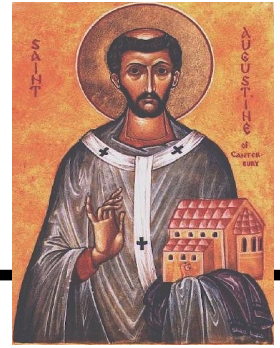




Anglican Catholic Church of St Augustine  
Eastling Road, Painters Forstal, Kent ME13 0DU

# PARISH NEWS



On 01.02/2023 the Mortgage for our Church was redeemed Praise God — we are now debt free!

## WELCOME

Today is

**Lent IV**

**Mothers Sunday**  
*Comm The Forty Martyrs*

**10th March 2024**

The Propers of the Mass  
are on page 404 of the  
Book of Common Prayer

## HYMNS

**234**

**468**

**66**

**381**

*After the last hymn we will  
pray together The Angelus  
facing Our Lady's Altar.*

*Dear Friends,* We serve a God  
who is concerned  
about fragments!

In today's Gospel reading we hear something rather remarkable. Our Lord does something interesting in verse 12. He commands his disciples to gather the fragments that remain of the loaves and fishes that he has used to miraculously feed the multitude, that nothing be lost.— Jesus was concerned about the leftovers!!

Now some have used this verse to teach us to be good stewards of what God gives us and not waste it. That is certainly true. But there is something else that speaks to us from this verse of scripture. God was interested in the small things, the little things. He valued those things we could so easily overlook, forget, reject, cast aside. Is it not true that we are often-times guilty of doing that with other things in our lives? Overlooking the small achievements, the smiles, the encouraging word, the moment of joy, of tenderness that can sometimes be overwhelmed. Sometimes we can also overlook the moments of despair, of loneliness, of doubt and sorrow. If not our own — then those of others.

Think about Jesus wanting all those fragments, those leftovers, those things that no one in the crowd wanted any more, and He gathered them for a purpose. What was His purpose in gathering these leftovers? He was going to use them. We serve a God who is concerned about the fragments of our lives.

It has been my privilege over the years to be with people in the last days, hours and sometimes minutes of their lives. Some of them have confided in me that there have been periods in their lives when they have been separated from God, perhaps they have done something wrong that



they feel is unforgivable and have taken themselves out into the wilderness. Or perhaps they have only seriously started considering Christianity when the shadows are darkening in their lives—and they realise they haven't paid attention to their spiritual wellbeing. Maybe they may have been conscious they have made wrong decisions. Sometimes they have felt that they have made a mess out of their life. That life hasn't gone the way they wanted it too and so many of their dreams have not been realised.

When we encounter God, pretty early on we will be Baptised and later still encounter the passage in Scripture *"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* (1 John 1:9). All of this speaks strongly of how God wants to respond to all the things that have troubled us in life. To forgive us because He loves us.

However, it is very tempting for people in that last period of their lives (Even, sometimes, committed Christians — Who have been forgiven) not to really believe it, because they are assailed by doubts, perhaps living in a place of despair, defeat, and



**Please  
Turn off Your  
Mobile Phones**

## March

### Sunday 10th

#### Lent IV

*Comm: Forty Holy Martyrs*

### Mothering Sunday

11am Sung Mass



### Sunday 17th

#### Passion Sunday

*Comm: St Patrick*

11am Sung Mass



### Sunday 24th

#### Palm Sunday

11am Sung Mass

*Preceded by the blessing and distribution of Palms*



### Wednesday 27th

#### Chrism Mass

*At which the Holy Oils are consecrated*

12 noon Low Mass



forever being beat down by their past. That is, of course, exactly where the devil wants them to stay.

The disciples felt like this immediately after the Crucifixion of Jesus. Despite having Jesus Himself; with them, teaching them, reassuring them, showing them. They were fearful, they were assailed by doubts.

At the beginning of our Lenten observance we were invited to journey towards Jerusalem with Jesus and his disciples. Perhaps we have been distracted on the way, maybe all the good intentions we had to keep lent aright this year and to use the time to pre-pore and draw closer to God hasn't happened as we intended. Today in the midst of Lent we have a Refreshment Sunday, when the rigours of Lent may be relaxed a little. Maybe we will spare some time today to ponder on the reason we are going up to Jerusalem?

The heavenly Jerusalem is our ultimate destination as Christians. Jesus has promised us that it is there, our true home, when we will live with him forever. Whatever has happened in our lives, God wants to gather up the fragments ... that ... nothing be lost. For we are living in the shadow of

**THE ULTIMATE SACRIFICE**

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

**Holy Week & Easter Services**

**Palm Sunday:** 11am Sung Mass & Blessing of the Palms

**Wednesday in Holy Week:** 12 noon Chrism Mass

**Maundy Thursday:** 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, the Stripping of the Altar & Vigil Watch

**Good Friday:** 12 noon Liturgy of the Day, Veneration of the Cross & Mass of the Pre-Sanctified

**Holy Saturday:** 7pm Paschal Vigil & First Mass of Easter

**Easter Day:** 11am Solemn Pontifical Sung Mass

*A Warm Welcome Awaits You Here*

Easter Confessions by arrangement with the Rector 01797 321704

the Cross and that is the greatest hope mankind has ever had — for through the Cross, Jesus has opened the gate of the heavenly City to us.

*+ Damien*

**CHURCH FLOWERS**

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

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR ...

Chris Bosworth; Margaret and Laurence Mead; Diane and Mike Smith; Todd, David and Sheila; Colin Rumens; Ann Chapman; Margaret and Peter Martin; Dorothy Hipkiss; Fr Miles Maylor; Vickie Wall; Fr Ed Bakker; Deb Stuck; Sarah, David, Nicole and Corrina Winterburn; Malcolm Munn; Barbara Bowers; John Sullivan; Roy Hipkiss; Don and Rhonda Contreras; Fr Robert McBride; Canon Don Walker, Sally and Craig Pengilly, Robin Young, Nena and Heath Taylor, Fr Gordon Tall, Sally and Michael Lyth, Craig Paterson, HM The King and HM The Queen and the Royal Family.

*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 the Holy Land, and in Ukraine and Russia and throughout the World.

*For those in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*

- Diocese of New Granada, Colombia, Bishop Ordinary - Rt Rev German Orrego Hurtado;
- The Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi Christian University. Prof Stephen Breu, President. Prof Craig Paterson, Provost;
- For all mothers and all who mother.

*And we remember the recently departed: especially Kathleen Cox, Jamie Taylor and those whose anniversaries fall at this time ... Michael Sheehan,*

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

## CONTACTS

### Rector

Bishop Damien Mead

Tel: 01797 321704 & *Ansaphone*

Email: [dmead@anglican catholic.org](mailto:dmead@anglican catholic.org)

### Honorary Assistant Priest

Father Raymond Thompson

Tel: 07443 438465

Email: [fraythompson@gmail.com](mailto:fraythompson@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

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