

Sixteenth Week of the Year
Year A Psalms Wk 4

Entrance Antiphon: See I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul. I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

Responsorial Psalm: O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life.

WINDOW ON FAITH.

ESCAPE TO A PLACE OF PEACE !

Since the horrific disaster at Grenfell Tower, the cries of outrage and blame, which fill our news bulletins and our newspapers, seem the only ones we hear. On Wednesday the leader of the local Council, Elizabeth Campbell, was booed and heckled at the Kensington and Chelsea Council meeting.

When disaster strikes our personal lives, our initial reaction is blaming and raging at the situation. Sometimes our resistance even increases our pain. We create hell for ourselves. But even a little refusal to be dragged into increased agony is a positive response to grace. Inner resistance to the situation in which we find ourselves can itself produce unbearable suffering.

And there is nowhere to run. So we have a choice. That is, to accept the unacceptable. We are forced to surrender. And then we find ourselves completely released from the past.

So when disaster strikes, know that there is another side to it. There is a choice. You are one step away from the place called “surrender”. By this I do not mean that you will be happy in your pain. But anger will be replaced by the peace and serenity that come from a very deep place. “The peace of God that surpasses all understanding.” This is the gift that we receive from Jesus. From the way in which his whole life was “surrender”.

Compared with deep inner peace, happiness is quite a shallow thing. Not lasting. It is in this place of peace that you know you are immortal.

These thoughts, that can truly transform our lives, come from Eckhart Tolle’s “The Power of Now”.

Fr. Ben.

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Augustinian Friars Diocese of East Anglia

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Missal Page 534 (Old book 327)

23rd July 2017

The divided heart

I learnt one great lesson from my years in prison camps.
I learnt how a person becomes evil and how he becomes good.
Gradually I came to realise
that the line which separates good from evil
passes not between states,
or between classes, or between political parties,
but right through every human heart.
Even in hearts that are overwhelmed by evil,
one small bridgehead of good is retained.
And in the best of all hearts,
there remains an unrooted small corner of evil.

Alexander Solzhenitsyn

THOUGHTS FROM AUGUSTINE

Forgive - Give

Do you wish to receive? Then give! Do you wish to be forgiven? Then forgive! This is just a brief summary. Hear Christ say in another place, “forgive, and you shall be forgiven.” Forgive: give. And you shall be given what you desire - eternal life.

Sermon 64,5

Prayer: Forgive us, Lord, all these things in which we have been led astray. Help us to resist being led astray.

Punishment and Forgiveness of Sins 2,4

Saints of the week

Monday 24th St Sharbel Makhlu died 1898. Canonised by Pope Paul VI in 1977. The 'Saint of Lebanon'. Hermit and miracle worker. Much needed patron in a troubled area of the world.

Tuesday 25th St James, Apostle Brother of John. Fisherman. Zebedee's son. Responded to Jesus' early invitation 'Follow me.' The first of the apostles to be martyred. Santiago de Compostela grew up as a place of pilgrimage where his relics lay. (Sant-Iago = St James; Compostela – Campus stellae – the field of the star)

also St Christopher Thought to be martyred in 251 in the persecution of Decius. Little is known of him but his traditional story is well known: helping people across a river, one day he carried a small child; the child proved to be Jesus and very heavy, because he bore the weight of the world. Hence the saint's name, Christopher 'the Christ-bearer'

Wednesday 26th St Joachim and St Anne The parents of Our Lady. Little is known of them; tradition about them dates from the 2nd Century. Holy parents. Their child was conceived without sin. They were the grandparents of Jesus!

Saturday 29th St Martha Sister of Mary and Lazarus; a hospitable and faithful disciple; welcomed Jesus into her home and confessed him as the Son of God. Patroness of cooks, housewives, waiters and waitresses.

Benediction

We shall have Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday 30th. I am hoping that Fr Laurence Brassill will be with us on the 30th and will help with Masses and Benediction. **3 p.m. as usual.**

Making tea and coffee after the Sunday 10 o'clock Mass

People's availability changes and then it is not possible or convenient to carry out the same little jobs week in and week out. What we could do with at the moment are a couple of helping hands, on a regular basis, to make the tea and coffee at the end of the 10 o'clock Mass every Sunday, to serve and then to clear away. If you ask Billy, he will tell you what it all involves

Donations to the Food Bank will be welcome from next week.

Volunteers for the garden

You'll be glad to know that the Priory Garden Volunteers pitch at the Craft Fair gained three volunteers and they have been hard at work already. As you will have noticed, everything is flourishing. If you had intended to volunteer but missed the chance, then please volunteer now! Come on whatever day is most suitable. So that we can know who is doing what and where and when, Dick Oldershaw keeps tabs on the most pressing tasks and he can point you in the right direction.

Suffolk Historic Churches' Sponsored Cycle Ride September 9th

In previous years our parishioners have walked, cycled, or checked arrivals of cyclists. Sponsor entitlement takes a variety of forms. Please put this date in your diary: **the 9th of September.** Sponsor forms and further details to follow.

Plants!

The Priory Plants' Stall is very successful as a fund-raiser.. And it is empty! So many people pass by every day and most of them look to see what is on offer. If you have plants that you are dividing, re-potting, reviewing, maybe you will have some extra to your requirements. If you have any to spare, the Priory Plants' Stall has space for them.

En vacances

We wish all our parishioners, families, children, visitors, a lovely holiday time. We accompany your with our prayers.

In the next few weeks we shall welcome Fr Stefan Park as Prior of our community. That will re-establish our numbers for the months ahead.

Fr David

Way of Silence 18th July

A very well attended gathering of this month's 'The Way of Silence' introduced to some and expanded to others an old practice of the Church, namely *Lectio Divina*, which was led by Mary Handforth. The whole idea of *Lectio Divina* is to read a passage from the Bible, understand the written word inspired by God, and how it might reflect our 21st Century lives. We were drawn deeper into contemplation and prayer as the day continued, ending with an appeal from Pope Francis to have access to a pocket Bible as well as, or instead of, the ubiquitous mobile 'phone. It was a memorable day, the speaker inspiring the group with her well thought-out, lucid approach, which left us eager for more sessions of this ilk. My copy of a pocket Bible is due to be delivered, courtesy of the local bookshop, today.

Jenny Wayman

Friends of Augustine Meeting.

Want to find out more about St Augustine?

Join us at our monthly meetings in the Priory.

This Thursday 27th July 7.30pm – Everyone welcome.

REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Mark Lunn, Steven Cubitt, Michael Donegan, Maura Kingston, Donna Wilson (Maria's daughter-in-law), Pauline Wells, Mary Tallon (Linda Rushton's Mum), Michael Farndon, Don Fitzgerald, Mary-Rose Henderson (Jean's sister), Abby Joyce, Pauline Wilkinson, Vivienne Hay's son Matthew and her mother Katie, 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), Pat Plenty, 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), Wendy Walton, Sarah Booth, Kath Bullen, Shirley Kennedy, Jane Brown, Sheila Green, Jack, Lali and Orlando Cardozo, Patricia McBride.

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

A Last Word from Sister Eileen

No! It's not about next year's Tombola! I wish to thank each one of our parishioners for their friendship, support and countless kindnesses to me during my many years at Clare Priory. I've loved the Priory, the Parish, the Community and the Parishioners, not least your beautiful children. I am taking with me wonderful memories and you will always be with me in my prayer and heart.

Thank you for the many gifts you have given to me as I leave. I really appreciate your never-ending generosity.

My new address is: Chigwell Convent, 803 Chigwell High Road, Woodford Bridge, Essex IG8 8AU. You will find a warm welcome there if ever you are in the vicinity. It would be just grand to see you again. Beannacht Dé Orai h go léir!

Sister Eileen

Thank you

Thank you for the warmth of our little celebration last Sunday for Sister Eileen and Fr Ian and for all the help in setting up and clearing away. Thank you for your kindness to me on my recent birthday (Fr Ian was very indiscreet!)

And thank you to our Cavendish congregation who kindly agreed to attend Mass at the Priory last Sunday so that we could actually arrange a get together with Fr Ian and Sister Eileen.

Fr David

Collections

16th July - £588.00

Thank you for your continuing generous collection

JULY			
Tuesday 25th – Sunday 30th	Individual Guided Retreat	£340	Sr Frances Moore
Wednesday 26th	Priory Prayer Meeting		7 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. This prayer meeting is a weekly happening. Why not try it for a week?
Sunday 30th	Benediction		At 3 p.m.
AUGUST			
Friday 4th – Friday 11th	Ashram Retreat 6.30 yoga, chant prayer, meditation; 8.00 breakfast; 9.30 class and meditation; 10.45 break; 11.15 Korean exercise and deep relaxation; 12.00 meditation; 1.00 Lunch; 2.30 class and meditation; 3.45 tea-break; walk, reflection, read, jobs; 5.30 chant and meditation; 6.30 supper; 7.30 sharing with group	£75 per day <i>Meals and refreshments included</i>	Fr Korko Moses
Tuesday 15th	The Way of Silence: an introduction to Christian Meditation for families When Fr Laurence Freeman came two months ago, he was asked how long should children be encouraged in silent prayer. He said 'One minute for every year of their life!'	<i>Donation</i> <i>Bring packed lunch</i>	Priory Team
Tuesday 22nd – Sunday 27th	Individual Guided Retreat	£340	Sr Frances Moore
Monday 28th	Feast of St Augustine		Mass at 10 a.m.
Thursday 31st	A Day of Mindfulness Don't just do something – Sit there!	<i>Donation</i> <i>Bring packed lunch</i>	Dr Mark Chambers and Jennie Thornton