



## Holy Trinity Geneva

### Holy Communion

Wednesday 28 August 2024

St. Augustine of Hippo, 430

( CW Order One ) Traditional Language

*Late have I loved you, beauty so old and so new: late have I loved you. And see, you were within and I was in the external world and sought you there, and in my unlovely state I plunged into those lovely created things which you made. You were with me, and I was not with you. The lovely things kept me far from you, though if they did not have their existence in you, they had no existence at all. You called and cried out loud and shattered my deafness. You were radiant and resplendent, you put to flight my blindness. You were fragrant, and I drew in my breath and now pant after you. I tasted you, and I feel but hunger and thirst for you. You touched me, and I am set on fire to attain the peace which is yours.* (from Augustine of Hippo, 'Confessions', translated by Henry Chadwick)

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

### Introduction to the Eucharist

#### The Feast of St. Augustine of Hippo

Sometimes perhaps we are tempted to genuflect to the saints rather than to learn from them, in the fulness and frailty of their humanity which they share with us. Augustine had an almost overwhelming influence on the Church in the West over the following centuries, both Catholic and Reformed. As we give thanks today for his life of faith, so we reflect on his example and his teaching.

Let us pray:

**Almighty God,**

**unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known,**

**and from whom no secrets are hid:**

**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,**

**that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name;**

**through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Our Lord Jesus Christ said:

Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord; and thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength.

This is the first commandment.

And the second is like, namely this:

Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

There is none other commandment greater than these.

On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

**Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.**

Lord, have mercy

**Lord, have mercy**

Lord have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Christ. have mercy

**Christ, have mercy**

Lord have mercy

**Lord, have mercy**

Lord. have mercy

### **Collect**

Let us pray

Merciful Lord,

who turned Augustine from his sins

to be a faithful bishop and teacher:

grant that we may follow him in penitence and discipline

till our restless hearts find their rest in you;

through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,

who is alive and reigns with you,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and for ever.

## The First Reading : The Book of Sirach, 39. 1-10

The one who seeks out the wisdom of all the ancients,  
is concerned with prophecies;

<sup>2</sup> he preserves the sayings of the famous  
and penetrates the subtleties of parables;

<sup>3</sup> he seeks out the hidden meanings of proverbs  
and is at home with the obscurities of parables.

<sup>4</sup> He serves among the great  
and appears before rulers;

he travels in foreign lands  
and learns what is good and evil in the human lot.

<sup>5</sup> He sets his heart on rising early  
to seek the Lord who made him,  
and to petition the Most High;

he opens his mouth in prayer  
and asks pardon for his sins.

<sup>6</sup> If the great Lord is willing,  
he will be filled with the spirit of understanding;

he will pour forth words of wisdom of his own  
and give thanks to the Lord in prayer.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord will direct his counsel and knowledge,  
as he meditates on his mysteries.

<sup>8</sup> He will show the wisdom of what he has learned,  
and will glory in the law of the Lord's covenant.

<sup>9</sup> Many will praise his understanding;  
it will never be blotted out.

His memory will not disappear,  
and his name will live through all generations.

<sup>10</sup> Nations will speak of his wisdom,  
and the congregation will proclaim his praise.

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM 84. 1 - 4**

- 1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 **The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:  
at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**
- 3 Blessed are they who dwell in your house:  
they will always be praising you.
- 4 **Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Bless the Lord all ye servants of the Lord.

Praise him and magnify him for ever, **Alleluia.**

## **Gospel : St. Matthew 23. 8 - 12**

The holy gospel is written in the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty third chapter, beginning at the eighth verse.

**Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

Jesus said to his disciples,

You are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students.<sup>9</sup> And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven.<sup>10</sup> Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah.<sup>11</sup> The greatest among you will be your servant.<sup>12</sup> All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

This is the gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

## **HOMILY - Canon Alan Amos**

### **Summary, St. Augustine of Hippo**

Augustine was born in North Africa in 354. His career as an orator and rhetorician led him from Carthage to Rome, and from there to Milan where the Imperial court at that time resided. By temperament, he was passionate and sensual, and as a young man he rejected Christianity. Gradually, however, under the influence first of Monica, his mother, and then of Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, Augustine began to look afresh at the Scriptures. He was baptized by Ambrose at the Easter Vigil in

387. Not long after returning to North Africa he was ordained priest, and then became Bishop of Hippo. It is difficult to overestimate the influence of Augustine on the subsequent development of European thought. A huge body of his sermons and writings has been preserved, through all of which runs the theme of the sovereignty of the grace of God. He died in the year 430. [*Exciting Holiness* ]

### **THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

All things come from thee O Lord, and it is of thine own that we take and that we offer unto thee.

*The bread and the wine for the Eucharist are prepared*

### **The Biddings**

We pray for members of religious communities following the rule of Saint Augustine, that they may be upheld by the Holy Spirit as they dedicate their lives to love and to learning.

We pray for For the work of the World Council of Churches, and for unity among Christians.

For all suffering peoples in the world, including the people of Gaza and the people of Israel, and the people of Ukraine and of Russia.

We pray for Peace in the world. For the holy land and all who inhabit it.

Come Holy Spirit and fill the dark places in the world with your presence, where there is war, fighting, and armed conflicts. Bring your healing.

We pray for the sick who are known to us, and those caring for them, especially for Alexandra Ronquillo, Christine Damary, Chris Talbot, Irene Tretheway, Joan Tye, Annemarie Hester, Louise Cellerier, André Vivas, Timothy Creffield, Tianna Dagher, Edith Tanner, Livia Varju, Brenda Hand, Valerie Offord, Phil Thomas, Diana Mason, Robin Bailey, Judi Cianci, Ruth Wyler, Germain, Samuel Kalibala, Joyce McNulty, Trevor Thomas, Diana Dickinson, Denise Muhlethaler, Maya Mortimer, Rosabelle de Silva, Silvio -Morson, Anna Porraccin, Valerie Slessor, Frances Boo, Jenny Syrathev, George Thomasz, Lorensz Ranasinghe.

Among the faithful departed we pray at this time for Fr. Louis Christiaens SJ. May he rest in peace and rise in glory with the saints.

And so let us pray for the Church throughout the world.

## **THE PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH MILITANT**

Almighty and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers and supplications, and to give thanks, for all men: We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our oblations and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant, that all they that do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity, and godly love. We beseech thee also to save and defend all Christian Kings, Princes, and Governors; and specially thy servant CHARLES our King; that under him we may be godly and quietly governed: And grant unto his whole Council, and to all that are put in authority under him, that they may truly and indifferently minister justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue. Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and Curates, that they may both by their life and doctrine set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments: And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace; and specially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life. And we most humbly beseech thee of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all them, who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity. And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear; beseeching thee to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom: Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen**

YE that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

**ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us**

**all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all that truly turn to him.

COME unto me all that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *St. Matthew 11.28*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *St. John 3.16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 St. Timothy 1.15*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the propitiation for our sins. *1 St. John 2.1*

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up unto the Lord**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God

**It is meet and right so to do**

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name, evermore praising thee and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts; heaven and earth are full of thy glory, glory be to thee O Lord most high. Blessed is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest.**

All glory be to thee, almighty God, our heavenly Father, who, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full,

perfect and sufficient sacrifice, oblation and satisfaction for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee, and grant that, by the power of thy Holy Spirit, we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed body and blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the cup; and when he had given thanks to thee, he gave it to them, saying:

Drink ye all of this;

for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Father, we thy humble servants, having in remembrance the precious death and passion of thy dear Son, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And although we be unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; and to grant that all we, who are partakers of this holy communion, may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father almighty, world without end. **Amen.**



## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Let us pray with confidence as our Saviour has taught us

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;  
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is  
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And  
forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who  
trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the  
power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us**

**O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**And with thy spirit**

*As we prepare to make our spiritual communion, the following prayer is provided for our help :*

**We offer and present to you, Lord our heavenly Father, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a holy and living sacrifice; grant that being present together in heart and mind at this holy communion we may now be filled with your heavenly blessing through the redeeming grace of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ... [short pause]**

**Lord Jesus Christ, in outward signs of bread and wine you have made known your presence among us; as we unite with one another from the places where we are, may your communion be fulfilled in us now through the work of the life-giving Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

God of truth,  
whose Wisdom set her table  
and invited us to eat the bread and drink the wine  
of the kingdom:  
help us to lay aside all foolishness  
and to live and walk in the way of insight,  
that we may come with Augustine to the eternal feast of heaven;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us, who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of the most precious death and passion of thy dear Son. And we most humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

### **Gloria in Excelsis Deo**

Glory be to God on high

And in earth peace, goodwill towards men,

We praise thee, we bless thee, we

worship thee, we glorify thee, we give

thanks to thee, for thy great glory O

Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father

Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the

Father, that takest away the sins of the

world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,

receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,

have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**