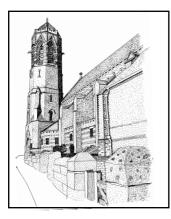
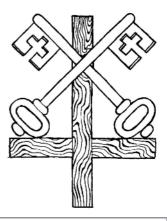
St John's, Pevensey Road





Sunday 23rd August: 11th Sunday after Trinity

Pews News & Service Sheet

People for whom our prayers are asked:

Arlene, Ian, Amber, Mike, Sally, Tracy, Agatha, Clare & Luke & family, Shane, Clive, Henry, Marylyn, Fr Ken, Fr John, and Alberta.

Please pray also for...

...the repose of the souls of the recently departed, especially Pauline Peacock, Sheila Johnstone, Paul Cabban, John Clifford McConnell, and Diane,

... those whose Years Minds fall around this time, especially Mark Smallman, and Terri Danes,

...and all who mourn.



Ss Monica and Augustine - Mother and Son

On consecutive days this week (27th and 28th) the Christian Church celebrates a mother and her son. The mother is Monica, and her son is Augustine. The story of their relationship and how, after a long process, they both came to share the same Christian faith is a moving one, and perhaps has a message for anxious parents today.

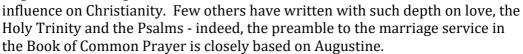
Augustine was born in 354 and grew up in north Africa in the area we now call Algeria. His mother, Monica, was a deeply committed Christian. His father was pagan. In those circumstances she was deeply (one might say

desperately) concerned that her clever young son should also believe and be baptised. But, in the way of wilful offspring, he steadfastly refused. Eventually Monica's patience ran out. She stood outside the priest's house and noisily asked why a mother's anxious prayers had not been answered. He appeared at a window and rebuked her. 'It is not possible', he said, 'that God has not heard

your prayers and will answer them in his own way'.

He was right, but it took a long while. By now Augustine had a mistress and a young son, and had moved to Milan in Italy, where he became Public Orator. However, it eventually happened – a moment of conversion in a garden, instruction and then baptism by the great Bishop Ambrose of Milan. Monica's prayers were answered. Her gifted son was ordained in 391 and shortly after became a bishop in Hippo, north Africa. Augustine had a brilliant mind, an ardent temperament and a gift for mystical insights. Soon his understanding of the Christian Revelation was pouring forth in his many voluminous writings.

The most famous of these is 'The Confessions' -Augustine's own story of his journey to faith. Augustine's writings have had a massive



Prayer and Quotes of **St. Augustine**

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit, That my thoughts may all be holy.

Act in me O Holy Spirit, That my work, too, may be holy.

Draw my heart O Holy Spirit, That I love only what is holy.

Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, To defend all that is holy.

Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, That I always may be holy.

"You have created us for Yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You."

"To fall in love with God is the greatest of romances, to seek Him the greatest adventure, to find Him the greatest human achievement."

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Mass for the Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *All* **Amen.**

The Lord be with you *All* and also with you.

Prayer of Confession

All Amen.

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins, to be our advocate in heaven, and to bring us to eternal life.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, firmly resolved to keep God's commandments and to live in love and peace with all.

All Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour in thought and word and deed, through negligence, through weakness. through our own deliberate fault. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name. Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis is said:

The priest says the **Absolution**

who forgives all who truly repent,

pardon and deliver you from all

confirm and strengthen you in all

and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Almighty God,

vour sins.

goodness,

have mercy upon you,

All Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen

Prayer for the Day - The Collect

Let us pray:

God of glory, the end of our searching, help us to lay aside all that prevents us from seeking your kingdom, and to give all that we have to gain the pearl beyond all price, through our Saviour Jesus Christ. *All* **Amen.**

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Isaiah 51:1-6

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden. her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her,

thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope.

Lift up your eyes to the heavens,

and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke,

the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats;

but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

For the Word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

For the Word of the Lord *All* **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Reading

Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father except through me.

All Alleluia

The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew *All* **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 16.13-20

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *All* **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Creed

Let us declare our faith in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,

who has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

In the power of the Spirit and in union with Christ, let us pray to the Father.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, you promised through your Son Jesus Christ

to hear us when we pray in faith.

Strengthen Martin our bishop and all your Church in the service of Christ, that those who confess your name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Bless and guide Elizabeth our Queen; give wisdom to all in authority; and direct this and every nation in the ways of justice and of peace; that we may honour one another, and seek the common good.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Give grace to us, our families and friends, and to all our neighbours, that we may serve Christ in one another, and love as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit ...; give them courage and hope in their troubles; and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the faith of Christ ...; according to your promises, grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy *All* Hear our prayer

Rejoicing in the fellowship of [*N* and of] all your saints, we commend ourselves and the whole creation to your unfailing love.

Merciful Father, *All* Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Peace is introduced

We are the body of Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body.

Let us then pursue all that makes for peace

and builds up our common life.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We may exchange a sign of peace

Preparation of the Table

The table is prepared and bread and wine are placed upon it.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this bread to set before you, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. *All* **Blessed be God for ever.** Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation: through your goodness we have this wine to set before you, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the cup of salvation. *All* **Blessed be God for ever.**

The priest takes the bread and wine.

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here *All* **His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All* It is right to give thanks and praise.

Father, we give you thanks and praise through your beloved Son Jesus Christ, your living Word, through whom you have created all things; who was sent by you in your great goodness to be our Saviour.

By the power of the Holy Spirit he took flesh;

as your Son, born of the blessed Virgin, he lived on earth and went about among us; he opened wide his arms for us on the cross;

he put an end to death by dying for us; and revealed the resurrection by rising to new life;

so he fulfilled your will and won for you a holy people.

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we proclaim your great and glorious name,

for ever praising you and saying:

All Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ:

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;

do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. Great is the mystery of faith: *All* Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world; rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us

worthy

to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one cup,

so that we, in the company of Saint John the Evangelist,

Saint Peter, Mary the Mother of God, and all the saints,

may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father, for ever and ever. *All* **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us:

All Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

All Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word, and I shall be healed.

Communion is received

Music during Communion: Bist du bei mir (J.S. Bach)

Prayer after Communion

The priest prays the Post Communion for the day:

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise, that when we were still far off, you met us in your Son and brought us home.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

All Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one

bread.

Agnus Dei is said:

All Jesus, Lamb of God, Have mercy on us Jesus, bearer of our sins, Have mercy on us Jesus, redeemer of the world, Grant us peace

Dying and living, he declared your love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who drink his cup bring life to others: we whom the Spirit lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so we and all your children shall be free. and the whole earth live to praise your name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Notices

The Blessing and Dismissal

Priest The Lord be with you *All* **And also with you**

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. *All* **Amen.**

Priest Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

Concluding voluntary:

Marche Militaire Op.51, No.1 (Schubert)



Please come in. It's safe, and you are welcome.



CHURCH OPEN

weekday mornings, 9:30 - 12:30

ALL WELCOME

...for private prayer, ...to light a candle

Please sanitize your hands on entering and leaving, and observe "social distancing" and the directions inside the church, to help keep us all safe

The wearing of a face covering is also advised

Prayer list

If you have any updates about friends or loved ones on the St John's prayer list - or additions, of course - please

let one of the pastoral or clergy team, and/or the PN editor, know, so we can keep the Prayer List up-to-date. Many thanks.



Churches warned to prepare for `tidal wave of poverty'

The effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on urban, suburban and rural communities is likely to be severe, with many thousands of jobs being lost and livelihoods threatened. The poorest in society may find themselves hardest hit. Churches are being encouraged to respond to the devastating impact of the pandemic and to build on the numerous social projects already in place.

The Trussell Trust that supports around 1200 UK foodbanks is warning of a 'tidal wave of poverty' poised to engulf the country. Chief Executive Emma Revie said that the Trussell Trust was "very clear that food banks are not a solution to poverty" and the charity wanted "to see people experiencing fullness of life and not being trapped by poverty."

She praised the vital role played by churches in running foodbanks and encouraged congregations "That when we pray for our foodbanks, that we would also allow ourselves room to lament the injustices that make them necessary in the first place and seek wisdom about how we might be part of bringing about change.

The insights resonate with responses to the impact of the pandemic from other church leaders. The Bishop of Tonbridge, Simon Burton-Jones, warned a Church of England webinar that the pandemic would cause growth in the 'precariat', the numbers of people on zero-hours contracts or juggling several jobs to survive. The bishop also forecast an increase in tension between the generations, with the future particularly bleak for many young people who have lost their jobs, and those living in insecure rented accommodation.



'I do like to be beside the seaside!'

For centuries, many doctors have sent patients to the seaside to recuperate, believing that a bit of seaside air was good for them. Now the government agrees: a day by the coast does indeed have a therapeutic effect on you.

A recent study by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has found that people who spend time by the sea reported increased happiness and better general health. They were also more physically active during their visit, compared with visits to other types of environment.

Rebecca Pow, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department for the Environment, said spending time by the sea "has a welcome impact on our wellbeing. This makes it all that more important that we take care of our environment." In England, we make 271 million recreational visits to the sea each year, and more than 22 million of us live within five miles of the coast.