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

## PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11am Sung Mass

Holy Days: As Announced

A Very Warm WELCOME Today is Lent IV Mothering Sunday

## 14th March 2021

The Propers begin on Page 404 of the red Book of Common Prayer and Page A112 of the Anglican Missal

St Augustine's is now open on Sundays for Mass at 11am. For the time being Mass will still be recorded each Sunday and uploaded to our Facebook Page and our website on Sunday

afternoons.



At the end of each service we conclude with the Angelus (in the back of the white Mass Booklets) in the Lady Chapel.



Please Turn off Your Mobile Phones Our Organ doesn't like them



Today is the Lews Friends, Fourth Sunday in Lent. It is also known by many "Laetare other names, such as Sunday" from the first word of our Introit at Mass today, "Rejoice" which in the Latin is "Laetare". Today is also known as "Mothering Sunday", however it is another name for today that I wish to focus on "Refreshment Sunday".

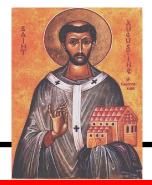
The dictionary definition of 'Refreshment': *includes:* invigoration, revitalising, revival, restoring, strengthening, enlivening, perking up, stimulation, freshening, energising, reanimation, revivification, resuscitation, rejuvenation, regeneration and renewal.

The Collect of the day speaks of relief. The Epistle speaks of freedom. The Gospel speaks of refreshment. Relief, freedom and refreshment are the rewards we receive today from a good keeping of Lent.

During Lent the disciplinary practices, which we are all advised to cultivate, are intended for a very definite result. These disciplines are like the *scaffolding* necessary for building purposes.

Edification stems from a Greek word which means "to build". Lenten devotional disciplines are intended to be edifying. Like any building project at the end of Lent the scaffolding will be removed. At Easter we shall see what we have been building. St Paul tells us that we must "grow up into Him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole fitly joined together and bodv compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love." (Ephesians 4:15-16)

Relief, freedom, refreshment are



Please read our Covid-19 worship notice



words to keep in mind for our mid-Lent meditation on Refreshment Sunday.

One of the most important devotional disciplines that is essential is to get used to, is listening to God in silence. Some people find silence daunting and frightening even. I suppose that's not surprising in the midst of the busy hurly burly of modern life. Noise is all around us. For Christians it should be such a very real relief to be alone and still, even if only for a brief moment. To keep one's mind in stillness has been described as like "holding a mirror toward Heaven". If we practice this we find our minds begin to reflect the things that are so far above us, that it is only in silence that we can contemplate them properly.

Freedom of spirit is the only real freedom. The place where we live, the conditions under which we live, can neither make nor break true spiritual freedom. The freedom which is promised by changed scenes and altered conditions is, I think, little more than an illusion. If we can't be free



where we are, it is not likely that we could be free anywhere.

God is with us wherever we are and under whatever conditions we may be living. Freedom consists in living an interior life with Him. The only liberty is the liberty in which Christ makes us free. The **free life** is the life that is hid with Christ in God. If our Lent has led us along <u>this</u> path of freedom, we shall have something worth keeping after Lent is over.

It is natural that this talk of Refreshment should lead us to think about eating and drinking. Our refreshment as followers of Christ is always to be found in the Blessed Sacrament. This is the very Bread from Heaven which contains in Itself all sweetness. This is the Heavenly manna upon which we feed in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. This is the strength and refreshment for our souls, by virtue of which we can do all things and endure all things. This is our daily Bread.

If the pressures of the burdens of life drive us to despair, then something is seriously wrong with us! For it is to the Blessed Sacrament that we should turn to more frequent Communions, for in receiving Christ's Most Holy Body and Most Precious Blood we shall be perceiving in ourselves the fruits of our redemption. If Lent leads us to fresh the of discoveries of wonders Communion, we shall have found lasting refreshment.

Today, if all has gone according to plan, we should have with us **Barnabas Sharp**, who joins our Parish Team as Cantor at Mass. I know that everyone will want to give him a warm and hearty welcome.

Our Parish Plate Collections dropped during the past year. Donations can be made on our website and envelopes (for Gift Aid) are availa-

ble at the back of Church and there is also basket there for cash!

alles

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 ...

HRH The Duke of Edinburgh, Fr Don & Di Walker, Chris Bosworth, Margaret and Laurence Mead, Paul Fletcher, Barbara Henderson, Todd, David and Sheila, Danny and Colin Rumens, Frederick Chadwick, Ann Chapman, Diane Young, Megan Young, Pauline Allison, Harrison and Edward Eckert, Ina Bond, Margaret and Peter Martin, Margaret Bendelow, Dorothy Hipkiss, Fr Miles Maylor, Elizabeth Bell, Vickie Wall, Pat Johnson, Liz Bakker, William and Nancy Spencer, Deb Stuck, Jos Kenyon-Hoare and her family, Sally Pengilly, Angela, Hazel, Tom, Vera and Karl, Gabriella Beasley, Millie Armstrong, the family of Lucy Fagg, whose year mind is at the time, and all those effected by the Coronavirus,

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 **Ospringe** and the surrounding countryside, the **growth** of our **Church Family**.
- For persecuted Christians especially in Africa, Pakistan, the Middle East and China.

For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- Diocese of Kenya, Bishop Ordinary Rt Rev John Kamande Ndegwa
- Oxford Movement House Group, North Yorkshire, Mrs Sally Lyth, Convenor;
- The people of Ireland, North and South;
- All mothers, expectant mothers, and all adoptive and foster mothers.

And we remember the recently departed: specially, AND those whose anniversaries falls at this time Lucy Fagg

P: ♥ Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord R: And let light perpetual shine upon them

## (Parish) www.staugustineacc.uk

(Diocese) www.anglicancatholic.org.uk