


The Sacrament of the Sick

What is it?

The sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick is the Church's way of reaching out to those who are sick to bring them comfort and healing. It is recorded as being the practice of the early church in the Letter of St. James: "Are there any who are sick among you? Then let them send for the priests of the Church and let the priests pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord."

When is it given?



Over the centuries it became to be regarded as a sacrament reserved for those who were thought to be dying and was called Extreme Unction. In more recent times, the church has attempted to restore the ancient practice of offering this sacrament to any who are sick, even if there is no indication that death is imminent.

Who can receive it?

Anyone who is suffering from a condition which is ongoing and which significantly impairs their wellbeing and quality of life, or anyone who is suffering from an illness which requires a major medical procedure to avert a threat to their life, even though they may, at the time, seem quite well. Sometimes people may be anointed who have no specific medical problem but who are experiencing the increasing weakness of advancing years. Some seek to be anointed when there is nothing physical wrong with them but they are overwhelmed with grief after the loss of a spouse or a child. So the criteria can be quite widely drawn.

How is it celebrated?

It is not uncommon for it to be celebrated in the context of a community gathering. There will be a special Mass at 2.30 p.m. on Sunday 24th September, during which those who wish may receive the Sacrament of the Sick. **Sign up now! Please pick up a form from the Narthex if you would like to be anointed or if you have a relative or friend who would like to be anointed.**

Food for soul and body!

After the Mass for the Sick there will be a "bit of a do" in the hall. So please allow half an hour or so in your schedule to enjoy the hospitality of the parish and the company of your fellow parishioners.

Wish you were here – Home Mission Sunday

In that first moment, when you settle into your seat, waiting for Mass to begin, who is it that you think of? Who is it that you wish were sitting beside you?

After my mother died, it was difficult to come to Church without welling up in tears as I wished she were there. Then one day I asked God to show me that she was with Him, and experienced a sense of peace.

Now my heart aches for those I care about who have stopped coming to Church.

Perhaps they have drifted away or something has turned them away. Whatever the situation, I miss them and wish they were here.

In today's readings we are taken straight to the heart of the matter as we are asked to forgive those who have hurt us and to show mercy if we hope to receive it. This sentiment is as powerful as it is challenging. Whether thinking of an individual or a group of people who have offended us in some way, if we are able to show loving mercy rather than judgement, we open the door for them to turn towards Jesus. How? It all begins with a smile, a welcome, and prayer that we be released from the pain within. Then in going beyond ourselves, we step into Christ and do what may have seemed impossible – we forgive and are forgiven.

If home is where the heart is, the best place to start sharing our faith is with the people we carry in our hearts. The Home Mission Office exists to help the Church throughout England and Wales to share the joy of the Gospel. It can seem daunting to share such a personal part of our lives as our faith in Jesus Christ. However, we can pray that the people we carry in our hearts will encounter him for themselves. Our outreach today is for the Home Mission. *Teresa Carvalho, Home Mission Development Officer, Home Mission Office.*



**TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A PSALTER WEEK 4
PARISH MASS BOOK
Readings: from page 128
Preface: from page 66**

THIS WEEK

SATURDAY 16th Sts Cornelius & Cyprian

SUNDAY 17th 24th Sunday Yr A Ps Wk 4

OUTREACH Home Mission Sunday Today is Home Mission Sunday, the day when the Catholic community in England and Wales is invited to pray for, celebrate and support the work of evangelisation in England and Wales.

For more information, please see [http://catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Featured/Home-Mission-Sunday-2017/\(language\)/eng-GB](http://catholicnews.org.uk/Home/Featured/Home-Mission-Sunday-2017/(language)/eng-GB)

MONDAY 18th

12.15 pm Ladies Lunch & Prayer Grp -Hall

7.45 pm Life in the Spirit - Church

TUESDAY 19th

8.00 pm Baptism Preparation - Hall

WEDNESDAY 20th Sts Andrew Kim

Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang &

Companions

THURSDAY 21st St Matthew

SATURDAY 23rd

2.30 pm Polish Catechism - Hall

SUNDAY 24th 25th Sunday Yr A Ps Wk 1
Harvest Sunday

9.30 pm Harvest offertory procession.

2.30 pm Mass for the Sick

6.45 pm Parish Youth Mission - Hall

7.00 pm Confessions in Polish

7.30 pm Mass in Polish

MSZA SWIETA 19.30

OUTREACH: Tunbridge Wells Citizens

Advice Bureau - provides free, independent, confidential and impartial advice to everyone on their rights and responsibilities. Please see www.twcab.org.uk

Fr Agnelo will be returning on 29th September for a farewell celebration and presentation.

Please join us for **Mass at 7.30 pm** followed by a celebration in the hall.



CONTACTS

Parish Canon Peter Stodart

Priest: frpeter@st-augustine.co.uk

Assist Fr. Josaphat Ezenwa

Priests: jcezenwa2@yahoo.co.uk

Fr Lixon Cyriac

lyxoncyriac@gmail.com

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Parish Gerard Garcia

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Youth youthleader@st-augustine.co.uk

Leader Sorcha 07948 970 995

Catholic St Augustine's 01892 529796

Schools: St. Gregory's 01892 527444

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Mass Times

Sunday Masses

Sat 5.30 pm Vigil Mass

Sun 8.00 am

9.30 am Family Mass with Music Group & Children's Liturgy

11.15 am Sung Mass with Traditional Choir

5.45 pm

Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 7.30 & 10.00 am

Wed: 7.30 am, 12.30 pm

7.30 pm Extraordinary Form Mass (1st Wednesday each month)

4.30 pm Burrswood (2nd Wednesday each month)

Fri: 7.30, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Sat 8.00 and 10.00am

Reconciliation

Sat 10.30 -11.30 am. 4.30 - 5.15 pm. Also by appointment.

Evening prayers of the Church with Benediction - Sunday 4.00pm.

Eucharistic Adoration Monday 6.30 am - 8.00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday 6.30 am -1.00 pm, **Friday** 6.30 am - 9.00 pm

Monday- Friday the church is usually open from 6.30 am until at least 8.00 pm

Rosary Mon - Tues & Thurs - Fri after 10.00 am Mass.

Rosary Intention: That we may be attentive to and inspired to spread the Gospel

Prayer Groups

Cenacolo Thurs, Blessed Sacrament, 2.30 pm

Charismatic Tues, Church, 8.00 pm

Christian Meditation Tues, Hall/MR3 2.00 pm

Keralan Fri, Meet Room 3
call 0786 2297715 for more details

Mothers Prayers Tue, Meet Room 3
10.45 am

Choir Practices

Music Group Thurs 8.00 pm

Traditional Sun 10.30 am

Uniform Groups

Rainbows Wed 4.15 pm

Brownies Wed 5.30 pm

Guides Wed 7.00 pm

Senior Section Wed 7.00 pm

Beavers Thurs 4.15 pm

Cubs Thurs 6.00 pm

Scouts Thurs 8.00 pm

PLEASE NOTE - The groups listed above meet **every week at the same time and on the same day**. Any alteration will be shown in the diary section of the newsletter.

BAPTISMS - We are pleased to welcome **Eva, Olivia, Roseanne, Katy, Elijah & Rory** to our parish community. There are leaflets entitled "Your Baby's Baptism at St Augustine's" in the church porch. Contact Jean Dunne, (01892 309062) and Jean will send you a baptism preparation pack.

WEDDINGS - Congratulations and best wishes to **Joanna & Ben** on their wedding..

PLEASE PRAY FOR the repose of the souls of John Donohue, Kit Mankelow, Mike Conboy, Bernadette Collins and Sean Murray.

Please also remember the sick and housebound in your prayers.

OFFERTORY

Offertory £951.44

GA £762.50

Education Service £383.40

Cafod £5

Mitapeep £21.85

Thank you for your generosity.



***** **MASS FOR THE SICK** *****

Sunday 24th September at 2.30pm

This is the Annual Celebration of Mass which includes the Anointing of the Sick for those in the parish whose health has become a worry. So, if you would feel you would benefit from receiving this healing sacrament, whatever age you are, or know of someone else who would, please take a form from the Narthex and return it completed to the Parish Office as soon as possible. Lifts will be arranged, and the afternoon ends with a cup of tea in the Hall.

HARVEST SUNDAY 2017 SUNDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

Parishioners may wish to bring tinned food to Mass for distribution to the needy. At the 9:30am Mass the children will present their gifts at the Offertory; at all other Masses please place your tins on the table beside the altar. The Welfare Team asks everyone to be really generous this year. The Welfare Team specially asks for: **TINNED MEAT, TINNED VEGETABLES** (NOT Chick Peas, Mushy Peas, Kidney Beans), **TINNED SPAGHETTI, MACARONI CHEESE AND RAVIOLI, TINNED FRUIT, TINNED RICE & CUSTARD, TEA, COFFEE, SUGAR** – not large/catering sizes, **LONG-LIFE MILK, SQUASH, JAMS, NUTELLA, CEREALS, BISCUITS & SWEETS.** Regretfully, we are unable to distribute fresh fruit and vegetables.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS



Our Life in the Spirit Seminars continue in the church on Monday at 7.45pm. The topic for 18th September will be Salvation and the speaker will be Archbishop (Emeritus) Kevin McDonald. Why not come along with a friend?



CHURCH CLEANERS NEEDED

We need a few more church cleaners to swell our ranks! If you feel you could help, please ring the office on 522 525 or email office@st-augustine.co.uk Full training given! Thank you in advance.

HOME MISSION SUNDAY

The Home Mission Office exists to help the Church throughout England and Wales to share the joy of the Gospel. It can seem daunting to share such a personal part of our lives as our faith in Jesus Christ. However, we can pray that the people we carry in our hearts will encounter him for themselves. If you would like to pray for the spread of the Good News on a regular basis, please sign up to our newsletter via www.homemission.org.uk

Please consider contributing to today's second collection. The money received from this collection ensures that the Catholic Faith Centre is resourced and is able to respond to those who have questions about the Catholic Faith.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Mental prayer in my opinion is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us. The important thing is not to think much but to love much and so do that which best stirs you to love. Love is not great delight but desire to please God in everything. **St Teresa of Avila**

ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK ECUMENICAL COMMISSION

Visit to Canterbury Cathedral

Everyone is invited to join us on our visit to the Anglican Cathedral of Canterbury, the Mother Church of the Anglican Communion and the seat of the Archbishop of Canterbury on **Wednesday 11th October 2017**. If you would like to come, please contact Deacon Jolyon Vickers j.vickers1@btinternet.com by the 30th of September. See the notice in the porch for full details.

SWT PRE-LOVED BOOK FAIR

Saturday 23rd September 10am-2pm at Sovereign Trust, 2 The Granary, Coblands Business Centre, Cemetery Lane, Hadlow, Tonbridge TN11 0LT to raise funds for postage costs to pastors in the developing nations, and also to pastors resident in the UK. For more information ring **Natalie Holloway** Sovereign World Trust 07979 608684

Sale of Christmas Cards - Please support Rwanda Aid and the Holy Shop by buying your Christmas cards from us in Hall the Weekend of Sept 30th / 1st Oct.

1. By buying beautiful Hand Made Christmas Cards made from banana fibres and Gift Tags for Rwanda Aid you are supporting this women's craft co-operative based in South West Rwanda. You are giving these women the opportunity to earn an income which can help to pay for basic health care as well as enabling them to send their children to school. A pack of 6 Christmas Cards with envelopes £5 (80p each), Pack of 5 Gift Tags £2
2. The Holy Shop will also be selling at a reduced price last years boxes of **18 Christmas Cards for £2** and Packs of 10 small Christmas cards for £1 Plus some other goods!
3. **The 10-Minute Diary**. Do you struggle to find time for God each day? Do you want to deepen your prayer life but not sure where to start? This diary is designed not only to support your daily management of tasks, appointments & events but also to help you to take 10 minutes out of your busy day to meditate on God's Word. Could this help you or make a good Christmas gift? Come and see and place your order. Thank you.

R.C.I.A. The Journey of Faith

We start the instruction for non-Catholics and those who wish to increase their knowledge of Christianity through the teaching of the Catholic church.

Monday evenings at 8 pm, first Monday 9th October 2007

If you are interested please give your name and contact details to the parish office.

ALTAR SERVERS

We are very pleased that Heloisa Dimbleby has agreed to be the new co-ordinator of Altar Servers

Heloisa is one of the senior Altar Server with many years of experience. The next altar servers training day is **Saturday 23rd September at 10.30 am**

Ladies' Lunch & Prayer group Monday 18th September 2017 12.15 for 12.30 start.

We meet in the Church Hall to share our faith with one another.

We welcome any ladies who are new to the parish to come and join us over a light lunch and cup of tea. We would be pleased to meet you.

With best wishes Ann, 01892 529911

AN EVENING OF MUSIC St Dunstan's church hall Saturday 30th September 7 for 7.30 pm



Tickets £10 each – children free Tea and coffee served Bring your own bottle and glasses. See poster in the porch for details

TW Churches Winter Shelter is seeking a Project Manager to oversee the 2018 Winter Shelter. To find out more about this position, email for a job description and application form. **Applications should be sent to clyallen@aol.com** Closing date for applications is Saturday 23 September 2017.

Life in the Spirit by Doreen Lambert

Last Monday evening we had the first in our Life in the Spirit Seminars. There was an exceptional response with over 170 people attending, stretching our ability to register and allocate people to small groups. However all was sorted in the end with extra groups being established to cope with the numbers. The next session will be much more straightforward, because most people will already know which groups they are in.



The evening opened with gentle and beautiful music from Anne Scripture followed by a welcome from Fr Peter. Then we had a reading from the Gospel of John, the beautiful inspiring piece which tells us, "God is Love".

Fr Stephen Wymer spoke on the subject of God's Love for 45 minutes, telling us that as recipients of God's love, we should extend that love to other people. He gave various real life examples of this. One of the examples which struck me was Jean Vainer who founded L'Arche in response to the plight of those institutionalised with learning disabilities. This reminded me of the quote by St Teresa of Avila, "*Christ has no body now on earth but yours, No hands but yours, No feet but yours, Yours are the eyes through which is to look out Christ's compassion to the world...*".

After the talk we separated into small groups to discuss what we'd heard, then gathered back together in the church for closing prayers. The seminar finished around 9.30pm. Afterwards there was tea and coffee available in the hall and a chance to chat.

Archbishop (Emeritus) Kevin McDonald is our next speaker on Monday 18th. Why not join us?

VATICAN DECREE ON HOLYDAYS

With effect from the First Sunday of Advent 2017, two holydays of obligation are being reinstated. This decision was made by the Bishops of England and Wales, and has been confirmed by the Holy See.

The days are:

The Epiphany of the Lord -

6 January (transferred to the adjacent Sunday when it falls on Saturday or Monday)

The Ascension of the Lord - Thursday after Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Decree, issued by the Holy See's Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments on 4 August 2017, approved the Bishops' request that the celebration of the solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on its particular day, namely, forty days after Easter; the celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord on its particular day, namely, 6 January.

<http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk>



Parish Youth Mission

Hello everyone!

St Augustine's has been a very important part of my spiritual formation, and the guidance, support and friendships from this parish over the years has inspired some of the key decisions I've made for my life. After graduating from Leeds University with a BA in Theology-Philosophy & Religious Studies, I've taught in Africa and Thailand, worked in online media for the Jesuits, and recently returned from partial studying a Theology MA in Belgium. I've also devoted over a year to the ecumenical community of Taize, in France and around Europe. This was a beautiful, challenging, life-changing experience I shall never forget. I intend to bring some of this spirit to the parish with monthly Taize prayers and music – watch this space!

I have a great vision for the Youth Mission of St Augustine's, and I am grateful for Luke Goymour for providing the foundation on which to build. I hope to raise the young people of our parish to integral roles, keeping it fun, engaging and fresh. Activities planned so far are film nights, thought-provoking talks, youth masses, art and theatre workshops, etc. **If you have any ideas to share, please attend the Youth Mission Evening on the 24th of September after 5.45pm Mass – listen to the events planned, give us some suggestions/ask questions!**

My last point is directed at the young people of the parish. If you think church is boring, let's make it interesting! Be the change you want to see in the world, and not just sit on the sidelines.

Hope to see you all over the next few weeks,

Sorcha

youthleader@st-augustine.co.uk
07948 970 995



PHONE SCAMS

Phone scams are on the increase and are affecting all age groups. Please be aware that scammers are calling people claiming to be from BT, TalkTalk or Microsoft etc., and claiming you have problems with fraud issues, your internet, or computer.



Always be on guard when you get a call from someone you don't know who is calling, The above companies won't initiate a call - you often need to call them to report something.

Hang up - Think calmly about what you are being told and hang up without responding to the caller.

Make tea - Making a cup of tea is the perfect opportunity to get away from the phone, pause and reflect on what to do next.

Call back - If the caller claimed to be from a company, call the official number (not the number you were called by) on your documents and ask whether they've called you. If they haven't, they can help you report it.