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**St Augustine of Hippo  
Grimsby**



**A Forward in Faith  
Parish**



 **The Society**  
under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

Edition 7

**Parish Magazine**

## Our Giving

### Bank details for standing orders or donations are:

TSB Bank

St Augustine of Hippo PCC

Sort Code: 30-93-72 Account Number: 00159954

You may have seen that many charity bank accounts have started charging fees for every day transactions. It costs us money to bank cheques and cash, which devalues the amount of the donation/payment. We are therefore asking that, wherever possible, people donate money using online banking, even for small amounts. This doesn't cost us a penny. Please indicate in the reference field who it's from, and what for, then we can Gift Aid your donation wherever possible. Gift aid forms should be completed for regular giving by standing order if applicable. Thank you.



### Donating by card or phone

We have a card machine positioned at the back of church near the south door as an alternative way of giving. Please bear in mind that a percentage of all giving using this method (between 1% and 2%) is taken by the provider.

### Regular Sunday giving by offertory collection plate

It is no longer necessary to use give aid envelopes for cash donations of £30 or less. This again keeps administration down. However, should you wish to make a higher donation please use a gift aid envelope as usual.



Dear Friends

Having written my "Fr. Adrian writes" for this edition of the Parish Magazine I have been given a second bite at the cherry, following diagnosis of health issues.

On Saturday 6 August I suffered a sudden shortness of breath. I followed procedure and called 111, was referred to the Out of Hours GP Service who then sent me to A&E.

I was seen swiftly, given all sorts of tests and diagnosed with significant pulmonary emboli affecting both lungs. Hence the shortness of breath. I was treated with anti-coagulant injection and "observed" (with all sorts of needles inserted from the back of my hands up to my elbows) I was sent home with tablets and strict instructions about what to do if certain symptoms occurred. I was referred to cardiology and the "Clot Clinic". I am not quite sure how I should interpret "Clot".

It seems that there is no quick fix from this diagnosis, but with medication and following medical advice it will fix. The upshot of all this is that I am declared unfit for duty for six weeks and then, if I have made sufficient progress, I will have a phased return to duty.

I will let you know more details in due course.

In the meantime, I know you will all do your best to keep things going at St. Augustine's. I am particularly grateful to our Churchwardens and Deputy Churchwardens who have been amazing at sorting service cover at short notice (not an easy task) and to the Priests who have worked that cover.

As someone famous said "I'll be back"!

With every blessing

**Fr. Adrian**



Items for inclusion in the September edition of this magazine should be sent to the editor via email by Sunday 21 September.

([mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com)). There is no guarantee of inclusion after this date.

Could you write an article for our Parish Magazine? The editor would be pleased to receive articles of a religious nature or otherwise that would be of interest to our readers.

Again, the email address to send articles to is:  
[mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com).

## Cheryl's Name Cards

As many of you are aware, Cheryl always has some name cards on the go. At the moment, 20p could win you a box of chocolates or £1 a bottle of gin.

Prizes are given out as soon as the name card is complete.

To quote Cheryl,

**“you have to be in it to win it!”**

## Anniversary of Deaths / Year's Mind Parish Records for September

4	2002	Barbara May	Haig	74
11	1997	Ida Walton	Roberts	96
24	1991	Norman Howard	Beckett	69
26	2012	Joan Margaret	James	80
28	2002	Lucy Wheeler	Robinson	95

If you have any additional information to complete any gaps for those listed, or information relating to anyone you know of who should be included please let me know on: [mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com)



Thank you

**Maria**



## September Worship Times

Monday 1 Sept 10am No Mass  
 Tuesday 2 Sept 6.30pm No Mass  
 Wednesday 3 Sept 10am Said Mass followed by Coffee Morning

### Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 7 September 10am Sung Parish Mass  
 Monday 8 Sept 10am No Mass  
 Tuesday 9 Sept 6.30pm No Mass  
 Wednesday 10 Sept 10am Said Mass followed by Coffee Morning

### Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 14 Sept 10am Sung Parish Mass  
 Monday 15 Sept 10am No Mass  
 Tuesday 16 Sept 6.30pm No Mass  
 Wednesday 17 Sept 10am Said Mass followed by Coffee Morning

### Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 21 Sept 10am Sung Parish Mass  
 Monday 22 Sept 10am No Mass  
 Tuesday 23 Sept 6.30pm No Mass  
 Wednesday 24 Sept 10am Said Mass followed by Coffee Morning

### Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday 28 Sept 10am Sung Parish Mass  
 Monday 29 Sept 10am No Mass  
 Tuesday 30 Sept 6.30pm No Mass

Priest-in-Charge	Fr Adrian Mason	fr.adrian.mason@gmail.com 07824 4673333
Church Wardens	Adele Dixon Janet Nixon	adele.dixon90@gmail.com janet.nixon59@gmail.com
Lay Chair of PCC	Adele Dixon	adele.dixon90@gmail.com
PCC Secretary	Barry Whitfield	barrywhitfield@gmail.com
PCC Treasurer	Tracy Poole	
Safeguarding Officer	Adele Dixon	staugustineofhippo safeguarding@gmail.com
Electoral Roll Officer	Cheryl James	cheryljames1@live.co.uk
Director of Music	Barry Whitfield	barrywhitfield@gmail.com
Magazine Editor	Maria Mason	mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com







## The Life and Times of Thomas Augustus, The Vicarage Cat

I popped into church when the coffee morning was over one Wednesday and I made a new friend who made a right good fuss of me. When my

humans go on holiday later this year Sophie has said that she will help to make sure I have enough food and water. Hopefully she will give me lots of fuss as well.



One of the highlights of my day is when the door to the church from the vicarage is opened and I go into church on my own. I walk around the space soaking up the atmosphere. I walk about without a care in the world but I do get into trouble if I attempt to scratch the new carpet. I know I shouldn't because vicarage cats should know better, but I am just a normal cat after all.

When I have had a good walk around, I sometimes curl up somewhere in church for a snooze. Other times I like to go back home and curl up with my little girlfriend Kitty. As I have said before, she isn't really a church goer. I don't mind that, I love her anyway.



## September 2025 Calendar Dates, Observances and Prayer Intentions

### Date Feast

1	Feria
2	Feria
3	St Gregory the Great
4	St Cuthbert
5	Feria
6	Feria
7	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
8	<b>Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b>
9	Feria
10	Feria
11	Feria
12	Feria
13	St John Chrysostom
14	<b>The Exhalation of the Holy Cross</b>
15	Our Lady of Sorrows
16	Sts Cornelius and Cyprian
17	Feria
18	Feria
19	Feria
20	Sts Andrew Kim, Paul Chong Hasan and Companions
21	<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
22	Feria
23	St Padre Pio
24	Our Lady of Walsingham
25	Feria
26	Sts Cosmo and Damian
27	St Vincent de Paul
28	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
29	Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael
30	St Jerome

### Intentions

Those with Disabilities
Cafod
Pope Leo
The Monastics
Servers
Church Musicians
<b>The Parish</b>
<b>The Parish</b>
Our PCC
Bishop Luke
USPG
Forward in Faith
Preachers
<b>The Parish</b>
Penitents
Lawyers
Churchwardens
The Archbishop of York
Bishop Stephen
Korea
<b>The Parish</b>
Lisle Mardsen Academy
Vocations
The Shrine of OLW
The Fishing Industry
Persecuted Christians
The Poor
<b>The Parish</b>
Diocesan Deliverance Team
Biblical Commentators

## September Month of Devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows

Grief divine: A reflection on Our Lady of Sorrows *Scott Harris*

There is something about the Blessed Virgin Mary under the title of Our Lady of Sorrows that has always appealed to me. Since I started seriously considering being received into the Catholic Church around 2015, I feel that she has been a constant and comforting presence. The devotion to the Mother of God was one of the aspects of the Catholic faith that initially drew me to the Church, as I felt that Catholicism had the greatest appreciation for her, and the fullest understanding of her importance. It seemed like a good sign that the church where I started attending Catholic Mass regularly, and would eventually be officially received into the Church, would be under the patronage of Blessed Mary as Our Lady of Sorrows. Another personal connection was that the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows is two days after my birthday, which gave me even more of a sense of an affinity for her under this title.



September is a special month when it comes to the Blessed Virgin Mary, as the feast of her own nativity is celebrated on the 8th, exactly nine months after the Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th, when tradition holds that Our Lady was conceived without inheriting the stain of original sin. One week after the Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she is honoured as Our Lady of Sorrows, the compassionate mother lamenting for her crucified Son and our Redeemer. From her, the Word of God took flesh, and that flesh had been nailed to a cross. It is no wonder that sorrow pierced her own soul when her divine Son was crucified, making her a martyr without dying.

## God Created Autumn

I think one day God was restless  
Something was amiss  
He loved His Spring and Summer  
They were gentle as a kiss.

Winter was cold and stormy  
Some places worse than others  
Some places were hot  
Others, one needed covers.

They were okay, the warm and cold  
Sometimes mild, sometimes bold  
But they were not bold enough  
God needed to see colours unfold.

Ah yes, He said, one thoughtful day  
If the leaves would only change  
Brilliant leaves, reds, golds and orange  
We would watch our world rearrange.

And so it was then, my dear friend  
For us He found a colourful blend  
A time in which He knew we would love  
When God created Autumn!

Maralyn Loft



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# September Word Search



SEPTEMBER	HARVEST	COOLER
AUTUMN	EQUINOX	SWEATER
BACK-TO-SCHOOL	FOOTBALL	HOMEWORK
LABOR DAY	APPLES	TEACHER
LEAVES	PUMPKIN	READING

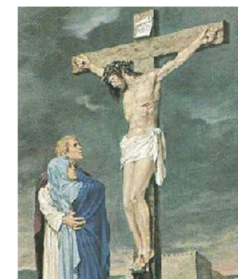


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Novice



The Gospel reading for this feast day is John 19:25-27, in which Christ sees his mother standing at the foot of the cross with the disciple whom he loved (considered to be St John himself). He says to his mother, "Woman, behold thy son," and he says to the disciple, "Behold thy mother." These words convey that the Blessed Virgin Mary is more than just his own mother. He addresses her as "woman" rather than "mother," possibly connecting her with Eve, the first woman of the Book of Genesis. Through Eve, sin came into the world, but through the Blessed Virgin Mary, God became flesh and redeemed our nature. When Christ says to his disciple, "Behold thy mother," he expresses that Our Lady is the mother of all people, just as Eve was, but unlike Eve, Our Lady is the mother of the redeemed humanity reconciled to God by her Son.



Our Lady of Sorrows is a relatable figure, as sorrow and grief are emotions that are common to the human condition, and Our Lady shares in that experience with us. As she mourned for her Son who died on the cross, she sorrows with us as we deal with the struggles of sin, and the events that come with mortal life that are beyond our control, like illness, accidents, and death. The Mother of God is the compassionate intercessor who intercedes to God for us, as she knows the pain that can come with human existence. God took on our human nature when the second person of the Holy Trinity became flesh in Jesus Christ and suffered on the cross, but it was his Blessed Mother who experienced the ultimate sorrow of seeing her Son die in such a brutal way, and so she profoundly empathizes with the suffering of humanity.

As Our Lady shares in our grief, we also share in hers, as her Son bore the weight of our sins and died on the cross for the salvation of the world. By honouring Our Lady under the title of Our Lady of Sorrows on this day, we remember the sacrifice that Christ made for us, and we are united with his Holy Mother in her grief for the sins of the world that led to the crucifixion of her Son. However, we also remember that sorrow is temporary, and to have hope, as the necessary death of Our Lord led to his miraculous resurrection and the redemption of all.



## Fr Adrain Writes . . . . .



New beginnings again!

September always seems like yet another time of new beginnings.



We come to an end of the traditional holiday period. I believe that the tradition of a long period away from places of education, first came into being so that all hands were available to help with the harvest. These days there are various harvests throughout the year, but the tradition of summer holidays persists.

There are subtle (or sometimes not so subtle) changes in the weather. The balmy days of summer turn to cooler and sometimes wetter days pointing to autumn and winter.

In a sense, the new agricultural year begins. At the end of this month or the beginning of next we will be singing "All is safely gathered in", in thanksgiving for the harvest and our prayers and hymns will look forward to future food production and ongoing harvests.

## Parish Lunch



Cheryl has made arrangements with the Pear Tree in Cleethorpes for a St Augustine's Parish Lunch on Sunday 14 September at 12.30pm.

According to the Pear Tree Website:

*"If you're looking for the best Sunday lunch, then check out our delicious Sunday lunch menu at The Pear Tree Cleethorpes in Humberston. Prefer a juicy burger, fancy a salad, or decided on treating yourself to a steak instead? Not a problem, we still serve our pub classics on Sundays. Whatever you fancy, be it a roast and toast to end the week right or a traditional pub favourite, we're here to make your weekend something special. So get together with friends and family and enjoy your meal with us."*

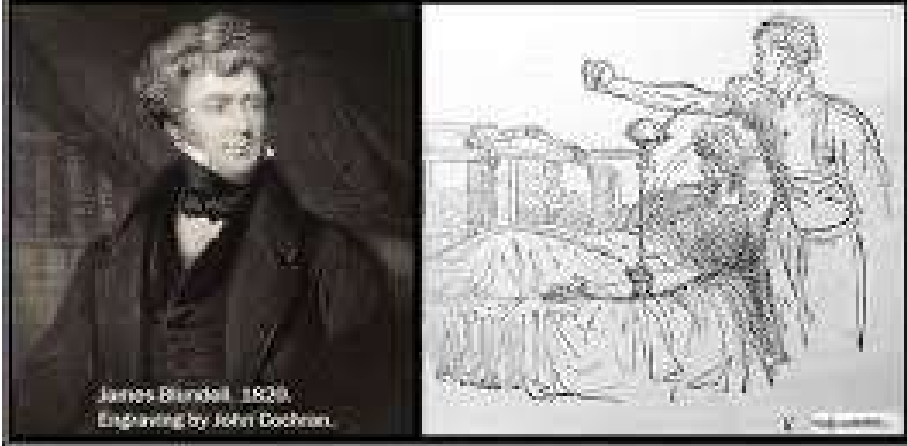


Sunday roast comes in at £15 with a dessert averaging £6.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table inside the south door. Cheryl will need to give final numbers to the Pear Tree in the near future so make sure you are signed up so that you don't miss out.



**September 25th 1818: The first successful human-human direct blood transfusion took place at Guy's Hospital in London.**



25 Sept 1818 First transfusion of human blood is performed at Guy's Hospital, London.

26 Sept 1580 The Golden Hind arrives in Plymouth harbour having sailed round the world under the captaincy of Sir Francis Drake. Drake plundered a few Spanish ships en-route to keep morale high!

27 Sept 1888 First use of the name, 'Jack the Ripper' in an anonymous letter to the central news agency.

28 Sept 1745 'God Save the King' is sung for the first time at London's Drury Lane Theatre.

29 Sept 1758 Birth of Horatio Nelson.

30 Sept 1938 Misguided British Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain says, after meeting Hitler in Munich, 'I believe it is peace for our time'.



After the long summer holidays, the new academic year begins as children



and students return to Scholls, colleges and universities. Some will start apprenticeships. Some will start their working life. There will be new classrooms, or lecture theatres; new teachers; new subjects; new challenges. All are new starts.

There are changes in nature. The days grow incrementally shorter, the air is tinged with the earthy fragrance of fallen leaves, and gardens yield their late-summer bounty. Migrating birds chart their courses across the sky, animals prepare for the coming cold, and plants begin the graceful descent into dormancy. However, this is not a time of decline but of preparation; a gathering of strength for the seasons ahead. New beginnings.

Part of the Christian faith is the chance of constant new beginnings. All of us are human. Within our human nature, we don't always get it right and we sometimes definitely get it wrong! In all of this, God loves us because of the saving, redeeming action of Jesus Christ on the cross. We can come back to Our Heavenly Father time and time again and make a new beginning. Whatever we have done, or failed to do, we can ask to express our repentance to Our Father and ask His forgiveness. New beginnings.

For some of us, we may find that using the Sacrament of Reconciliation helps. It is an ancient practice within the church and readily available. I commend it to any and all of you. The Book of Common prayer has these things to say about the practice:



*And because it is requisite, that no man should come to the holy Communion, but with a full trust in God's mercy, and with a quiet conscience; therefore, if there be any of you, who by this means cannot*

*quiet his own conscience herein, but requireth further comfort or counsel; let him come to me, or to some other discreet and learned Minister of God's Word, and open his grief; that by the ministry of God's holy Word he may receive the benefit of absolution, together with ghostly counsel and advice, to the quieting of his conscience, and avoiding of all scruple and doubtfulness.*

And in case of illness:

*Here shall the sick person be moved to make a special Confession of his sins, if he feel his conscience troubled with any weighty matter. After which Confession, the Priest shall absolve him (if he humbly and heartily desire it).*



As ever, let us rejoice in the Christian Faith that God our Heavenly Father has given us and let's seize opportunities to make new beginnings with Him, however we do it, but always with humble and contrite hearts and sure knowledge of His love and forgiveness for us. New beginnings!

With every blessing

**Fr Adrian**

9 Sept 1513 James IV of Scotland is killed at the Battle of Flodden.

10 Sep 1771 Birth of Mungo Park, Scottish explorer who published his 'Travels in the Interior of Africa' in 1799.

11 Sept 1915 Britain's first Women's Institute opens in Wales.

12 Sep 1908 Marriage of Winston Churchill to Clementine Hozier.



13 Sept 1902 Harry Jackson becomes the first person in Britain to be convicted on fingerprint evidence.

14 Sept 1752 The first day of the Gregorian calendar in Britain.

15 Sept 1830 MP William Huskisson becomes the first rail fatality at the opening of the Liverpool Manchester Railway.

16 Sept 1400 Owain Glyndwr proclaimed Prince of Wales.

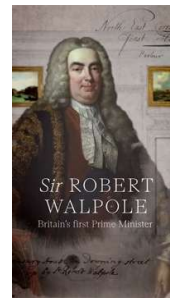
17 Sept 1701 King James II of England died whilst in exile in France.

18 Sept 1709 Birth of Samuel Johnson, compiler of the first English dictionary.

19 Sept 1356 The Black Prince, eldest son of Edward III, leads the English to victory over the French at the Battle of Poitiers.

20 Sept 1258 Consecration of Salisbury Cathedral.

21 Sept 1327 Death of Edward II, murdered with a red hot poker by his jailers.



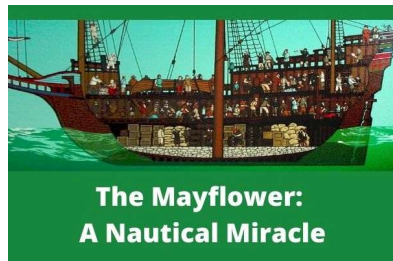
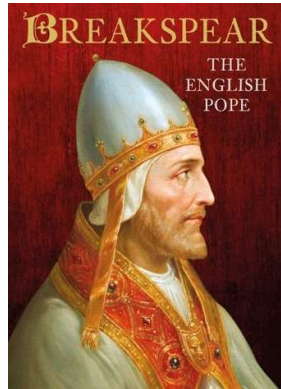
22 Sept 1735 Britain's first Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole moves in to 10 Downing Street.

23 Sept 1848 Chewing gum is produced commercially for the first time.

24 Sept 1776 The first St. Leger horserace is run at Doncaster, Yorkshire.



- 1 Sept 1159 The death of the only English Pope Adrian IV (Nicholas Breakspear).
- 2 Sept 1666 The Great Fire of London begins in Pudding Lane and rages for 5 days, but kills only 9 people.
- 3 Sept 1939 Britain and France declare war on Germany.
- 4 Sept 1962 The Beatles start their first recording session at EMI's Abbey Road Studios, London.
- 5 Sept. 1800 The end of the Siege of Malta, as Napoleon's forces surrender to the British following a two year long naval blockade.



- 6 Sept 1620 The Mayflower sets sail from Plymouth, Devon, carrying the Pilgrim Fathers to America.
- 7 Sept 1533. Birth of Queen Elizabeth I, daughter of Henry VIII and Anne Boleyn.
- 8 Sept 1944. The first V2 flying bombs kill 3 people in London.

## Who was Saint Gregory the Great?

Pope Saint Gregory I, also known as the Great, was the Pope of the Catholic Church between 590 and 604 AD. Gregory was born around 540 in Rome. The exact date of his birth is unknown. Although the Western Roman Empire had collapsed long before his birth, many ancient Roman families still commanded great wealth and influence in the city. Gregory was born into one such family. His great-great-grandfather was Pope Felix III who reigned from 483 to 492.

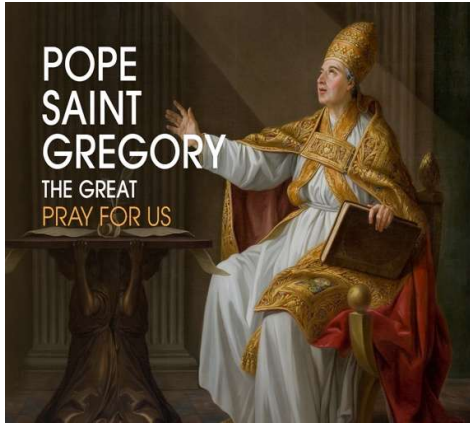
His father was named Gordianus, and he was a senator and a Prefect of Rome. Gordianus also held a position in the Church with the title of Regionarius, but there are no records from the time which describe the post. Gregory's mother was Silvia, also from a noble family. Silvia's sister (Gregory's aunt), Pateria are both recognized as saints in the Catholic and Orthodox churches. Gregory had a brother, but nothing is recorded, neither his name or his fate. Gregory's family was very wealthy and owned estates on the island of Sicily which provided income.

Gregory was well educated and excelled in all his studies. He also became an expert in law. He excelled so much he became the Prefect of Rome, just as his father had been. Gregory was only 33 years old. After Gregory's father had died, Gregory had the family villa in Rome converted into a monastery. Today the monastery still stands as the San Gregorio Magno al Celio. This famous monastery fell into ruin in the following centuries but was restored during the 17th and 18th centuries.

As a monk, Gregory was hard and strict. When a monk on his deathbed confessed to stealing three pieces of gold, Gregory ordered he be left to die alone. After the poor monk had died, Gregory ordered his body thrown on a dung heap along with the three coins. Then, in a turn of heart, Gregory offered 30 Masses for the deceased monk. Pope Pelagius II, who reigned from 579 to 590, chose Gregory to serve as an ambassador to the imperial court in Constantinople. The Pope had a problem with the Lombards invading from the west. Gregory was ordered to request military aid from



the emperor. But the emperor felt there were greater threats to the east, and he refused Gregory's request.



In 590, Pope Pelagius II died, and Gregory was proclaimed pope by acclamation. This was not something Gregory wanted, but he accepted the burden nevertheless. Gregory made clear he preferred the monastic life in a series of writings praising it. He also referred to himself as a servant of God. The habit remains in practice to this day and many clergy still refer to themselves as servants.

Pope Gregory was famous for the emphasis he put on missionary work. He sent many people out to bring many to Jesus and into the Church. Anglo-Saxon Britain was, at that time, still on the frontier of Christendom. It was Pope Gregory who dispatched St. Augustine (of Canterbury) to Kent in 597 (not to be confused with St. Augustine of Hippo).

Pope Gregory made many changes to the Mass, some of which remain today. The position of the Our Father in the Mass remains where Pope Gregory placed it. He emphasized the aspect of service to the poor for deacons. The number of deacons was increasing in number and they were seen as less essential as extensions of the Bishop than they were in the early Church. Deacons were often tasked with giving alms to the poor, and at least one was assigned to each church and ordained for this purpose.

Pope Gregory may have also established "cantus planus," known in English as plainchant. Most today know this style of singing as Gregorian Chant. The melodious, monophonic music is known



These action points include the following:-

- Check the galvanised steel water tank above the Sacristy for signs of leaks; plan for an installation of a plastic tanks and insulation to tank and pipework to roof spaces. (Estimated £750).
- Unblock all hoppers, roof outlets and downpipes, and rod ground level gullies. (Estimated £500).
- Commission inspection of trees by an arboriculturist. (Estimated £500).
- Ensure up to date mains electrical, PAT and lighting conductor test. (Estimated £600).
- Ensure up to date Asbestos Management Plan and Fire Risk Assessment. (Estimated £500).



## Quinquennial Inspection of Church Buildings



Every five years, our church building must be inspected by a suitably experienced and qualified professional, appointed after consultation with the Diocesan Advisory Committee. They will help the PCC make sure our building is kept in good repair.



The inspection was generally carried out from ground level and from internal floors, - roofs and high-level masonry were inspection by 'Drone'.

Many thanks to Paul Nixon who is co-ordinating this activity and who, together with Janet one of our churchwardens met with Peter Rogan, the appointed architect.

The report contains a substantial amount of information that the PCC will need to review and prioritise. Paul has prepared the following summary to help focus attention on items requiring immediate action.

### **Requiring immediate attention, by Paul Nixon**

Overall this is a good report. (For ref, the report also logged 430 photographs and 1 video). Upon reading through, there are approximately 12 X 'A' action points requiring urgent action, these are mainly roof / tile and drains related, plus the trees need pruning clear of walls and roofs. A Fire Risk Assessment Plan and an Asbestos Management Plan are also required.

throughout the Church and closely associated with medieval monasteries. Gregorian chant gives us the oldest music we still have in the original form, some dating to the centuries just after the death of Gregory.

Pope Gregory was well known for his alms to the poor, and he gave quite generously of the riches donated to the Church by the wealthy people of Rome. Everything from money to land was given to the poor in some fashion. He made clear to his subordinates that their duty was to relieve the distress faced by the poor. He ordered his clergy to go out into the streets to find and care for the poor in person. Any clergy who were unwilling to go into the streets and help the poor were replaced. Assets of the Church were liquidated to provide income for alms. Clergy doing this work were paid four times a year and given a gold coin as a sort of bonus.

When a famine struck Rome in the 590s, Pope Gregory ordered the Church to use its assets to feed the poor. At that time, the Church controlled nearly two thousand square miles of land, overseen by the clergy and used to generate income. Now, instead of selling the produce of the land, Pope Gregory ordered it shipped to Rome and given away for free. In this way, he saved thousands of people from certain death.

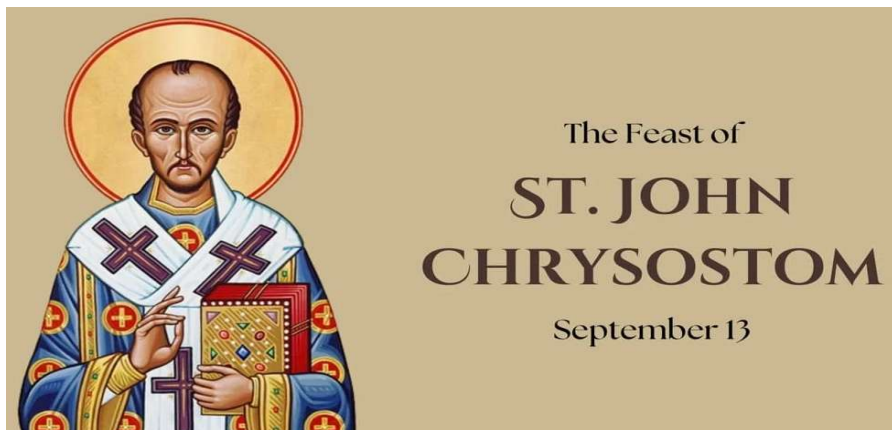
Pope Gregory himself refused to eat until his monks returned from their work of handing out food. He also made certain to dine with a dozen poor people at each meal. Because of his great respect for the poor, it was Pope Gregory and the Church that became the most respected –and obeyed force in Rome and across Italy. From the time of Gregory onwards, the people looked to the Church for government rather than the distant and indifferent emperors in Constantinople.

Pope Gregory suffered from arthritis in his last years. He died on March 12, 604 AD. He was immediately proclaimed a saint by means of popular acclaim. Saint Gregory's relics remain in St. Peter's Basilica to this day.



Saint Gregory's feast day is 3 September.

He is the patron saint of musicians, singers, students, and teachers.



Saint John Chrysostom was born as John of Antioch. “Chrysostom” is a title attributed to him, meaning “Golden Mouth,” an honorific Greek title emphasizing the power of his preaching and writings. He was born in Antioch, modern-day Turkey, to Christian parents. His father was a high-ranking military officer who died shortly after John’s birth. John’s twenty-year-old widowed mother opted not to remarry, choosing instead to devote herself entirely to raising her son and John’s older sister.

Antioch was an important city within the Roman Empire at that time. It was one of the first cities outside of Jerusalem where the Christian Church was established. The Acts of the Apostles tells us that shortly after Christians began preaching in Antioch, Saints Paul and Barnabas arrived and strengthened the Church. Tradition holds that Saint Peter was the first bishop of Antioch before traveling to Rome. The Bible also states that “it was in Antioch that the disciples were first called Christians” (Acts 11:26).

By the time of John’s birth, Christianity had been legalised in the Roman Empire. Although there were many Christians in Antioch, it remained a diverse city with various religious beliefs, including Greek paganism, which significantly influenced its learning and culture. There were also Roman, Syrian, and Jewish populations and influences. The city boasted beautiful temples, theatres, an aqueduct, and a marvellous central street adorned with marble and colonnades.



## Have you thought about becoming a Friend of St Augustine’s Church?

Membership per annum is single £15 Joint £25. When you see and hear the wealth of musical talent that rings out in our building during a musical season it is quite mind blowing.

The ‘Friends of St. Augustine’ was established to promote concerts to raise funds to assist with the maintenance of the church. Regular concerts and recitals are held in the church. The building itself possesses an outstanding acoustic and is regularly used for rehearsals and recordings. A variety of musical events feature every year featuring artists from near and far. Coming up . . . . .

Fri 26 Sept	7.30pm	Adele Dixon and Barry Whitfield
Fri 17 Oct	7.30pm	Louth Male Voice Choir
Fri 14 Nov	7.30pm	Dolce Brass
Fri 28 Nov	7.30pm	Christmas Tree Festival Opening Concert Music for Advent
Fri 19 Dec	7.30pm	Adele Dixon and Barry Whitfield Christmas Tree Finale Concert with Octangle` (octet from Louth Male Voice Choir)

Ticket prices . . . . .

Adults: £12 Friends: £10 Students: £5 Under 12: Free

Lunchtime Recitals: Free entry, retiring collection

Evening concerts are café style. A complimentary glass of wine or fruit juice is available with each ticket. You can bring your own drinks and nibbles for further refreshment. Further details email:

[staugustinesfriends@gmail.com](mailto:staugustinesfriends@gmail.com) or phone **07398 567677**





## Rock Food Bank, Grimsby

Rock Food Bank was actually founded by the Rock Foundation UK back in 2014, after identifying an increase in demand for food provision. Back then the Food Bank was based at the Old Wellington Steet premises. Over a period of time and experience in facilitating this service, they became more aware that there was a need to expand the facility in order to address some of the underlying causes of food poverty in Grimsby.

In June 2023 the Rock Foundation UK handed the baton over to the charity Rock Community Hub, who now own and facilitate the food bank and associated services. They provide nutritionally balanced food parcels which include fresh food and vegetables, tinned goods, bread and dairy as well as frozen foods. These items are donated by local supermarkets as well as local businesses and generous individuals.

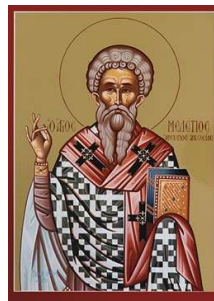


At St Augustine's we have a box positioned at the church entrance as a collection point for the Food Bank. In the past we have been very generous, however a little reminder is obviously needed. The box has remained empty for some weeks. Over 280 people are needing to access the Food Bank each week, with access limited to two or three visits, this indicates that the real need is much higher than this.

If we could fill our box with a range of tins, packets, baby products and toiletry goods (food must be in date) it would again demonstrate St Augustine's commitment support those less fortunate than ourselves. Bill and Pauline Murdoch have been dedicated to taking our donations to the distribution point in Garibaldi Street, Grimsby for sorting and packaging.

**One item per person, per week would make a huge difference.**

As a youth, John received a comprehensive Greek education in the classics under Libanius, a pagan rhetorician who was one of the most famous teachers of his time. John studied Greek literature and philosophers, such as Plato and Aristotle, among others. Libanius, firmly rooted in Greco-Roman pagan religion and culture, later said that John would have been one of the greatest pagan orators and philosophers of the time, "if the Christians had not taken him from us."

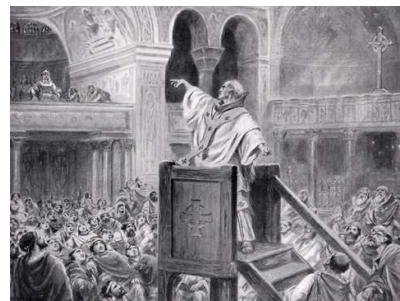


Around the age of twenty, John met Bishop Meletius, a man of stellar character and intelligence, and a powerful preacher. Over the next three years, John abandoned his pagan studies and began devoting himself to the study of Scripture, the ascetic life, and prayer. He was baptised, became a lector, and underwent a profound conversion. Feeling drawn to a life of greater solitude and prayer, he became a hermit,

living in a cave near Antioch, where he embraced extreme fasting and other ascetic practices, and studied the Bible continuously—allegedly memorizing most of it—for several years. After about eight years as a hermit, John's health was compromised from extreme fasting and penance, and he returned to Antioch to recover.

In Antioch, around the year 381, when John was about thirty-three years old, he was ordained a deacon. His years of prayer, Scripture study, and penance prepared him well for this time of more public service in the Church. About five years later, he was ordained a priest and spent around eleven years in Antioch in a very fruitful ministry. During this period, he wrote most of his sermons and commentaries, many of which still exist. His writings—containing profound works of dogmatic, moral, and historical teachings from the early Church—reveal a deep understanding of the Sacred Scripture. They are practical, relevant, and bold, never shying away from condemning prevalent sins, while being deeply pastoral in nature. He became well known and highly influential, his fame extending beyond Antioch.

At that time, Bishop Flavian was Bishop of Antioch. Many presumed that Father John would be his successor. However, in 397, the Archbishop of Constantinople died, and soon after, the Roman Emperor—to avoid causing an uproar in Antioch—secretly sent for Father John, appointing him as the archbishop’s successor. He was ordained as Archbishop of Constantinople by the Patriarch of Alexandria in the presence of many other bishops and prominent churchmen.



Constantinople was the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire and the most important archbishopric in the East. Archbishop John’s powerful position brought with it much wealth, prestige, and power. However, he immediately eliminated many of the extravagances that were commonplace, lived in

simplicity, cared for the poor, railed against sin, rooted out abuses among the clergy, and continued his fiery preaching. As the Roman Empire had only recently become Christian, much of the pagan culture and lifestyles remained. The new archbishop sought to create a new civilization and culture based on Scripture. His sermons offered clear moral and spiritual guidance on how to live and what society as a whole should embrace. He especially preached against the materialism and extravagances of the imperial court. He quickly gained the respect of many citizens but also made enemies who felt he was too strict and took offense to him. This was especially true of those living luxurious and immoral lives, including Empress Eudoxia.

In the year 403, through the schemes of the empress, Archbishop John was falsely accused of heresy and cruelty to the empress, deposed, and exiled. However, due to a sudden natural disaster that damaged the imperial palace, along with a revolt among the people, he was recalled for fear of God’s wrath. Before long, however, he was exiled again because he refused to abandon his fearless preaching. While in exile, he remained hopeful he would return and regularly wrote to his people. The pope and the Western

Item	Duration	Suggested Donation
Parish Magazine	Monthly	£50
Sanctuary Lamp	Monthly	£15
St Monica’s Chapel Lamp	Weekly	£10
Sunday Service Heating	Weekly	£50
Weekly Notice Sheet	Weekly	£2.50



**Could you sponsor the magazine, or any of the above items, for a month moving forward?**

It would be helpful moving forward into 2026 to have the year’s sponsorships laid down. Payment wouldn’t be asked for until the beginning of the month sponsored. Please email Maria to let her know which month you would like to sponsor and she will then be in contact with you nearer the time to ask you why you are sponsoring that particular month’s magazine or sanctuary lamp etc . . . . .

Moving forward as a way of covering some of the ongoing costs of the church and wider ministry I would like to trial the introduction of sponsorship.

The easiest example of what I am thinking is the sponsorship of the printing costs of our new magazine. Another example is covering the cost of the sanctuary light which is always alight (except following the Good Friday Liturgy until it is lit again to celebrate the risen Lord at the Easter Vigil) and the candles in the Lady Chapel and St Monica's Chapel. Sponsorship would be on a weekly or monthly basis, although monthly sponsorship would make administering the process an easier task, and could be in memory of a loved one who has died or something else such as a birthday that is close to your heart. Sponsors and their special intention will be published in this magazine each month.



Sponsorship money should be paid at the beginning of the month preferably by bank transfer using the reference box to indicate that it is sponsorship money or you could give your sponsorship money in cash to our treasurer, Tracy Poole.

If you would like to participate in this new venture, please email Maria the month, what you are sponsoring and your intention to:

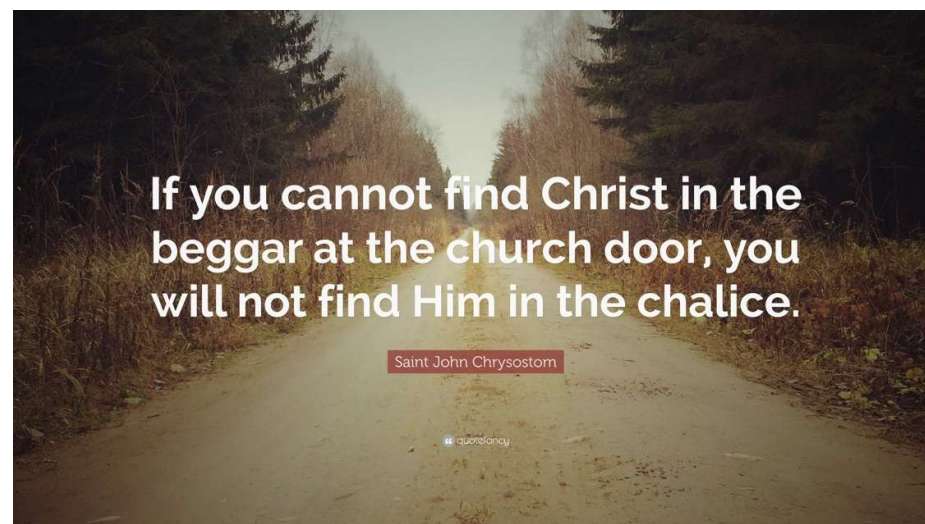
[mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com](mailto:mrs.maria.mason@gmail.com)

It is of course possible to have more than one sponsor for any category in any month and all sponsors with their intention will be published.

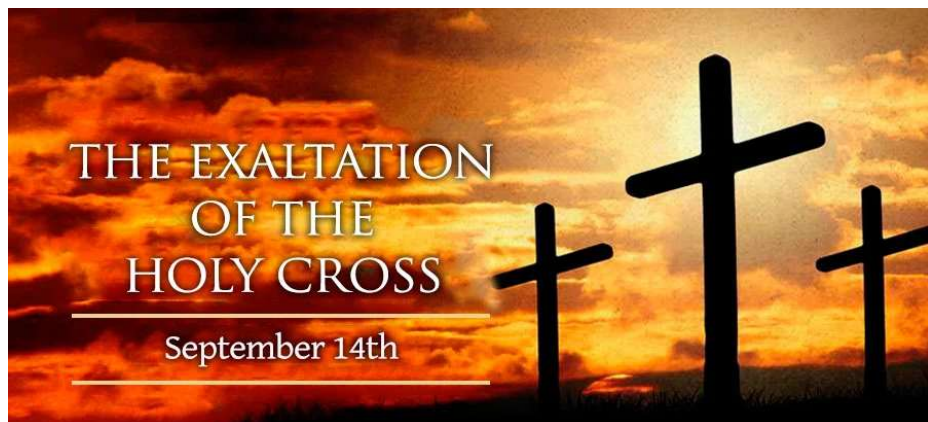
Roman Emperor tried to intervene, but to no avail. After three years in exile, he was ordered to be taken to the edge of the Roman Empire where he would be even more isolated. Due to harsh conditions on the journey and the cruelty of the soldiers that exacerbated his already poor health, he died en route.

Saint John Chrysostom was a convert, a holy deacon, an influential priest, an exceptionally consequential archbishop, and a prolific writer. This latter quality ultimately earned him the distinction of being a Doctor of the Church. In addition to his pastoral work, he left behind about 700 sermons, hundreds of letters, commentaries on Scripture, theological treatises—including important teachings on the Eucharist and priesthood—and other writings that remain influential today.

As we honour this “golden-mouth” preacher and teacher of the faith, ponder your own need for clear, relevant, and convincing teachers of the faith. As you do, reflect upon ways that you can better expose yourself to the wealth of catechetical insights within our Church to help you grow in your own faith. By actively seeking out good teachers, preachers, and writings, we allow God to form us and draw us closer to Himself.







This day is also called the Triumph of the Cross, Elevation of the Cross, Holy Cross Day, Holy Rood Day, or Roodmas. The liturgy of the Cross is a triumphant liturgy. When Moses lifted up the bronze serpent over the people, it was a foreshadowing of the salvation through Jesus when He was lifted up on the Cross. Our Mother Church sings of the triumph of the Cross, the instrument of our redemption. To follow Christ we must take up His cross, follow Him and become obedient until death, even if it means death on the cross. We identify with Christ on the Cross and become co-redeemers, sharing in His cross.



We made the Sign of the Cross before prayer which helps to fix our minds and hearts to God. After prayer we make the Sign of the Cross to keep close to God. During trials and temptations our strength and protection is the Sign of the Cross. At Baptism we are sealed with the Sign of the Cross, signifying the fullness of redemption and that we belong to Christ. Let us look to the cross frequently, and realize that when we make the Sign of the Cross we give our entire self to God — mind, soul, heart, body, will, thoughts.

**O cross, you are the glorious sign of victory.**

**Through your power may we share in the triumph of Christ Jesus.**

## Magazine Sponsorship for September 2025

The printing of this edition of our Parish Magazine has been sponsored by Janet Nixon in memory of her mum Eileen Lydia May Armitage who died on 1 March 2003; this September would have been Eileen's 98th birthday.

Eileen Lydia May Armitage was a member of the Parish of St Augustine all her life. She was confirmed and married in St Augustine's and her ashes are buried in the memorial garden on the south side.



Eileen married in St Augustine's on 29 March 1948. This is a wonderful picture of the happy couple standing outside the West door of the church.

She was a keen knitter and baker until glaucoma and macular degeneration took her sight in later years.

She is still terribly missed.

**This sponsorship enables us to offer our monthly magazine free of charge. Thank you!**

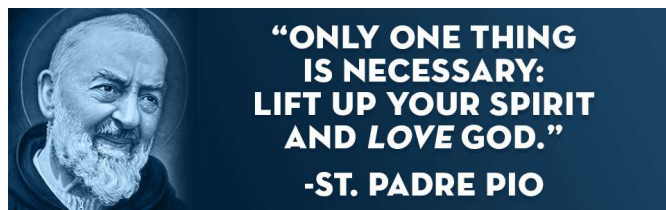
Padre Pio became internationally famous. He was known for his piety, charity and the quality of his preaching. He famously advised, "Pray, hope and don't worry."

He had other illnesses, as well, including cancer which was miraculously healed after just two treatments. Other problems, such as arthritis, which plagued him in his later years, never went away.

Padre Pio died on September 23, 1968. His funeral was attended by over 100,000 people.



Pope John Paul II recognized Padre Pio as a saint on June 16, 2002. His feast day is September 23. He is the patron of civil defence volunteers, adolescents, and the village of Pietrelcina.



## The Life of St Padre Pio

St. Padre Pio was an Italian priest who was known for his piety and charity, as well as the gift of the stigmata, which has never been explained.



St. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione, on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy. His parents were peasant farmers. He had an older brother and three younger sisters, as well as two other siblings who died in infancy. As a child, he was very religious and by the age of five he reportedly made the decision to dedicate his life to God.

Fortunately, his parents were also very religious and they supported his Catholic development. His family attended daily Mass. Francisco served as an altar boy at his local parish. Francisco was known for taking on penances and his mother once scolded him for sleeping on a stone floor.

Francisco's community was also supportive. Saint's days were popular celebrations and commonly celebrated in his town.

From his tender age, Francisco had a peculiar ability. He could see guardian angels, spoke with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. This was not something taught to him but occurred so naturally that he assumed other people could see them too.

Although Francisco and his family was very religious, they were also very poor, which required that he work. He spent many years as a child tending to a small flock of sheep owned by his family. Unfortunately, the work meant he was unable to attend school regularly, so he quickly fell behind other kids his age.

Francisco was sickly as a child. He suffered an attack of gastroenteritis at age six and when he was ten, he had typhoid fever.

In 1897, after three years of schooling, Francisco expressed to his parents that he wanted to become a friar. His parents travelled to a nearby

community of monks and asked if Francesco could join them. He was evaluated, despite his young age, and was told that he needed more education before he could join.

To prepare Francesco, his parents decided to hire a private tutor. To pay the cost of the tutor, Francesco's father travelled to America to find work and sent the money home.



At the age of 15, Francisco was finally ready and he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcone. He took the name of "Pio" in honour of Pope Pius I, whose relic he often saw at his local chapel.

At the age of 17, Brother Pio became extremely ill and could only digest milk

and cheese. He was sent to the mountain for better air, and when this did not work, he was sent home to his family. Amid all this, he continued to study for the priesthood.

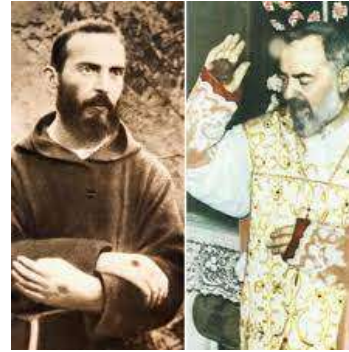
On one occasion during prayer, a fellow monk astonishingly reported he saw Pio levitate during an episode of ecstasy.

Brother Pio became a priest in 1910 but was permitted to remain at home because of his poor health.

In 1915, with World War I afflicting the world, Padre Pio was summoned for military service. He was compelled to leave a tiny community of monks, with whom he was then housed, and drafted into medical service. However, he was so sickly that he was often sent home, only to then be recalled for service. In March 1916, he was finally dismissed because of his poor health.

On September 20, Padre Pio was hearing confessions when he felt pain in his hands and feet. He noticed the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, appearing on his hands and feet. The experience was painful. Bleeding

occurred. The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected. Doctors who later examined the stigmata were amazed at their perfectly round shape.



By 1919, word began to spread about Padre Pio's stigmata and people came from far away to examine him.

Padre Pio became popular with the people he encountered and soon began to attribute supernatural occurrences to him. For example, he was said to levitate, and able to perform miracles.

His popularity became a source of concern for the Church and the Vatican began to restrict his activities to minimize public interaction. Padre Pio himself was uncomfortable with his newfound popularity and the attention he received because of his stigmata. A Church investigation into his stigmata concluded that his condition was not faked.

By 1934, the Vatican began to change its attitude towards Padre Pio and he was again allowed to perform public duties. He could preach, despite never being officially licensed by the Church to do so. Pope Pius XI encouraged people to visit him.

In 1947, Fr. Karol Wojtyla visited Padre Pio who prophetically told him he would rise to the highest post in the Church." Fr. Karol Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II in 1978.

Padre Pio used his newfound popularity to open a hospital in San Giovanni Rotondo. The facility opened in 1956.

Pope Paul VI reviewed the controversies surrounding Padre Pio and dismissed any concerns over his conduct and the authenticity of his stigmata.