

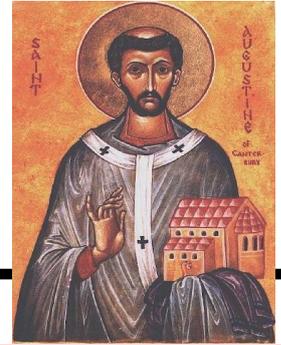


Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine  
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU

# PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11am Sung Mass Wednesday:

Holy Days: 12 noon as announced



Please read our Covid-19 worship notice

**A Very Warm  
WELCOME**

**Today is  
Trinity XVII  
4th October 2020**

The Propers are on  
Page **629** of the red  
Book of Common Prayer

Today there will be no

**Hymns**

At the end of the service we  
conclude with the  
**Angelus** (in the back of the  
white **Mass Booklets**)  
Turning to face the Statue of  
Our Lady.

Government Covid-19  
Guidelines and Rules

**In accordance with  
Government guidelines we  
ask that you wear face-  
masks in Church (clergy in  
the Sanctuary are permitted  
to use their discretion),  
practice self distancing and  
use hand sanitiser.**



**Please  
Turn off Your  
Mobile Phones**

Our Organ doesn't like them

*Thank you*

*Dear Friends,*

Our congregation was formed in May 2005. We had considerable hopes that being, as we then were, in Canterbury, we might attract a few extra folk. Actually, over the past 15 years, we have had quite a few people pass through our doors ... but few have stayed. Archbishop Haverland, commenting upon this phenomenon, has said many times, that it seems fewer and fewer people today are 'Joiners' - this, I think is true of almost all social, religious and even political groups. Unless it's auditions for the 'X Factor', "Britain's Got Talent" or some other reality show, or getting themselves all worked up and going on a demonstration, people tend to stay at home or immerse themselves in leisure activities, anything — as long as it doesn't involve a commitment!

Of course this is a puzzle when we set it in the context of Church, but I don't think we should be unduly concerned. The importance and relevancy of the Gospel is unchanged. It doesn't rely upon people believing it to MAKE it true!

We must, of course, be conscious of and try to rise to the challenge of ever more creative ways of proclaiming the Gospel and promoting the Church. Since the Covid-19 emergency in March I have, as one way of meeting this challenge, been working on a new Parish website. It is still under construction but should soon be launched. If all goes to plan this will be on the domain name:

[www.staugustinescanterbury.uk](http://www.staugustinescanterbury.uk).

In today's Epistle we hear St Paul telling the Church in Ephesus: "*I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One*



*Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*" (Ephesians 4:1)

Creating an environment that welcomes people and one which people find they have an urge to **want** to join, often comes about because they identify it as a happy caring, loving, group of people who are sincere in their faith and following our Lord Jesus. Making a difference—in a positive way—to peoples lives and transforming them. This sort of environment requires careful nurturing and monitoring ... it doesn't happen spontaneously.

We might be tempted to think that the early Christians were such a happy, loving community and in complete agreement and living side by side! But that wasn't always the case, as St Paul's letters to the infant Churches show. But, there was something different about these Christian Communities.

Ask yourself this question — How did the Church go from being a group of frightened people in the Upper Room to being the largest Religion on Earth? It certainly wasn't because being a Christian was easy or less dangerous after Pentecost.

## October

✕

**Sunday 4th**

*Trinity XVII*

*Commemorate St Francis  
of Assisi*

11am Low Mass

✕

**Sunday 11th**

*Trinity XVIII*

*Commemorate  
Motherhood of the BVM*

11am Low Mass

✕

**Sunday 18th**

*St Luke*

*Commemorate Trinity XIX*

11am Low Mass

✕

**Sunday 25th**

*Christ the King*

11am Low Mass

✕

## November

✕

**Sunday 1st**

*All Saints Day*

*(Comm Trinity XXI)*

11am Low Mass

✕

Part of the answer is that that the people around them, saw in these Christians, the embrace of a way of life that was measurably different to how they themselves lived. Honesty, Care, Love, Hope, Faith ... Christian's don't necessarily have a monopoly on these things, but to the people of the ancient world, with their corrupt, crumbling socio-political and pagan religious institutions, Christianity, even in the face of fierce persecution, offered something different. It offered Hope and Peace — not peace as the world gives BUT real peace.

**I don't think people have changed all that much, nor in what they are seeking!**

In order that we might become an attractive group for people to join, we must take a hard, realistic and regular look at ourselves. We must truly believe and not be shy of manifesting this belief.

Not so long ago someone who has experienced our worship, suggested to me that perhaps our style of worship, our

embrace of tradition, was a stumbling block to some, and that "if we wanted to make an impact in the community" we might consider shortening services, dumbing down, or changing what we do. There are lots of Churches offering that — they do not appear to me, on the whole, to be doing any better than we. In fact every change has arguably alienated those people they already have!

My counter argument is that we must show that we take our faith and commitment to God and to the Church (that also means to each other) seriously. To embrace this attractive way of life, takes humility and humbleness of heart. "He that humbled himself shall be exalted" (Luke 14: 11)

We could do a lot worse, on this his feast day, to use St Francis as our role model. He embraced humility totally.



Requests for names to be added to our weekly prayer lists may be made by writing the prayer intention (names and reason) in clear printed writing on paper and given to the clergy. If you wish the intention to remain private—note that and the details will not be published on this weekly sheet

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Fr Don & Di Walker, Chris Bosworth, Margaret and Laurence Mead, Paul Fletcher, Barbara Henderson, Todd, David and Sheila, Margaret Miles, Danny and Colin Rumens, Frederick Chadwick, Ann Chapman, Diane Young, Pauline Allison, Harrison and Edward Eckert, Ina Bond, Margaret and Peter Martin, Dulcie Fidge, Margaret Bendelow, Dorothy Hipkiss, Fr Miles Maylor, Vickie Wall, Pat Johnson, Edward Wilkinson, Liz Bakker and all those effected by or suffering from the Coronavirus and other infectious diseases.

*For those who read these Parish Notes on the Notice Board outside and all who receive email or paper copies.*

- For our neighbours and the people of **Painters Forstal** and **Ospringle** and the surrounding countryside, the **growth** of our **Church Family**.
- For the safety and protection of our **Armed, Uniformed and Security Forces** and those of our Allies, especially those on active service. For those charged with our **safety and security** that they may use their powers justly.
- For **persecuted Christians** especially in Africa, Pakistan, the Middle East and China.
- For the **victims of terrorism and warfare and crime**. For those who suffer as a result of natural and man-made **disasters**. For the poor, homeless and destitute and those who seek to help them.

*For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*

- Diocese of the South, Bishop Ordinary: The Most Revd. Mark Haverland.
- St Bede, Thames Ditton, Surrey, Canon Donald Walker ObIOSB
- For the growth and stability of our Diocese, our parishes and missions.

*And we remember the recently departed: NN specially, AND those whose anniversary falls at this time NN,  
P: ✕ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord R: And let light perpetual shine upon them*

[www.staugustinescanterbury.uk](http://www.staugustinescanterbury.uk)

[www.anglican catholic.org.uk](http://www.anglican catholic.org.uk)



**CHURCH  
FLOWERS**

*To make a  
donation for  
Flowers in*

*Church — Please see Mrs  
Margaret Mead*

**Rector**

**Bishop Damien Mead**

Tel: 01797 321704

Email: [dmead@anglican catholic.org](mailto:dmead@anglican catholic.org)

**Honorary Assistant Priest**

**Father Raymond Thompson**

Tel: 07443 438465

Email: [fraythompson@gmail.com](mailto:fraythompson@gmail.com)

**Parish Secretary:** Mr Roy Hipkiss

**Parish Treasurer:** Mrs Kerry Scott

**Organist:** Mrs Tatyana Angelova

**Cantor:** Vacancy