



**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

**Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**

**Points for Prayer.** We pray for the community in Liverpool where a child died when others chose the path of violence. We pray for all people who live in places of war and violent conflicts.

**In Memory:** Michael Dow, Pamela Langworthy, Cynthia Griffiths, Barbara Bradburn, Mr Shepherd, Patricia Clarke, Betty Chudley and Margaret June Rowe.

The **August/September edition of the Beacon Magazine** is available from any of the Mission Community Churches.

**Bank Holiday Cream Tea in Denbury: 3-5pm Monday 29th August** at Church Cottage, Denbury.

**Concert with Rosa Rebecka and and Sta\*x St Andrew's Youth Choir at St Andrew's Church, Ipplepen on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> September at 4.30pm.** Donations towards The Deaf Academy, Exmouth, on the door.

**Devon Historic Churches Trust Cream Tea on Saturday 10th September at 2.30pm** in St. Andrew's Church Hall. Proceeds to DHCT and St. Andrew's Church.

**Cream Tea Concert featuring the award-winning Folk Musician Jim Causley** at St Mary the Virgin, Denbury on Sunday 11th September at 2:30pm. For tickets and more information please contact Rachel 07751 804 007 / [rachelbelringer@gmail.com](mailto:rachelbelringer@gmail.com)

Readings	This week	Next week
<b>Readings for this Sunday:</b>	1st Reading Ecclesiasticus 10:12-18	Deuteronomy 30:15-End
	Psalm 112	1
	2nd Reading Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Philemon 1-21
	Gospel Luke 14:1, 7-14	Luke 14:25-33
<b>Readings for the week ahead:</b>		
Mon 29 <sup>th</sup>	Matt 14:1-12	Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup> Luke 5:1-11
Tue 30 <sup>th</sup>	Luke 4:31-37	Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup> Luke 5:33-End
Wed 31 <sup>st</sup>	Luke 4:38-End	Sat 3 <sup>rd</sup> Luke 6:1-5

Readings can be viewed/downloaded from <https://bible.oremus.org/>

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## Today's Sunday Services

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston
11.00 am	Churches Together – Family Service	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

## Morning Prayer

This week morning prayer will be said at the following times:

Tuesday	9.15 am	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Wednesday	9.15 am	- Online Via Zoom (for the zoom password email <a href="mailto:rev.andrewdown@gmail.com">rev.andrewdown@gmail.com</a> )
Thursday	9.15 am	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
Friday	9.15 am	- Ss Peter and Paul, Broadhempston (A time of silent prayer and meditation)

## Reflection

All our churches are open for private prayer and reflection throughout the week from approximately 9am to 5pm each day.

## Mid-Week

Rev'd Andrew Down - Day off on Mondays.

Church Office closed for Bank Holiday Monday.

Monday	3pm-5pm	Bank Holiday Cream Tea	- Church Cottage, Denbury
Tuesday	10.15am	Holy Communion	- St Andrew's Ipplepen
Wednesday	7.30 pm	Bellringing Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Thursday	10.15 am	Holy Communion	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
	11.00 am	Interment of Ashes of Margaret June Rowe	- St Andrew's Churchyard, Ipplepen
	4.30pm-6pm	Sta*x Youth Choir Practice	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
Saturday	10am-12noon	Coffee Morning	- The Parish Rooms, Woodland
	4.30pm	Concert with Rosa Rebecka and Sta*x - St Andrew's Youth Choir	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen

## Next Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

9.30 am	Holy Communion	- St John the Baptist, Woodland
9.30 am	Celtic Morning Prayer	- St Mary the Virgin, Denbury
11.00 am	Holy Communion with Children's Activities and Baptism of Benjamin Smerdon	- St Andrew's, Ipplepen
4.30 pm	Come Holy Spirit: An Informal Reflective Service	- St Andrew's Church Hall, Ipplepen



# Reflection by Rev'd Andrew Down

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2022

Today (28th August) the Church remembers Augustine of Hippo, Teacher of the Faith, 430.

## **What might we say about Augustine of Hippo in a sentence?**

Augustine was a complex character who believed in unity in diversity, showed care in practical action and whose thought has had great and wide influence.

## **What might this sentence say to us?**

Augustine was a...

*...Complex Character...*

Although often characterised as an academic Augustine was multifaceted being a philosopher, theologian, mystic and poet as well as a gifted preacher and pastor.

*Question: When we are tempted to reduce an issue or person to overly simplistic analysis how can we open ourselves up to the other dimensions of that person or issue so appreciating the whole?*

*...who believed in unity in diversity,...*

He came to believe that the church was a place where outside influences and human weakness were to be accommodated and that unity was more important than purity.

*Question: How do we develop a culture of church that embraces outside influences and weakness?*

*...showed care in practical action...*

He showed a deep care and practical concern for others at a time of uncertainty and impoverishment of the poor. He used his own finances to feed the poor and is recorded as melting down church treasure to pay the ransoms for captives.

*Question: What are the ways we show practical care for those in poverty and who are captive ...as a church and as individuals?*

*...and whose thought has had great influence...*

He is a wonderful example of the African contribution to the spread of Christianity and doctrine of the church influencing not just Christian thought but much secular thought.

*Question: Who are those who influence our thought?*

## **Augustine's story and ours...**

Augustine...

- was born in North Africa...*where were you born?*
- his dad was a pagan and his mother a Christian...*who was in your family growing up?*

- raised a Christian but not baptised and later renounced his faith...*what was your faith experience and tradition growing up and how did it develop?*
- studied rhetoric at Carthage North Africa before moving to Rome to study philosophy ...*what was your education like?*
- For 15 years lived with a women (whose name is not recorded) and together they had a child...*what have been your significant relationships?*
- Taught rhetoric and grammar and then philosophy in Carthage and later became Professor of Rhetoric in Milan ...*what has/is your working life like, how have / do you spent your time, energy and gifts?*
- Ran away to escape his mum's influence in the middle of the night...*what have you run or tried to get away from in your life?*
- Had a very long journey back to Christianity....*what have been your long journeys of discovery?*
- The Preaching of Ambrose in Milan brought everything to a head...*who or what have caused a pivotal moment in your life?*
- Surprised himself by undergoing ordination which had not been his plan....*where have been those moments where you surprised yourself in an action or path you took?*
- As Bishop of Hippo he worked unceasingly for the African church ....*where in your life have you and do you find the energy to work with vigour and flow?*

## **To conclude...**

In this holiday season here are some words for reflection from St Augustine. They are about the importance of quietness, rest, stillness and silence and come from his Sermon on the Third Commandment, keeping the Sabbath Holy.

*'The third commandment enjoins quietness of heart, tranquility of mind. This is holiness. Because here is the Spirit of God. This is what a true holiday means, quietness and rest. Unquiet people recoil from the Holy Spirit. They love quarrelling. They love argument. In their restlessness they do not allow the silence of the Lord's Sabbath to enter their lives. Against such restlessness we are offered a kind of Sabbath in the heart. As if God were saying "Stop being so restless, quieten the uproar in your minds. Let go of idle fantasies that fly around in your head." God is saying, "Be still and see that I am God" (Ps46). But you refuse to be still. You are like the Egyptians tormented by gnats. These tiniest of flies, always restless, flying about aimlessly, swarm at your eyes, giving no rest. They are back soon as you drive them off. Just like the futile fantasies that swarm in our minds. Keep the commandment. Beware of the plague.'*

