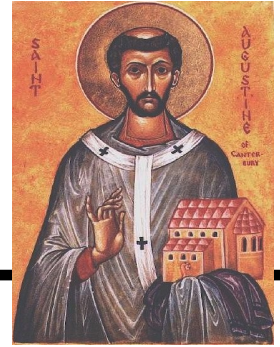




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU



PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11 am Sung Mass + Week Days + Holy Days: As Announced

**A Very Warm
WELCOME**

This Sunday is

**Sexagesima
20th February
2022**

The Propers of the Mass today are to be found on page 375 of the Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

**436
430
407
259**

At the end of Mass we shall turn to the back of Church and pray together
The Angelus, at Our Lady's Shrine



**Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones**

Our Organ doesn't like them

Thank you

Dear Friends, I am very grateful to Fr Ray for his service during my holiday in the Caribbean. These notes were not distributed in Church last week because of my inadvertent absence — so I use them this week.

The cruise was great and we were blessed with good weather and interesting ports of call. Queen Mary 2 is a wonderful ship and one feels very safe on board.

This cruise was especially interesting because during the trip across the Atlantic at the beginning of the voyage, one of the guest speakers on board was Dr Stephen Payne her principal architect. He spoke in great detail about the design of the ship and of the differences between QM2 — as an ocean LINER— and other CRUISE Ships, including the other ships in Cunard's fleet.

Not for the first time I have marvelled at how the turning circle of these great vessels is something which mirrors, in important things, our own lives and this is especially apt to consider this during Gesima-tide.

During the three week period of Gesima-tide we are called to slow, and turn towards the fast approaching preparation time of Lent. The white and gold of Christmas and Epiphany give way to the purple of penitence. The joyful anticipation of Advent and the fulfilment of that joy as we celebrate the Incarnation and Manifestation of Christ is replaced with the need to re-order our minds and reset our priorities.

When a large ship decides to stop, the engines are often thrown into reverse. When she turns there is a general slowing down to try to ensure



the turning circle is as small as possible. Holy Mother Church has given us in our Kalendar a pre Lenten period when adjustments can be made to enable us to approach the keeping of Lent appropriately.

Throughout much of the modern Church the Gesima period has been abandoned, but our adherence to the older traditional Kalendar, means these three valuable Sundays are available to us for our edification.

Do we need a preparation for Lent?

Yes, I think we do. Perhaps even more than our forefathers did. We need time to complete our great turning circle and replot our course. No longer are we focused on the Stable in Bethlehem. Our sight now begins to be set on Jerusalem and on the events of Holy Week.

For the Christian, this period of preparation — Gesima-tide and Lent — should be kept with even more care and attention than the secular world gives to its hijacking of Christmas. When Christmas trees are erected and radios blare out Christmas

February

✕

Sunday 20th

Sexagesima

11am Sung Mass

✕

Thursday 24th

St Matthias

12 noon Low Mass

✕

Sunday 27th

Quinquagesima

11am Sung Mass

✕

March

✕

Wednesday 2nd

*Ash Wednesday
(Comm St Chad)*

12noon Low Mass
& Imposition of Ashes

✕

Sunday 6th

*Lent I (Comm: St Perpetua &
St Felicity)*

11am Sung Mass

*Followed by Monthly
Healing Service*

✕

Carols earlier and earlier each year, it is easy for us to overlook the need to keep Advent as a time of joyful preparation — not just for the commemoration of Jesus' Nativity 2000 years ago, but in deep anticipation of His coming again in glory at the end of time.

Lent gives us time, free from secular distractions (unless one is obsessed with the proliferation of chocolate eggs!) to really focus on the whole picture. For we are called to look to the fulfilment of the Babe of Bethlehem's earthly life and recall His Death on the Cross for all of us.

Are you ready for Lent? Be honest — none of us are ever truly ready for the magnitude of Holy Week. Nor are we ready for the blinding light which will follow on Easter Day.

St Paul reminded us last Sunday that Athletes need to practice before they can compete in competition. Muscles need to be flexed and stamina needs to be increased. There

is a need to master ourselves and bring those things which can get in our way of the pursuit of holiness, under control. Likewise today in our Gospel, Our Lord reminds of the value and need to prepare the good ground to enable the seed of the Gospel to bear good fruit. Preparation and appropriate setting of priorities to enable us to get right with God is the key to this period.

Please pray for me as I pray for you that we use this time wisely.



Father Roger Bell's Legacy

Mrs Liz Bell, widow of the late Fr Bell, who died on Christmas Day 2020, has informed me that she intends to fulfil his desire to leave a generous bequest to the ACC. In consultation with her, we have agreed that whereas most of the legacy will go to the Diocese, some of the money is to be used to erect a suitable memorial to him here at the Pro-cathedral.

I have therefore instructed a solicitor and architect to apply for planning permission to install a bellcote / campanile on the roof of the Church. This will include a bell — which we will affectionately refer to as "Father Bell".

It is intended that the bellcote will also include a clock to commemorate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this year.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Fr Don and Di Walker, Chris Bosworth, Margaret and Laurence Mead, Paul and Sue Fletcher, Barbara Henderson, Todd, David and Sheila, Colin Rumens, Frederick Chadwick, Ann Chapman, Pauline Allison, Harrison and Edward Eckert, Margaret and Peter Martin, Margaret Bendelow, Dorothy Hipkiss, Fr Miles Maylor, Elizabeth Bell, Vickie Wall, Pat Johnson, Fr Ed & Liz Bakker, Deb Stuck, Angela, Hazel, Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn, Kathleen Dunford, Deacon Jong, Bishop David Haines, Malcolm Munn, Barbara Bowers, Isabella Ighodaro, 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 the surrounding countryside and villages, the **growth** of our **Church Family**.
- For **persecuted Christians** especially in Africa, Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Middle East and China.

For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- Diocese of Australia and New Zealand, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Ian Woodman;
- Our Lady of Walsingham & St Francis, Rochester, Kent, Fr Andrew Scurr;
- Preparation for a holy Lent

And we remember the recently departed: specially Paul Dicks, Priest, Robert Dunford and those whose anniversaries fall at this time:

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

(Parish) www.staugustineacc.uk

(Diocese) www.anglican catholic.org.uk



CHURCH FLOWERS

*To make a donation for
Easter Flowers in
Church—Please
see Mrs Margaret Mead*

Rector

Bishop Damien Mead

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Father Raymond Thompson

Tel: 07443 438465

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Parish Secretary: Mr Roy Hipkiss

Parish Treasurer: Mrs Kerry Scott

Organist: Mr Louis Collins

Cantor: Mr Barnabas Sharp

Caretaker: "Vacant"