



PARISH NEWS

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

WELCOME

Today is

Easter V

commonly called
Rogation Sunday
Comm: St Boniface

14th May 2023

The Propers of the Mass
are on page 540 of the
Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

263

126

285

262

*At the end of Mass, we
will conclude with
The Regina Caeli
(which replaces the Angelus
devotion during Eastertide)
facing Our Lady's Altar.*



Please
Turn off Your
Mobile Phones

Dear Friends,

Today, the Fifth Sunday after Easter, is also commonly called Rogation Sunday. It is the day when the Church has traditionally offered prayer for God's blessing on the fruits of the earth and the labour of those who produce our food.

The word "rogation" is from the Latin *rogare*, or *to ask*. Historically, the Rogation Days (the three days before Ascension Day) were a period of fasting and abstinence, beseeching God's blessing on the crops for a bountiful harvest.

Few of us today directly derive our livelihood from the production of food, yet it is good to be reminded of our dependence upon those who do and our responsibility for the environment.

Asking God for blessings and other things is often time misunderstood. A little like the belief that when people die they become Angels or that if you become a Christian you'll somehow be magically protected against suffering!

I have over the years encountered many arguments and excuses people use for not seriously engaging with God and one of the lightweight excuses is the statement "I prayed for x, y or z and God ignored me and so I don't believe in him".

True if the x, y or z was a loved one who was in serious pain or suffering, then I can perhaps understand why disappointment may turn to resentment and even unbelief might follow. But, if it were, as has sometime been the case, "I didn't get that new job I



wanted" or "I didn't win the lottery" it is very silly really.

So is it true that God has given us a 'blank cheque' to ask anything of Him just as one might ask a genie in a fairy-tale? Some seem to misunderstand this to be the case, but I John 5:14 qualifies what He will grant: "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us."

What we need is for God to fill our minds and hearts with His thoughts. Then His desires will become our desires flowing back to Him in the form of prayer. James 4:3 confirms this: "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." If we ask amiss, we are certainly not asking according to His will, and we will not receive. Jesus says in John 16:23 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you." AND this is what He most assuredly does, but we

May

✘

Sunday 14th

*Easter V
Rogation Sunday*

11am Sung Mass

✘

Wednesday 17th

Requiem Mass

12 Noon Low Mass

✘

Thursday 18th

Ascension Day

12 Noon Low Mass

✘

Sunday 21st

*Ascension Sunday
& Thanksgiving for 150th
Anniversary of the
Foundation of our
Church building*

11am Sung Mass

*Followed by a reception to honour
Archbishop Haverland who will
be our celebrant and preacher*

✘

Wednesday 24th

*Octave Day
comm St Vincent of Lerins*

12 Noon Low Mass

✘

still do not have it carte blanche.

To ask God for anything in the name of Jesus Christ, it must be in keeping with what He is. To ask in Christ's name is to ask as though Christ Himself were asking. Therefore, we can only ask for what Christ Himself would ask. It is therefore necessary to set aside our own will and accept God's. Jesus says in John 8:29: *"And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him."*

If we do as Jesus did, we are sure to receive answers as He did. He says in John 11:41-42: *"And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always."*

We must come away with the realisation that prayer is not dictating to God, but a humble and heartfelt expression of our attitude

of dependency and need. Because of this, the one who truly prays is submissive to God's will, content with Him supplying his need according to the dictates of His sovereign pleasure.

The result of this, combined with the infusion of God's attitudes and thoughts as we draw near to Him, will work to create us in His image.



Date for your Diary

Next Sunday 11am Pontifical Sung Mass Archbishop Haverland will be with us for our Sunday commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the foundation of our Chapel building.

We will also be honoured to have attending the service Her Worship The Mayor of Swale, Cllr Sarah Stephen.

Sandwiches and cake to follow—RSVP

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Canon Don and Di Walker; Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Diane Smith, Todd, David and Sheila; Colin Rumens; Ann Chapman; Margaret and Peter Martin; Dorothy Hipkiss; Fr Miles Maylor; Vickie Wall; Pat Johnson; Fr Ed & Liz Bakker; Deb Stuck; Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn; Deacon Jong; Malcolm Munn; Barbara Bowers; Isabella Ighodaro, Fr Howard Marsh, David Miller, John Sullivan, Roy Hipkiss, Katy Brewer, Don and Rhonda Contreras, Fr Robert McBride,

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 Mid-Atlantic, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Donald Lerow;
- The retired clergy of the Anglican Catholic Church, especially in this Diocese;
- The beauty of the earth, a fairer distribution of the world's resources and for the animal kingdom and natural world.
- For Their Majesties the King and Queen and all the Royal family, the peoples of the United Kingdom and of His majesty's other realms and territories, and the nations of the Commonwealth.

And we remember the recently departed: especially Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and those whose anniversaries fall at this time Catherine Bosworth

✘ 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



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