

**Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year
Year A Psalms Wk 1**

Entrance Antiphon: I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is close to all who call him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Mother of Good Counsel, Clare Priory

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Augustinian Friars Diocese of East Anglia

*Twenty-fifth Sunday of the Year
Missal Page 563 (Old book 353)*

24th September 2017

Prayer/Reflection

‘My thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are my ways your ways.
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways,
my thoughts above your thoughts,’ says the Lord.
How small our thoughts can be,
and how poor our ways of seeing and judging.
We think miserly thoughts, and act in miserly ways.
Why?
Because we have small minds and small hearts.
Lord, open our minds and enlarge our hearts,
so that we think more like you,
and act more like you.
Let us not begrudge your goodness to others,
knowing that we too are undeserving of your favours,
and stand more in need of your mercy than of your justice.
Amen.

SEPTEMBER			
Sat/Sun 23/24 This weekend	Our Lady of Fatima Pilgrim Statue at Cathedral, Norwich		See posters
Saturday 30 th 7.30 p.m.	Kings Taverners present ‘ <i>Feel No Pain</i> ’ a concert of music and readings in aid of the upkeep of Clare Priory. £10 (to include light refreshments). Admission by programme on sale now and at the church door.		
OCTOBER			
Tuesday 3 rd	The Works of George Herbert	£30	Sr Angela Morris
Fri 6 th – Sun 8 th	Autumn Retreat: walking reflecting, enjoying Creation	£145	Mary Handforth
Saturday 14 th	Day of Recollection for Eucharistic Ministers	--	Mgr Tony Rogers
Tuesday 17 th	The Way of Silence	donation	Priory Team

Fertility Awareness Methods (FAM) – a natural way to plan your family in accordance with Church teaching. By observing and interpreting a woman’s external signs of fertility, a couple can learn a highly effective way to achieve or postpone pregnancy. Scientifically recognised and easy to learn, FAM can be used by women with irregular cycles, when breastfeeding or approaching menopause.

Interested in learning or looking for more information? Contact Monika at fam.eastanglia@yahoo.com. *If you would like to teach*, we would love to hear from you! Training will be provided. More information can be found on the diocesan website – rcdea.org.uk

THOUGHTS FROM AUGUSTINE

Be Upright of Heart

If you want to be upright of heart, do not be displeased, over anything at all, with God. If you see the reason for his doing what he does, do not find fault with him. If the reason escapes you, understand that the thing is done by one whom it makes no sense at all to be displeased.

Sermon 15a,7

Prayer: Blessed are those who love you, O God, and love their friends in you, and their enemies for your sake.

Confessions 4,9

Saints of the week

Thursday 28th St Wenceslaus. Duke of Bohemia. Killed by his pagan brother at age 22. Patron of Czech Republic and Slovakia..

Friday 29th The Archangels, Michael, Gabriel, Raphael The Biblical messengers of God's loving care, Michael ('Who is like God?'), Gabriel ('God's strength'), Raphael ('God's remedy')

Saturday 30th St Jerome 347-419 Born to a pagan family. Studied in Rome. Lawyer. Converted in theory, and baptised in 365, he began his study of theology, and had a true conversion. Lived for years as a hermit in the Syrian deserts. Secretary to Pope Damasus I who commissioned him to revise the Latin text of the Bible. The result of his 30 years of work was the *Vulgate* translation, which is still in use. Last 34 years in the Holy Land as a semi-recluse. Doctor of the Church. Father of the Church. Patron of Scripture scholars. He declared '*Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ.*'

Home Mission Sunday collection, 17th September

The collection amounted to £135. Thank you. The collection has been sent to the Diocesan Finance Office.

My apologies for not including the Come Home Prayer in last week's newsletter:

Loving Father,

We pray for those who have been baptised but who no longer, or rarely, attend Church: that they will understand and experience in their hearts that Christ is the source of unconditional love and reconciliation.

We pray for everyone who worships in our parish community that we may find the right words and means to invite our absent brothers and sisters to return to the practice of their faith. Amen.

Fr David

Next Saturday 30th September

Kings Taverners Concert

Programmes are on sale today.

Saturday 14th October

Deanery Day of Recollection for Ministers of the Eucharist

Led by Fr Tony Rogers

Bring your own sandwiches

Books for You

You will find a marvellous array of books on the long corridor, all culled from the shelves of *La Bibliothèque du père Aidan*. There are actually too many books to leave for long, as the tables will slow down the movement of parishioners and visitors alike. So a quick look and a speedy donation would do the trick.

“Where is God.... ?”

Late August in San Pio, where we, as students, spent our summers while studying in Rome. Three days of lashing rain, with huge hailstones and a dangerous wind. The year's grape harvest destroyed. The country farmers and their wives shake their angry fists at God in the skies.

“Where is God?” is a cry heard so often when there is a disaster.

Elie Wiesel, in his book “Night ” (as mentioned in last week's bulletin) tells of a moment in Auschwitz, which for me has the most the most poignant answer to a person's asking the question, “ where is God now ?”

Near Auschwitz, where Elie aged 17 was imprisoned in 1944, an electric power station was one day blown up. The Gestapo suspected sabotage. They found a trail that led them to the section of the camp where Elie was held. In charge of the prisoners was a Dutchman. Seven hundred prisoners worked under his command. Though he worked for the Gestapo authorities, all the prisoners loved him like a brother. No one had ever received a blow from his hands.

Wiesel takes up the story: *The Dutchman had a young boy under him - a child with a refined and beautiful face. The Gestapo found a trail that led to the Dutchman. After a period of torture, the authorities failed to get a single name of his associates. He disappeared.*

But his little server was put into the camp's prison. And put to the torture, he too would not speak. Then the SS sentenced him to death. With him two other prisoners who had been discovered with arms. A few days later when we came back from work, we saw three gallows rearing up in the Assembly place. Three victims in chains - and one of them the little servant, like a sad-eyed angel.

The head of the camp read the verdict. All eyes were on the child. He was lividly pale, almost calm, biting his lips. The three victims mounted together on to the chairs. The three necks were placed at the same moment within the nooses.

“Long live liberty!” cried the two adults. But the child was silent.

“Where is God? Where is he?” someone behind me asked.

The three chairs tipped over. Total silence throughout the camp.

Behind me, I heard the same man asking: “ Where is God now ?”

And I heard a voice within me answer him:

“Where is he? Here he is - He is hanging here on this gallows “

(The purpose of this weekly column is to make us more aware of the resources of the Internet, especially YouTube, for our spiritual growth. Pope Francis' s journeys, as well as his weekly Angelus and his addresses are all carried by YouTube. Listen also to Thomas Keating, Richard Rohr, Jean Vanier, Rowan Williams, Eckhart Tolle as well as a host of other spiritual teachers. They are made so accessible for us on YouTube.)

Fr. Ben

Day of Reflection for Catholic Men

Fr Richard Aladics will speak on *The Heroism of the East Anglian Martyrs* and *The Sacrificial Love of Fatherhood*, Saturday, November 4th 2017, St Ethelreda, Newmarket, from 10-4pm. £15 to include lunch. The day starts with Mass at 10am, and finishes with adoration and confession from 2:30-4pm. Register online www.rcdea.org.uk, or contact Steve at catholicmen23@gmail.com for further details.

From the past

Fr John Byrne who visited us last week has sent a photo of **Fr John Meagher** who was parish priest at Clare in the late 1960s. Fr John Meagher celebrated his 101st birthday last week, and he is still singing. In recent weeks a couple who were married here in 1967 talked about Fr John with great affection. They asked for his address because they wanted to write to him to thank him for being the celebrant at their wedding. I know that one or two parishioners would still remember him.

In the present

We have a brief visit from Brother Gladson Dabre. You will recall that he made his Solemn Profession of Vows on the 5th of August. The Provincial Council has now approved his request to be ordained deacon, a ceremony that will take place at our Augustinian parish of St Joseph, Edinburgh, on Saturday 21st October. His confrère, Brother Arthur Bolivar, is completing some theology courses at Oscott Seminary in Birmingham Archdiocese. Please keep Brothers Gladson and Arthur in your prayers.

A sense of loss

Today is our final day at the Cavendish URC church where we have celebrated Mass since the closure of the Sue Ryder chapel more than a decade ago. The URC is closing their historic place of worship that has given us such a welcome. Their congregation has dwindled as has our faithful remnant. We are very grateful to the URC for their kind hospitality. We offer our thanks to the Reverend Cecil White and his congregation and we ask for God's blessing upon them at this highly significant moment in their journey of faith.

The Cavendish stalwarts who never miss a Sunday and who are without means of transport are Mary Carmel Nash, Kath Fish and her sister Iris. Fortunately, many of our parishioners come from Cavendish for the 8 o'clock and the 10 o'clock Masses, so I am confident that there will be no shortage of offers of transport for those who will need a lift to attend Mass on Sundays and during the week.

Fr David

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sarah Booth, Kath Bullen, Shirley Kennedy, Jane Brown, Sheila Green, Mike Kingston's sister Margaret, Jack, Lali and Orlando Cardozo, Patricia McBride, Mark Lunn, Michael Donegan, Maura Kingston, Donna Wilson (Maria's daughter-in-law), Michael Farndon, Don Fitzgerald, Mary-Rose Henderson (Jean's sister), Abby Joyce, Pauline Wilkinson, Vivienne Hay's son Matthew, Peggy Rodgers, Jack Britton, Luke Twentyman, Ivan Smithet, Fred Taylor, Pat Dowson, Debbie Baloki, Brian David Hye (friend of Lucy Woodhouse), Karen Minns, Geoff & Joan Perry, Florence Hough, Gill Pardoe, Celia Poels, Karen Lane, Gloria Tatum and her son Alan, Annie Bareham, Joan Lally (Irene's sister), Anthony Stammers (relation of Sue Negus), Tony Ranzetta Jr., David Sowerby, Michael Kingston, Kathleen Taplin, Michael Cronin, Pat Moroney, Donna (Pat's daughter), Richard Lucking (Kate Davy's father), Freda Boylan (mother of Jo Donegan).

If you know of anyone who is ill or housebound, and would like a visit, please let Fr. David know.

Collection

17th September - £548.00

Thank you for your continuing generous collection

Pat Plenty has died. It was always good to meet her, to talk to her and to hear her wisdom. Pat attended the Friends of Augustine meeting on 31st August and she read at Mass on 10th September. Pat died at home last weekend. We valued her friendship, and her friends cared for her very much. May she rest in peace.

Mission Boxes

Thanks for the boxes returned so far.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day 6th October 2017

This year's resources focus on the life of Edelmira a farmer in El Salvador. Her harvest is used to feed her family, or sold to buy essential items such as clothes and medicine. The work of CAFOD's partners in El Salvador has helped her to become self sufficient. Find out more from cafod.org.uk or have a word with Frances Massey or Jane Crone, our parish volunteers.

Friends of Augustine Meeting

Want to find out more about St Augustine?

Join us at our monthly meetings in the Priory Library
This Thursday 28th September 7.30pm – Everyone welcome.