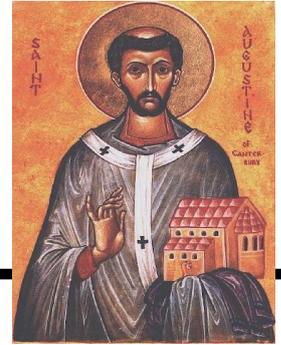




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU



PARISH NEWS

1873 - Celebrating 150 Years of Christian Witness in Painters Forstal - 2023

WELCOME

Today is

Epiphany III

Comm: Ss Vincent & Anastasius and the Foundation of the Diocese (1992)

22nd January 2023

The Propers of the Mass are on page 364 of the Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

55

357

297

235

At the end of Mass, we conclude with The Angelus



Please Turn off Your Mobile Phones

Dear Friends, In this Epiphany-tide as we consider the manifestations of Christ let me pose a question ... and provide the answer.

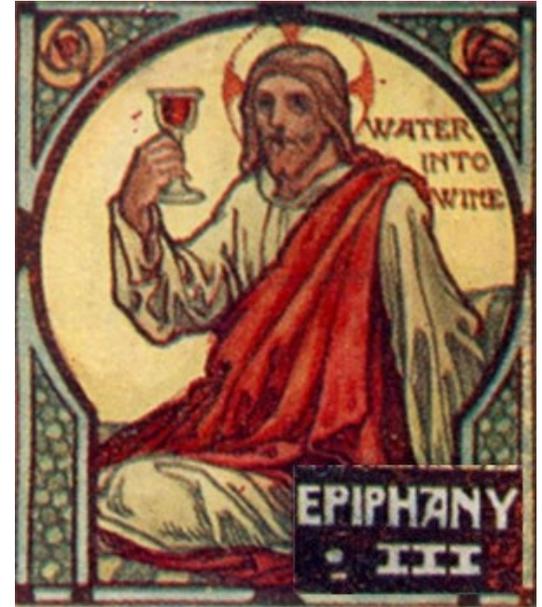
**How do we best manifest Christ?
How can we, with all our weaknesses and failures, manifest the Light?**

The obvious response I suggest is, that having given thanks for the Light in our Christmas celebrations, we must remember our responsibility for walking in that light. By walking in the Light we will unconsciously share the Light and manifest the Light of Christ to those around us. All this talk of "Walking in the light" sounds really lovely. However there are occasions when the Christian Faith can, if one isn't careful, become the stuff of fairy tales. Almost like thinking of a world stuffed with cotton wool, of fluffy bunnies and cute kittens. There are some who seem to have reduced the Gospel to this sort of jolly niceness. There are others who interpret the Gospel purely through an application of social policy and political inspiration. Being nice may have a part to play in the life of the Christian just as being concerned about injustice and social problems, but ultimately and fundamentally the Christian Faith is first and foremost a call to holiness.

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."

Mark 1:15

Notice St Mark has Jesus saying repent first and believe second — both essential but nevertheless in



that order. The only way we can approach Jesus is on our knees. Truly I believe he raises us up, so that we can stand tall, but as the Psalmist tells us:

"The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise".
Psalms 51:17

Rudyard Kipling wrote the following words in 1897, an admonition to the British Empire against pride:

**The tumult and the shouting dies;
The captains and the kings depart.
Still stands thine ancient sacrifice,
An humble and a contrite heart.**

When Kipling spoke of "a contrite heart" as an "ancient sacrifice," perhaps he had in mind the words of Psalm 51. King David's words show that even in Old Testament times, the Lord's people understood that their hearts must be given to God, that burnt offerings alone were not enough. Jesus raises us off our knees, but it is at His bidding and at His prompting.

Please Note

We regret there will be no weekday (including Wednesday) services for the time being.

January

✕

Sunday 22nd

Epiphany III (Comm: St Vincent & St Anastasius)

11am Sung Mass

✕

Sunday 29th

Epiphany IV (Comm: St Francis de Sales)

11am Sung Mass

✕

February

✕

Sunday 5th

Septuagesima (Comm: St Agatha)
11am Sung Mass
Followed by Healing Service

✕

Sunday 12th

Sexagesima (Comm: St Benedict Biscop)
11am Sung Mass

✕

The Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem has a very low doorway. It is called the Door of humility. It is usually only children who can pass through the door without stooping low. Perhaps to remind us:

“Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” Matthew 18:3

Most of the experiences we have of Christian life here in England have been peaceful, True, the secular world may have little time for religion. Our most sacred stories and rituals may be seen by many as fairy tales for children or a lot of old *mumbo jumbo*. But most Christians in our country have never been persecuted for their faith. In the 20th century more men and women died for their Christian faith than in all the other centuries since the birth of Christ. If Christianity is an irrelevance one might wonder why it has been systematically target-

ed by so many for persecution and discrimination.

Christianity is the pursuit of holiness and the two Saints we commemorate today are beacons of holiness. St. Vincent, a deacon, in preaching the Gospel, was reported to the local Roman prefect, Dacian, he suffered imprisonment, hunger, racking and many other tortures; and gained the crown of martyrdom on the 22nd of January 304 AD. St Anastasius, a Persian monk, at Caesarea in Palestine he steadfastly endured imprisonment and scourging for professing his faith in Christ. Soon after, in Persia, he was afflicted by King Chosroes with many tortures for the same cause, and was beheaded in 628 AD.

The pursuit of Holiness can come at a high cost.



YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Canon Don and Di Walker; Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Diane Smith, Sue Fletcher; 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, those who mourn the loss of loved ones.

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

- ACC Diocese of Cameroon, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Alphonse Nduitiye;
- The Establishment of New Missions in the Diocese
- In thanksgiving for the foundation of the Diocese of the United Kingdom (24th January 1992).

And we remember the recently departed: especially Deacon David Jewess, Kim Proctor-Walsh, Barbara Henderson, Jaine Meredith Kite, John Hambidge, priest. *and those whose anniversaries fall at this time:* Alan Kenyon Hoare, bishop.

✕ 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

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Father Raymond Thompson

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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