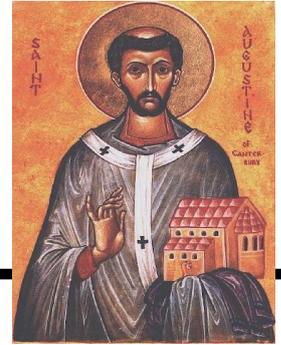




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine  
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU



# PARISH NEWS

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

**A Very Warm  
WELCOME**

**This Sunday is  
Patronal Festival  
of St Augustine  
of Canterbury**  
(Comm: Easter V: commonly  
called Rogation Sunday)  
**22nd May 2022**

The Propers of the Mass  
are on page E62 of the  
Anglican Missal

**HYMNS**

**199**

**471**

**413**

**SHEET**

*Following the last hymn in  
place of the Angelus, during  
Eastertide, we sing  
The Regina Caeli*



**Please  
Turn off Your  
Mobile Phones**

Our Organ doesn't like them

*Dear Friends,*

**Alleluia!  
Christ is risen!**

Although there were many Christians in remote parts of Britain when Augustine arrived in 597AD, no one can doubt the importance for the Christian mission in England, especially in Kent, of Pope Gregory's sending of Augustine and his monks to our shores.

Pope Gregory had a deep desire to bring the Good News of Jesus to the people of England. He chose for his mission about 40 monks from the Roman monastery of St. Andrew which he had founded.

Led by their prior, Augustine, these missionary pilgrims started their journey in 596, but were soon disheartened and afraid and nearly gave up altogether. They wanted to return home, appalled at the idea of going to what they had been told was a fierce and pagan nation and not knowing a word of its language. Tales of the dangerous Channel crossing and rumours of bloodthirsty deaths meted out to enemies did not help.

The monks sent Augustine back to the Pope to ask him to recall him, but Gregory wrote a letter of encouragement urging them to keep going. Augustine, now given increased status as an Abbot, and the other monks resumed their journey and eventually crossed the Channel. They landed at Ebbsfleet near Ramsgate sometime in the spring of 597.

The most powerful king at that time was Ethelbert who ruled Kent and a large area north to the Humber. Augustine sent interpreters saying that they came from Rome bearing good news which assured all who received it of eternal joy in heaven. The king had already heard of the Christian faith; his wife and queen was Bertha, daughter of the Christian



king of Paris and she continued to practice her faith after marrying Ethelbert.

Six days later after their arrival, King Ethelbert came to the Isle of Thanet and summoned Augustine and his companions. They approached the king carrying a silver cross and the image of the Lord painted on a board, like an icon.

First they sang a litany of salvation and then they preached the Gospel to the king and his court. Ethelbert seemed to be impressed although he was not converted then and there and he offered hospitality to the missionaries and gave them permission to preach among his people. He also gave them a dwelling in his chief city, Canterbury. There they lived a life of prayer and preaching, living simply and caring for the poor.

A number of people were converted and baptised. The Church of St. Martin in Canterbury had been built in Roman times and was still used by Queen Bertha for prayer. The monks gathered there for prayer, Mass, preaching and baptisms.

## May

✘

### Thursday 19th

*St Dunstan & Ordination to Priesthood (Sub Conditione)*

*Rev'd Gordon Tall*

12 noon Low Mass

✘

### Sunday 22nd

*Patronal Festival of St Augustine of Canterbury (Easter V)*

11am Sung Mass

✘

### Wednesday 25th

*Vigil of the Ascension*

12 noon Low Mass

✘

### Thursday 26th

*The Ascension of Our Lord Jesus Christ*

12 noon Low Mass

✘

### Sunday 29th

*Ascension Sunday*

11am Sung Mass

✘

## June

✘

### Wednesday 1st

*Octave of the Ascension*

12 noon Low Mass

Eventually, King Ethelbert himself came to believe and was baptised. From then on, large numbers were converted to Christ. The king insisted that no one should be forced to accept Christianity; he knew that true service of Christ must be accepted freely. Augustine went to Arles in France to be ordained a bishop and sent two of his monks to Pope Gregory with news of their success and a request for more help. The new missionaries included Mellitus and Justus who were ordained by Augustine as Bishops of London and Rochester respectively. Paulinus became first bishop of York after Augustine's death. Augustine was made Archbishop by Gregory with all bishops of Britain committed to his pastoral authority.

Britain was not a totally pagan land when Augustine arrived although a new preaching of the Gospel was certainly needed in much of England. Many Britons had remained Christian from Roman times but had pushed westwards by the invading pagans. Patrick, for example, was a British

Christian who had gone to bring the Gospel to Ireland and later Irish missionaries like Columba came back to Britain with the same Gospel. This *Celtic Church* was largely monastic and developed its own distinctive way with its own bishops. Sadly many of its clergy regarded Augustine with suspicion.

The Britons had been fighting the pagan Anglo-Saxons for 150 years and many had fought for their Christian faith. A bishop coming under Anglo-Saxon protection seemed like a threat.

Praise God for the perseverance and hard work of Augustine and his brethren.

**He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!**



## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Canon Don and Di Walker; Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Paul and Sue Fletcher; Barbara Henderson; Todd, David and Sheila; Colin Rumens; Ann Chapman; Pauline Allison; Harrison and Edward Eckert; Margaret and Peter Martin; Margaret Bendelow; Dorothy Hipkiss; Fr Miles Maylor; Elizabeth Bell; Vickie Wall; Canon Charles and Pat Johnson; Fr Ed & Liz Bakker; Deb Stuck; Angela and Hazel; Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn; Kathleen Dunford; Deacon Jong; Bishop David Haines; Malcolm Munn; Barbara Bowers; Isabella Ighodaro, Fr Howard Marsh, Fr Anthony Chadwick and his family. All those effected by the Coronavirus. For Peace in Ukraine and Russia, and throughout the World.

*For those who read these Parish Notes on our Notice Board outside Church 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 The Kei, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Dominic Mdunyelwa;
- Ethical standards in business and the political life of our nation.

*And we remember the recently departed: specially Frederick Chadwick and those whose anniversaries fall at this time: Phyllis Thompson*

✘ Rest Eternal Grant unto them, O Lord **R/s: And let light perpetual shine upon them**



### CHURCH FLOWERS

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

#### Rector

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Parish Treasurer: Mrs Kerry Scott

Organist: Mr Louis Collins

Cantor: Mr Barnabas Sharp

Caretaker: Mr Tibor Veres

Tel: 07591 149352

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