



# The Parish of Saint Augustine, North Town, Aldershot

Parish Newsletter for July 2026

"Let the little children come to me; do not stop them."  
— Mark 10:14

## Services in July

### 28<sup>th</sup> June

Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> July 12:00 noon **Said Mass**

### 5<sup>th</sup> July

Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Sung Mass** followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Said Mass**

Wed 8<sup>th</sup> July 10:30am – 12:30pm **Open church** with chat, companionship and refreshments at the back of the church.

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am – 2:00pm **Open church** for prayer, reflection and quiet time.

### 12<sup>th</sup> July

Sun 12<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Sung Mass** followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Said Mass**

Wed 15<sup>th</sup> July 10:30am – 12:30pm **Open church** with chat, companionship and refreshments at the back of the church.

Fri 17<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am – 2:00pm **Open church** for prayer, reflection and quiet time.

### 19<sup>th</sup> July

Sun 19<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Sung Mass** followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July 10:00am **Said Mass**

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> July 10:30am – 12:30pm **Open church** with chat, companionship and refreshments at the back of the church.

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am – 2:00pm **Open church** for prayer, reflection and quiet time.

## 26<sup>th</sup> July

Sun 26<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Sung Mass** followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July 10:00am **Said Mass**

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> July 10:30am – 12:30pm **Open church** with chat, companionship and refreshments at the back of the church.

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July 10:00am – 2:00pm **Open church** for prayer, reflection and quiet time.

Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July 6:00pm Forward in Faith – **Mass and Garden Party**

## Parish Information

Our website: <https://staugustine-aldershot.org.uk>

Facebook Page: [St Augustine Facebook](#)

Email: [staugustine.1907@gmail.com](mailto:staugustine.1907@gmail.com)

Wi-Fi at the Church: Network: staugustinenet. The password is displayed at the back of the church.

## What's Happening

- Forward in Faith - Mass and Garden **Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July 6:00pm**  
A message from Angus:  
*"I am delighted that Luke, Bishop of Richborough, has graciously agreed to preside at Mass and join us afterwards. Tom Middleton, our National Director, and Libby Holden, the Administrative Assistant, also intend to be there. Please do come along and meet them. There will be light refreshments together with wine, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic, and soft drinks."*
- The Richborough Summer Festival 2026 takes place on **Saturday 18 July** at **St Mary's, Wellingborough**, beginning with a **12 noon Votive Mass of the Precious Blood**, followed by lunch, Rosary and Benediction. This is a good opportunity to join others in the Richborough family for worship, fellowship and encouragement in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England.
- Please note that there will be no Open Church on **Wednesday 1st July** or **Friday 3rd July**.

## The Society

Following on from Angus's excellent articles on Forward in Faith, I thought it might be useful to say a little about The Society. St Augustine's is affiliated with The Society under the patronage of St Wilfrid and St Hilda, often known simply as The Society. It is a family of Anglo-Catholic bishops, clergy, parishes and lay people within the Church of England, committed to maintaining the Catholic faith, sacramental worship, and apostolic ministry. For parishes such as ours, The Society helps us express our place within the wider Church while supporting our distinctive Anglo-Catholic tradition of worship, teaching and mission.

## From the Editor

### **The Quiet Work of Renewal**

Renewal in the life of a church is not always dramatic or immediately visible. Often it begins quietly: in a door being opened, a visitor being welcomed, a conversation over coffee, a new person finding the courage to come back, or someone offering their gifts in a small but faithful way. At St Augustine's, we are beginning to see these signs of renewal taking root. The welcome cards at the back of church, the continued opening of the church during the week, the growth of our PCC, and the desire to make our church more visible and inviting are all part of this quiet work. It is not simply about activity, but about becoming more fully the church God calls us to be: prayerful, welcoming, faithful, and open to those around us.

## A gentle encouragement

Welcoming new people into our church is at the heart of our mission. Every person who comes through the door should feel that they are being received into a community of prayer, faith, and friendship. A warm greeting, a spare seat, clear guidance during worship, and an invitation to stay for conversation afterwards can make all the difference. There are now welcome cards at the back of church, which can be given to new people to help them feel noticed, valued, and invited to stay in touch. At St Augustine's, we want people to know that they are welcome as they are, whether lifelong Christians, returning after many years, or exploring faith for the first time. In welcoming others, we reflect the love of Christ, who welcomes each of us with grace and compassion.

## Diary Dates

- Sat 18<sup>th</sup> July – Richborough Summer Festival 2026
- Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July 6:00pm – Forward in Faith Mass and Garden Party

## Parish Life

### **Father George Hamilton Douglas**

When Father Douglas came to North Town in 1928 St Augustine's was a pleasant obscure little church known to few outside the Parish. When he left in 1938 St Augustine's was a bastion of Anglo Catholic faith and worship known throughout the Home Counties. How did one man achieve this?

Father Douglas like his predecessor Father Wickham was a product of Farnham Hostel. Farnham Hostel was a small selective Theological Training College - very much the brainchild of the Rt. Rev. Randall Davidson. While Bishop of Winchester, at the turn of the Century Randall Davidson set up the Hostel in the shadow of his official residence - Farnham Castle. Randall Davidson went on to become Archbishop of Canterbury and several ordinands from his "brainchild" went on to make a particular mark on the history of St Augustine's -especially Father Wickham and Father Douglas.

Father Douglas had a direct and dynamic personality that appealed to youth and attracted to St Augustine's large numbers of the younger generation of North Town. His Anglo Catholic teaching opened up new visions and inspiration in Sacramental worship.

He gave much to the worship in St Augustine's and the beauty of St Augustine's. But above all he gave to St Augustine's a sense of purpose. A purpose of establishing and preserving the great tradition of the Anglo Catholic Faith in North Town.

Behind the visible life of St Augustine's there are many people who quietly keep things running week by week. Some prepare the church for worship, some serve at the altar, some look after music, cleaning, flowers, refreshments, finances, safeguarding, buildings, paperwork, publicity, and welcome. Much of this work is unseen, and often done without fuss or recognition, but it is essential to the life of the parish. A church is not kept going by one person alone, but by the faithfulness of many people offering their time, gifts, and care. We are deeply grateful to all who serve St Augustine's in these quiet and practical ways, helping to make it a place of prayer, worship, hospitality, and Christian witness.

### **Giving and Support**



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