantab.net) 627303

### **Finance Committee**

Decisions relating to finance and property/site matters are made by this group, which includes the Parish Treasurer. Please see *Fr Gerry* for more information.

### **Flower Arrangers**

If you enjoy flower arranging of any standard would you like to join our rota helping to beautify our church throughout the year? Please contact *Irene Wilson 300189* or *Sue Merigold 619509*



## **Folk Group**

We have a monthly folk group at 11 am mass. New members (to sing and/or play) are always welcome, please come up to the choir loft to meet us.

## **Gardening**

Volunteers aim to maintain the garden and general tidiness in front of and around the church and if you could spare the occasional hour to help it would be appreciated.

## **Gift Aid**

For tax payers the Gift Aid Scheme is a way to increase personal giving by 25% at no extra cost to yourself. Please talk to *Richard Merigold (619509)* for details.

## **Open Parish Meetings**

These are held twice yearly and are an opportunity for everyone to hear what is happening in and with our parish, finances, building, social, and for any questions you may have.

## **Parish Visiting Group**

This group of volunteers can support parishioners with occasional shopping, lifts, home visits etc. Please contact *Rosemary Parles (617730)* or *Sue Merigold (619509)* if you need help - new volunteers are most welcome.



## **Pastoral Council**

This is made up of equal numbers of selected English Martyrs and St Augustine members that meet several times yearly to discuss and deal with matters which affect both parishes. Please see *Fr Gerry* if you wish to know more.

## **Readers for Mass**

You are most welcome to join our rota for reading at weekend masses. Occasional voluntary training sessions occur. Please contact *Ann Kinghorn 534752*.

## **Red Mission Boxes (Missio)**



Missio is the Pope's charity for world mission, helping missionaries work alongside global communities who are poor or in need. We can all help by giving generously through the red box. Please contact *Rosemary Parles 617730*

## **Repository**

A small but comprehensive repository stall can be found at the back of church. Any offer to stock this would be appreciated, please see *Fr Gerry* or *Veronica Hollingsbee* in the Sacristy.

### **Sacristy Team**

A small team looks after all church preparations in the parish, the Sacristan undertaking this overall for all celebrations. Contact *Veronica Hollingsbee* (411502) if you could help.

### **Site Management Committee**

If you are able to offer skills for the maintenance and management of our church and hall please contact *Francis Brown* ([francis4cricket@btinternet.com](mailto:francis4cricket@btinternet.com) 07717502075). Tasks involved are health and safety matters/checks, safety inspections, risk assessments, minor maintenance and joint decision making on larger projects.



### **Tea @ 3**

This is a social occasion on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 3pm in the hall. Everyone most welcome to enjoy a friendly chat with a cuppa and cake. Please contact *Sue Merigold* 619509 or *Rosemary Parles* 617730 if you'd like more details or would like to help.

### **Together in Matson**

Together in Matson runs the Redwell Centre, offering many activities for young people and families, and offers support with social issues. Our parish supports this financially and by acting as trustees. Volunteers are most welcome, contact *Vanessa Worrall* on 381070 [togetherinmatson@redwellcentre.co.uk](mailto:togetherinmatson@redwellcentre.co.uk)

### **200 Club**

You pay £12 a year for each number. 50% is donated to the church and 50% is given out in 6 prizes each month. Each year over £1200 is given out in prizes. This is a great way to contribute to the running costs of the parish. Contact *Claire Cooper* (07932103185) or [claire249@btinternet.com](mailto:claire249@btinternet.com)

### **Uniform organizations for young people**

Meet in our church hall in term time Fridays - beavers & cubs (6-10 years) meet 5.30-6.30pm, Scouts (10-14.5 years) 7-8.30pm.  
Explorers 14-18yrs meet in Brockworth on Thursday.  
Contact [staugustinescoutgroup@gmail.com](mailto:staugustinescoutgroup@gmail.com) / 07954895827

### **Welcomers**

Please speak to *Jeni Gardener* (07591 942191) if you are interested and willing to help on a rota to offer a friendly welcome to those who attend weekend masses.

**8/22/SM For further details of all these groups please see our Parish website [www.gloucesteremaoc.com](http://www.gloucesteremaoc.com)**