



Parish of Ramsgate & Minster

SS Ethelbert & Gertrude Church & Office,
72 Hereson Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 7DS, Tel: 01843 594031
Shrine of St Augustine & National Pugin Centre,
St Augustine's Road, Ramsgate, Kent CT11 9NY, Tel: 01843 592071

Newsletter for Sunday, 14th December 2025

Parish Priest & Rector: Fr Jonathon Routh email: jonathonrouth@rcaos.org.uk & Parish Office email: ramsgate@rcaos.org.uk
Tel: 01843 594031. St. Augustine's Shrine email: augustineshrine@rcaos.org.uk, Tel: 01843 592071. **Shrine Chaplain:** Fr Simon Heans; **Polish Chaplain:** Fr. Ryszard Hanaczewski; **Deacon:** Rev'd Peter Brown; **Verger:** Anthony Jinks. **Safeguarding Officer:** Sasha Ofori. **Minster Abbey,** Mother Nikola & Sisters; (Sunday Mass at 10.00am and daily Mass at 9.00am. 01843 821254). **The Divine Retreat Centre:** Fr. Joseph Edattu & Fr. Paul Pallichamkudiyil. Weekday Mass 5.30pm. (01843 586904). **St. Ethelbert's School:** Headteacher, Mr. Simon Marshall - (01843 585555).

Dear parishioners,

This, the Third Sunday of Advent is '**GAUDETE SUNDAY**' named after the first words of the Entrance Antiphon/ Introit in Latin: *Gaudete in Domino semper: iterum dico, Gaudete: Dominus prope est* which you will hear sung at the 12.00 noon mass at St Augustine's and in English at the 10.00 at St Ethelbert's: '**Rejoice, in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near**'.

We rejoice at every mass that Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again. He was here, he is here and he ever more shall be and we rejoice that he is comes to us at every Mass. When the Blessed Virgin Mary conceived Jesus, God was with her in her waiting for the birth: Mary rejoices in the coming event, but the rejoicing is also in the present, because God is with her in the present moment as he was with her through her Son's life to the end when she knelt at the foot of the cross. Even then, that rejoicing in God's promise, did not leave the soul of the Sorrowful mother. Her soul always rejoiced in God her saviour, trusting in his Word even as hope seemed gone.

God is with us too in Advent as we wait with Mary to celebrate the Nativity. We look forward to God's coming and in our rejoicing with Mary now, we make the best preparation for Him who is Holy Wisdom, our Key to spiritual happiness, the Light in our darkness, our Direction and Guiding star, our King of justice. These are the themes of the great 'O antiphons': the exclamations of joy and hope in God which the church sings daily in the countdown to Christmas from 17th December on Thursday, perhaps nowadays most familiar in the Advent Hymn '*O Come, O come Emmanuel*'.

'O come, thou key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery'. This is "**Rejoice Sunday**" and we pray for the grace of a freedom from fears about the future of our country. We pray with the confidence and joy that Jesus not only has come, but is with us in the sorrows of this life. As the Lord came to Mary in the troubles of *her* world then, so He comes to us in ours today through the gift of his body and blood in the Eucharist in which we are given all we need for our journey to Heaven. That is cause for great rejoicing.

Don't forget that you can support Mary's Meals by making a donation which you can leave at the parish office with your name, and your name will be included in the newsletter of Christmas Greetings to all parishioners.

God bless, Fr Jonathon.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our Parish & those who have died recently.

Prayer Candles - St. Ethelbert's: June, Barry, Tom, Sue, Leanne & Family.

Masses over the Christmas Season:

St. Ethelbert's – Christmas Eve: Carols 5.00pm & Vigil Mass 5.30pm. Mass of the Night: 9.30pm Carols & Mass at 10.00pm (Sung).
Christmas Day: Mass 10.00am (Sung) & 12.00noon Mass (Polish).

St. Augustine's Shrine – Christmas Eve: Carols 9.30pm & Mass of the Night 10.00pm (Sung Latin 1962 music Missa ad Praesepe by George Malcolm).
Christmas Day: 8.30am (Said) & 10.00am (Latin 1962, Low Mass)

Minster Abbey: Christmas Eve: Midnight Mass. **Christmas Day:** 10.00am.

26th December: Daily Mass at Minster 9.00am. Mass at St. Ethelbert's: 12.00noon (Polish) St. Augustine's: 12.00noon (Sung Latin 1962).

Day	Date	St Ethelbert's		St Augustine's	
Saturday <i>St. Lucy, Virgin & Martyr</i> 3 rd Sunday of Advent (A) <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>	13 th Dec		Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs at 9.30am	12.00noon (Latin 1962, Low Mass)	Eduta, Radek & Family PI
		5.30pm (Vigil)	Calvet Family PI		
	14 th Dec	10.00am 12.00noon (Polish)	Maureen Francis & Julie Foreman TG – Birthdays Florence (SC)	8.30am 12.00noon (Sung Latin)	People of the Parish Holy Souls – November List
Monday <i>Feria</i>	15 th Dec	9.30am	Holy Souls – November List	12.00noon	Holy Souls – November List
Tuesday <i>Feria</i>	16 th Dec		Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs at 9.30am	12.00noon	Holy Souls – November List
Wednesday <i>Ember Wednesday of Advent</i>	17 th Dec	9.30am (Latin 1962 Low Mass)	Sr. M. Winifred PI	12.00noon (Feria)	Holy Souls – November List
Thursday <i>Feria</i>	18 th Dec	9.30am	Holy Souls – November list		
Friday <i>Feria</i>	19 th Dec	9.30am	Uta Nedd – Wellbeing	12.00noon (Ordinariate)	Holy Souls – November List
		6.00pm (Polish)	Florence (SC) PI		
Saturday <i>Feria</i> 4 th Sunday of Advent (A) <i>Day of Prayer for Expectant Mothers</i>	20 th Dec	1.00 – 5.00pm 5.30pm (Vigil)	Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea, Broadstairs at 9.30am Adoration & Confession followed by Benediction. Steven Godden RIP	12.00noon (Latin 1962 Low Mass) <i>Ember Saturday of Advent</i>	Holy Souls – November List

Saturday, 20th December – At St. Ethelbert's – Adoration & Confession 1.00 – 5.00pm. Followed by Benediction at 5.00pm.

Saturday, 20th December - Senior Parishioners Social Afternoon, Christmas Party 1.00 – 4.00pm.

Friday, 26th December – St. Stephen's Feast Day, Patron of Altar Servers, 12.00noon Sung Latin Mass at St. Augustine's Shrine & refreshments after.

Sunday 11th January, A Service of Thanksgiving and Carols for the Epiphany, at St. Augustine's Shrine at 4.00pm in thanksgiving for the Parish and Volunteers.

Thank you to all who helped and to those who supported the Christmas Fayre last Sunday. It was a joyful occasion. A special thanks to Tesco's Stores at: Manston Road, Westwood and Hereson Road, to ASDA Store at Broadstairs who all donated wonderful items for the Grand Draw. There is a list at the back of church with the breakdown of the Stalls and for the winners of the Grand Draw and 'Guess the cost of the produce'. **The total raised was £2672.12. Well done!!!**

Fresh greenery appeal – healthy sprigs from Eucalyptus, Conifer, Holly & Ivy are need to decorate St. Ethelbert's Church. Refreshing will be required throughout Advent for the wreath & Altar area. Additional greenery can be delivers to church on Saturday mornings.

Mary's Meals Charity - *The Charity helps support children throughout the world who a starving* - For those who wish to donate at Christmas to Mary's Meals instead of sending Christmas cards to parishioners. If you wish to add your name to the list, which will be published in the newsletter, please pass your name and donation to the office. Currently some charities are doubling the donations.

Baptismal Preparation: If you are planning a Baptism, please contact a priest on 01843 594031 or leave a message in the Parish Office, in good time, to ensure that Baptismal preparation can take place.

For 1st Holy Communion Preparation: Contact – Catechist Mrs Julie Rydz.

Confirmation & Pre 1st Holy Communion Faith Club: Contact - Catechist Mrs Patricia Smalley.

If you are in hospital: If you or a family member is admitted to hospital and requires a priest to visit, please contact your Parish and ask for a Priest to visit. Contact for Fr. Jonathon is on 01843 594031 or call your local Parish.

Ministries for the Sick and Bereaved: If you know of sick or bereaved parishioners who may like a home visit, please obtain their permission and forward details to Parish Office on 01843 594031.

Please see Mass Schedule overleaf for any changes this week to Mass times.

Adoration of The Blessed Sacrament: *St Ethelbert's:* Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 8.30am. *St Augustine's:* Tuesday 12.30 – 1.30pm.

Rosary: *St Ethelbert's:* Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.00am. **Mothers' Prayers:** St. Ethelbert's Parish Room, on 1st Friday of the month at 12.00noon followed by **1st Friday Rosary** at 12.30pm.

Confessions: *St Ethelbert's:* Saturday before 5.30pm. Mass. *St Augustine's:* Saturday 11.00am. after Mass and by arrangement.

Follow the parish on: St. Ethelbert's: on Twitter: @catholicramsmin

St Augustine's: Facebook, Twitter & Instagram: @AugustinePugin or on YouTube:/staugustinesramsgate

Website: www.augustine-pugin.org.uk. Newsletter can now be accessed from the Shrine homepage:

[Home - Shrine of St Augustine & The National Pugin Centre \(augustine-pugin.org.uk\)](http://Home - Shrine of St Augustine & The National Pugin Centre (augustine-pugin.org.uk))