

LENT, HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

The season of Lent is a time of spiritual preparation and renewal for the celebration of Holy Week and Easter, the most important days in the Christian Year. All who belong to God's Holy Church are encouraged to keep a good Lent and to take a full part in the celebrations marking the days when Our Lord Jesus Christ suffered, died and rose again for us.

LENT In the season of Lent we recall the 40 days and 40 nights in which Our Lord Jesus Christ fasted and prayed in the desert. Following his example, Christians are encouraged to do three things during Lent:

To fast – usually by giving something up (e.g. chocolate, biscuits, alcohol) during Lent. Each of us are asked to think about a small sacrifice we can make in Lent so as to remember the temptations endured by Christ in the desert and the sacrifice of Himself for us on the Cross.

To pray – to make an extra effort to attend Mass on Sundays and also during the week and to put time aside for personal prayer at home. We are blessed at S. Augustine's Church to have the opportunity to worship and pray at Mass, not only on Sundays but during the week too. The times of weekday Masses can be found on the Sunday leaflet and on our website www.augustineofcanterbury.co.uk

To give alms – to give financial support to those in need. During Lent S. Augustine's Church will be supporting the charity 'Mission Direct' which gives support to the work of mission and community projects in the poorest of our parishes.

Stations of the Cross

Every Friday in Lent (except 4th April) at 9.30am followed by Mass.

Year of Faith Lent Course

2025 marks the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea and the Nicene Creed which we recite each Sunday at Mass. The Society has produced a six-session course with an introductory video and study notes. Ideal as a Lent Course, it aims to explore the themes of the Creed and what it says about our faith. To follow the course at home online go to www.sswsh.com

Ash Wednesday, 5th March - Lent begins

10.00 am Mass & 7.00 pm Sung Mass.

Both Masses with the Blessing and Imposition of Ashes.



HOLY WEEK & EASTER

The most important week of the year for Christians will be observed at S. Augustine's with daily worship and devotions and the traditional liturgies by which we accompany Our Lord Jesus Christ in his suffering, death and resurrection.

Sunday 13th April Palm Sunday – Holy Week begins

10.00 am The Blessing and Procession of Palms and Parish Mass.

We commemorate the Lord's entry into Jerusalem. Palm Crosses are blessed and we hear the account of the Passion of Christ from S. Luke's Gospel.

Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 15th April of Holy Week

10.00 am Mass and Homily

We reflect on the readings of the day and receive Holy Communion.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM (The Great Three Days)

Thursday 17th April Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Solemn Mass of the Lord's Supper & Watch of the Passion

We recall the events of the night when Our Lord gathered with his disciples in the Upper Room and instituted the Eucharist. We then accompany him, present in the Blessed Sacrament, to the Garden of Gethsemane where he invites us to watch with him in prayer.

Friday 18th April Good Friday

9.30 am Stations of the Cross

The traditional devotion following the Lord as he makes his way to his death on Calvary.

3.00 pm The Liturgy of the Cross

We gather as God's faithful people at the exact time when Jesus died (3pm) to worship him who gave his life for us. We hear the account of his Passion, adore the Cross of Christ and receive Holy Communion

Saturday 19th April Holy Saturday

7.30 pm The Easter Vigil & First Mass of Easter

The Church begins her celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord with the great and ancient liturgy of Easter night, including the Blessing of the New Fire, Lighting of the Paschal Candle, the Easter Proclamation and Renewal of Baptismal Vows. The Mass will be followed by a Parish Easter Party in the Vicarage. All welcome!

Sunday 20th April Easter Sunday

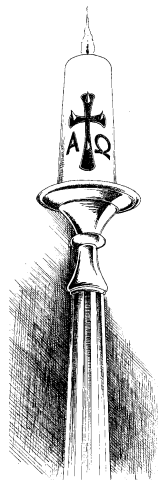
10.00 am Parish Mass of Easter Day

Our celebration of Easter continues with joyful worship and the Blessing of Easter Eggs in honour of the Resurrection. The Mass will be followed by Easter refreshments in the Hall.

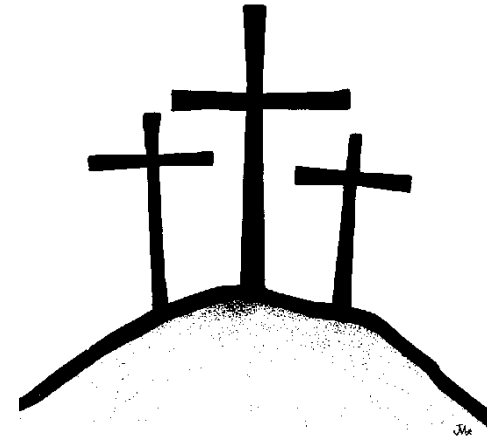
The season of Easter continues for Fifty Days until the Solemnity of Pentecost on Sunday 8th June.

**Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:
so let us celebrate the feast (1 Corinthians 5 v.7)**

May the Lord keep us faithful and fill us with his grace as we join with Christians throughout the world in the celebration of Lent, Holy Week and Easter.



S. Augustine of Canterbury, Belvedere



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