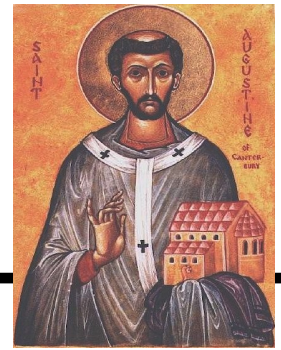




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU



PARISH NEWS

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

WELCOME

Today is

Ascension Sunday

*& Celebrating 150th Anniversary
of the Foundation of our Church
building*

21st May 2023

The Propers of the Mass
are on page 548 of the
Book of Common Prayer

HYMNS

205

210

296

352

*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, We gather today, on this Sunday after the Ascension, to celebrate a very special anniversary. This Church building, which for the past 5 years has been our home, is 150 years old. As we look to the future with confidence we also appreciate the past, and thank God for the faithful witness of the Methodists who worshipped here for 145 years before.

We also are blessed to have celebrating Mass and preaching for us, on his visitation to our diocese, our Archbishop, The Most Reverend Mark Haverland. We also welcome the new Mayor of Swale, Cllr Sarah Stephen, and thank Her Worship for joining us in our thanksgiving.

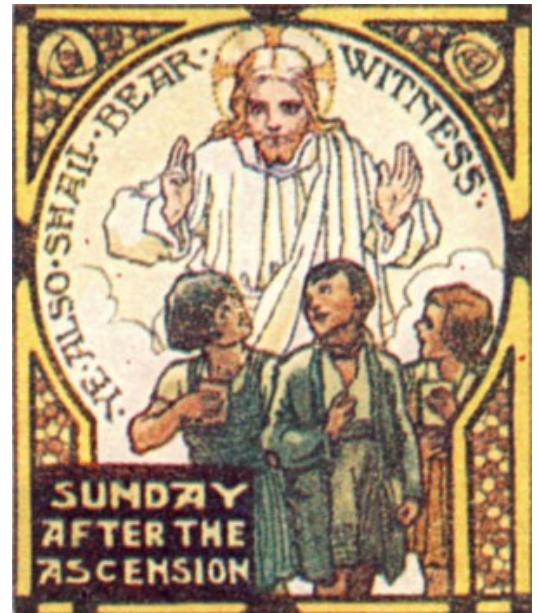
Before Mass we are to have an Act of Thanksgiving and then continue with our Mass as usual. The order for the Thanksgiving is available on a separate sheet.

Many years ago I had a brief, unmemorable, period of involvement in amateur dramatics. There was a nice old man in the company, who upon hearing that I was a Christian, said "That young man is the greatest drama ever!"

Let us consider the greatest drama ever as we think about our Ascension Sunday service today.

"While they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold two men stood by them in white apparel: which also said, "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into Heaven."

This is the last scene in the last act of the Drama of our Redemption.



When the curtain rose on the first scene in the first act, there were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. "And lo, the Angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people, for unto you is born this day, in the City of David, a Saviour which is Christ the Lord."

So it was at the end just as it had been at the beginning. Men looking up into heaven. Angels bending near the earth. In the beginning we have the angels centre stage announcing that He had come. At the end we have the angels announcing that He will come again.

In theatrical circles this provides an ideal introduction to a sequel ... watch this space! ... or as used to appear at the end of James Bond films "James Bond will return in xx"!

The sequel in our drama isn't really a sequel — It will be the climax!

May

✕

Wednesday 24th

*Octave Day
comm St Vincent of Lerins*

12 Noon Low Mass

✕

Sunday 28th

Whitsunday/ Pentecost

11am Sung Mass

✕

Wednesday 31st

Ember Wednesday in Whitsun

12 Noon Low Mass

✕

June

✕

Sunday 4th

Trinity Sunday

11am Sung Mass

*Followed by the Monthly
Healing Service*

✕

Wednesday 7th

Feria

12 noon Low Mass

✕

Thursday 8th

Corpus Christi

12 noon Low Mass

On that day, the Lord Himself shall descend from Heaven. The trumpet shall sound. And the dead shall be raised. And the whole Company of Heaven will appear.

What that glory will be, no mind can measure, no tongue can speak, no pen can write. But all eyes will see. All ears will hear. In that sublime drama we shall have all have a part to play.

In the Mass we celebrate and make present the memorial Our Lord Jesus Christ hath commanded us to make: having in remembrance His blessed Passion, mighty Resurrection and glorious Ascension; rendering most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

In the Divine Mysteries we ourselves are made *one body* with Our Lord, that He may dwell in us and we in Him.

In the Divine Mysteries we are heirs through hope of His everlasting Kingdom, by the merits of His most Precious Death and Passion.

At every Mass we adore the Risen and Ascended Lord, with Angels and Archangels and all the Company of Heaven. The scenes of His earthly life may, and have been, portrayed up to the Ascension. Beyond that He is in His glory which cannot be portrayed. And yet we see Him in the one way which is possible for us. He has given us His Sacramental Presence.

*Faith our outward sense befriending,
makes our inward vision clear.*

Jesus veils Himself, yet it is the veil that reveals Him. The Sacramental Presence fills His temple with glory. It floods His sanctuary with the fullness of joy. In His Presence we find our peace, our strength, our comfort, our hope, our confidence and our joy.

The Kingdom of God is within us, and we already have our roles to play, our place in the programme of the great drama is assured.



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, Don and Rhonda Contreras, Fr Robert McBride, Dr Roy Fidge,

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 the Resurrection, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev Rocco Florenza;
- The Establishment of New Missions in the Diocese
- Ethical standards in business and the political life of our nation.

And we remember the recently departed: especially Katy Brewer 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**



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 (Diocese) www.anglican catholic.org.uk