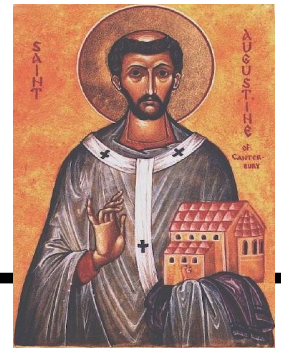




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU



PARISH NEWS

Sunday: 11 am Sung Mass +

+ Holy Days: As Announced

**A Very Warm
WELCOME**

This Sunday is

Advent IV

**18th December
2022**

The Propers of the Mass
are on page 336 of the
Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

**14
405
17
9**

*At the end of Mass, we
will conclude with
The Angelus
turning to face Our
Lady's Statue.*



**Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones**

Dear Friends, There is a theme running throughout Advent – it is the call to repentance which carries through to the Eve of Christmas. *"Repent ye, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand."*

The word repentance has suffered much misuse, is often misunderstood and is unfashionable in too many circles – including some in the contemporary Church. It has come to convey something less, and sometimes something other, than its true meaning.

The same people who bemoan the loss of 'Christ from Christmas' are also likely to think that the world nowadays is not moved by calls to repentance. Of course they could be right, I too, do not expect that the world will be so moved, until the meaning of the word, at least, is understood.

There is a very real risk one of the reasons the world would not be interested in the meaning of repentance, is because nowadays no one is troubled about sin. If this is true then it is extremely serious.

Sin is the cause of all the trouble there is in the world. Sin means the absence of true happiness. It means other things, but it means that. Sin ends in disillusionment and despondency, and unless some remedy is found, it ends in despair. Each generation finds that out, sooner or later. It does not have to be argued. It just happens.

Repentance means first of all a change of mind. But if that were all, it would not amount to anything more than remorse. Remorse, alone, is fruitless. It is fruitless because it leads a person to fix attention on self. This is what drives people to despair.

Clever modern psychology – and not only modern psychology – often



tries to mimic the need for a 'Change of mind' by replacing repentance with other things. It tries to look either within oneself, or in the teachings of philosophers or sociologists, and again, in ways that matter most, this too is fruitless,

You see Repentance leads us to look out side ourselves - from self to God. It moves the soul to say, *"I will arise and go to my Father."* *"I will leave this God-forsaken place. My whole philosophy of life has been wrong. I will say, 'I have sinned.'"*

When the soul arrives at this stage, it begins to see that sin is more than a personal misfortune. It is an unpaid debt to others. It demands satisfaction. The desire to make satisfaction for sin supersedes the desire to escape from its painful consequences.

The soul discovers that sin is a trespass against God. To think that one is free to live one's own life is a hideous mistake. That is sheer lawlessness. This new point of view presses amendment of life as the only obvious duty.

The first fruits of repentance are confession, satisfaction and

Please Note

We regret there will be no weekday (including Wednesday) services until the New Year.

December

✕

Saturday 17th

Ordination of Mark Morgan to the Order of Deacon

12 noon Sung Mass

✕

Sunday 18th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

11am Sung Mass

5pm Carol Service

✕

Saturday 24th

Christmas Eve

7pm First Mass of Christmas

✕

Sunday 25th

No Mass today

✕

January

✕

Sunday 1st

Circumcision of Christ (Comm Christmas I)

11am Sung Mass

Followed by Healing Service

✕

amendment. The true penitent will cry, not "What must I do to be saved," but "what may I do?"

The generous penitent seeks not the least that it can do, but the most. And it will be content with nothing less. In this new light the mind begins to think straight. The penitent becomes right minded.

Repentance is right mindedness. It is healthy mindedness. It is sanity. The penitent has arrived at his real self, which is his best self.

It is this real self which God desires above all for us to discover. It is this real self within which one finds the real God given value of humanity. It is the root from which grows mankind's greatest achievements. And at this point the emotions, whatever part they have played, have done their work. From this point on, it is the will that matters. The will to rise. The will to go to the Father. The will to confess, and make satisfaction, and to amend, and to patiently suffer the pain of consequence.

Then it comes to pass that as the soul goes, it is cleansed. It becomes

Christmas Carol Service

Sunday
18th December
@ 5.00pm

All Welcome

St Augustine's Church
Eastling Road,
Painters Forstal,
Nr Faversham, Kent
ME13 0DU

www.staugustineacc.uk



healed and whole. The former things pass away. The old self ceases to exist. All things become new. It forgets the things that are past, and presses joyously on in Faith, Hope and Love. This is the mystery of the forgiveness of sins. This is the REAL spirit of Christmas.

+ Damien

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Canon Don and Di Walker; Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Diane Smith, Sue Fletcher; Barbara Henderson; Todd, David and Sheila; Colin Rumens; Ann Chapman; Pauline Allison; Harrison and Edward Eckert; Margaret and Peter Martin; Dorothy Hipkiss; Fr Miles Maylor; Vickie Wall; Pat Johnson; Fr Ed & Liz Bakker; Deb Stuck; Angela, Barrie and Sylvia; Kathleen Dunford; Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn; Deacon Jong; Malcolm Munn; Barbara Bowers; Isabella Ighodaro, Fr Howard Marsh, David Miller, Graham Owen, John Sullivan, Roy Hipkiss, Kim Proctor-Walsh, Deacon David Jewess.

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 Peace in Ukraine and Russia and throughout the World.

For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

- Diocese of the Resurrection, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Rocco Florenza,
- The retired clergy of the Anglican Catholic Church, especially in this Diocese;
- The children of the ACC especially those in this Diocese.
- For the Revd Mark Morgan ordained deacon on Saturday 17th December.

And we remember the recently departed: especially and those whose anniversaries fall at this time:
Eileen Fyfe-Graham, Roger Frederick Bell, priest.

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

(Parish) www.staugustineacc.uk (Diocese) 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 & Ansaphone

Email: dmead@anglican catholic.org

Honorary Assistant Priest

Father Raymond Thompson

Tel: 07443 438465

Email: frraythompson@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Mr Roy Hipkiss

Parish Treasurer: Mrs Kerry Scott

Organist: Mr Louis Collins

Cantor: Mr Barnabas Sharp

Caretaker: Mr Tibor Veres

Tel: 07591 149352