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

PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11 am Sung Mass + Wednesday: 12 noon Low Mass + Holy Days: As Announced

A Very Warm **WELCOME** This Sunday is **First Sunday in Lent Comm: St Perpetua** & St Felicity 6th March 2022

The **Propers** of the Mass today are to be found on **page 384** of the **Book of Common Prayer**

HYMNS

After the final hymn we will have our monthly Healing Service, this will conclude at the back of Church and pray together The Angelus, at Our Lady's Shrine



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



Dew Friends, of words we use There are lots in Church which seem to have long gone out of common use. It might be argued that some were perhaps never in common use. Other words have changed or lost their original meaning. However regardless of what the world thinks about the language we use in Church there are some words which should be in every Christians vocabulary.

Contrition is one such word. To be truly *contrite* is to grieve that by our sins we have so often offended God. At its root it means to forgive as we would be forgiven. Indeed in the heart of the Christian Family Prayer taught by Our Lord, we find this sentiment firmly embedded.

So a rule of thumb that would go to the root of the whole matter would be to remember our own trespasses and ask forgiveness and forgive the trespasses of others. Life actually becomes a very simple affair when we do that. It becomes simple for us, and what is even more to the point, simple for the people around us!

Fault finding is a helpful occupation if it means finding our own faults. It is a troublesome pursuit, if it means finding other people's faults.

our sins and to be in love and charity with our neighbours should be the state of affairs in our lives **BEFORE** Holy Communion! This is one way in which we can be truly worthy of receiving such a great gift as Our Lord's own Body and Blood.

Those who know how to repent, also know best how to forgive. It is a curious thing that the most unforgiving people always have most need of forgiveness. Only the forgiving are able accept to forgiveness with simplicity.

I once read in a guide to making a good Confession: "It is not good for





you to go with great detail into the causes of particular faults, or to set yourself to think much about them or give account of them. What you need is to love Our Lord more and more. and get closer to Him, and run to Him for everything. His love is the great motive power. That is what you need. Go to Him for comfort and help and strength and love, and ask Him to supply all your needs, and then just as a mother loves her little child to depend upon her for everything, so He will gladly take care of and provide for To truly and earnestly repent us of you. Just love Him, trust Him, and be happy with Him, and your faults will fall away of themselves. If you have been unfaithful, don't have a fuss about it. Turn to Him lovingly and trustfully, and begin at once to be more faithful without further ado. Never be sad or dismal. It does not become one whom Our Lord loves. Be quite simple, free and happy in His Love."

> The man who wrote this was well accustomed to discipline. The rigour of his own life taught him to be tender in his dealings with others. At the same time he evidently had arrived at freedom through discipline.

It is this interior discipline which is



the essence of real self-denial. It is to train ourselves to recognise our own faults and to discern the virtues of others.

It is important to become used to confessing our own sins and to be silent about the sins of others. It is to learn to blame ourselves and praise others. It is to labour with our own beams and to leave the motes of others to God. This must be how we intend to begin Lent if we really want to arrive at Easter as we should.



Meaning of Ash Wednesday

Following the example of the Ninevites, (Jonah 3:3-8) who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts at the beginning of Lent. This act reminds us that life passes away on Earth



"Remember, O Man thou art dust, and unto dust thou shalt return."

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice. The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance.

On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms of the previous year. The penitents did not enter the Church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion.

At the beginning of Mass today, those who were not "Ashed" on Wednesday may receive the mark.

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 Peace in Ukraine and throughout the World.

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

- The ACC Military Ordinariate, Episcopal Visitor, the Rt Rev Donald Lerow, the chaplains, their families and the service men and women in the Armed Forces of our Member Nations whom they serve;
- Oxford Movement House Group, North Yorkshire, Mrs Sally Lyth, Convenor;
- The (British) Commonwealth of Nations.

And we remember the recently departed: specially Neville 'Chief' Bensley and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Michael Sheehan, Joseph DeHart, Priest

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