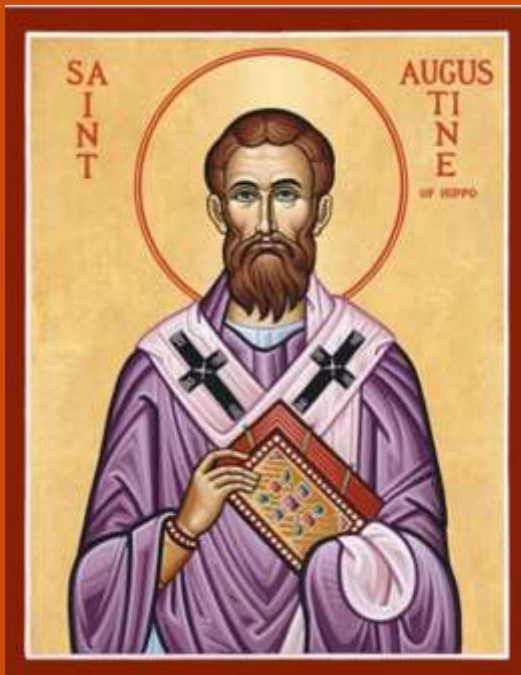


Saint Augustine 29 August



About Saint Augustine of Hippo (354 - 430)

Saint Augustine was born at Tagste (Algeria) in the year 354. His mother, Saint Monica, enrolled him as a catechumen, but Augustine renounced the Christian faith for Manicheism. While proclaiming Manicheism, Augustine then abandoned Manicheism and turned to Neoplatonism. Augustine taught in Carthage, Rome and Milan. He also lived for fifteen years with a woman who remains unknown to this day and with whom he had a son, named Adeoatus.

At length, through the prayers of his mother and the teaching of St Ambrose of Milan, he was converted back to Christianity and baptized in 387, shortly before his mother's death. After his conversion he returned home to Africa. He was elected Bishop of Hippo and spent 34 years leading the faithful and teaching them. He wrote an enormous amount and left a permanent mark on both philosophy and theology. His Confessions are a seminal work in the world of literature. Pope Boniface VIII declared Saint Augustine a Doctor of the Church in 1308.

How does the life of Saint Augustine apply to our lives today?

Saint Augustine spent many years seeking the truth in various philosophies. In the end he was converted to Christianity (through the prayers and efforts of his mother, Saint Monica and Saint Ambrose) and became one of its greatest theologians. Like the example of Saint Monica and Saint Ambrose, the example we show by our lives may lead others to know and follow Christ. A good example we can give is through regular attendance at Mass and reception of Holy Communion through which we become what we receive, the Body of Christ.

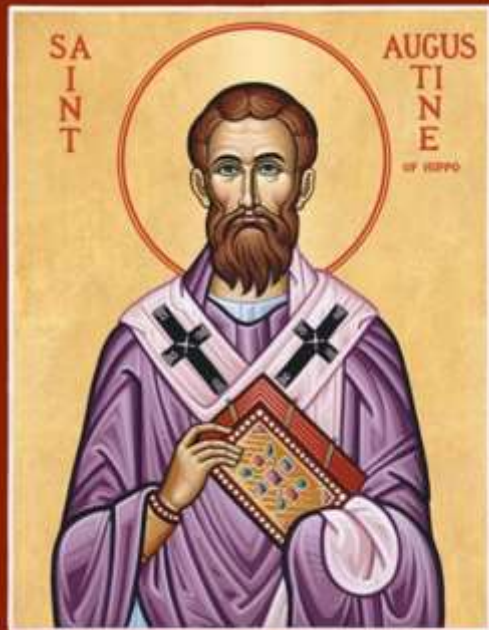
It took Saint Augustine a long time to become a Christian. We should be patient with those who are struggling with the faith and are experiencing difficulty in accepting it.

Quote:

"You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you."

Saint Augustine

29 August



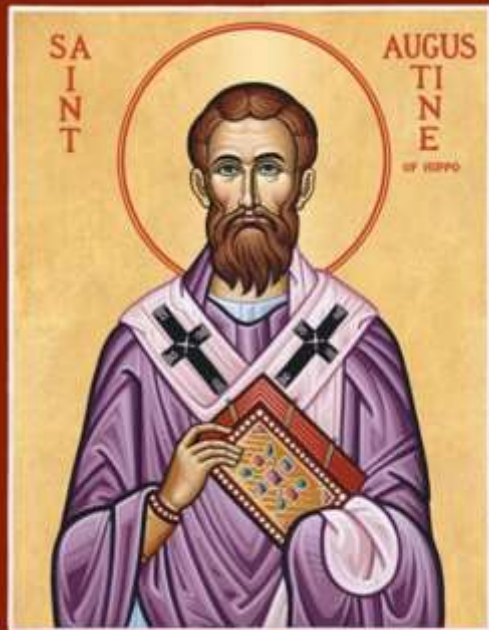
Prayer

Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit, that my thoughts may all be holy.
Act in me O Holy Spirit, that my work, too, may be holy.
Draw my heart O Holy Spirit, that I love but what is holy.
Strengthen me O Holy Spirit, to defend all that is holy.
Guard me, then, O Holy Spirit, that I always may be holy.

Collect

Renew in your Church, we pray, O Lord,
the spirit with which you endowed
your Bishop Saint Augustine
that, filled with the same spirit,
we may thirst for you,
the sole fount of true wisdom,
and seek you, the author of heavenly love.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Saint Augustine
29 August



Gospel

Matthew 23:8-12

The greatest among you must be your servant

Jesus said to his disciples,

'You must not allow yourselves to be called Rabbi,

since you have only one master, and you are all brothers.

You must call no one on earth your father,

since you have only one Father,

and he is in heaven.

Nor must you allow yourselves to be called teachers,

for you have only one Teacher, the Christ.

The greatest among you must be your servant.

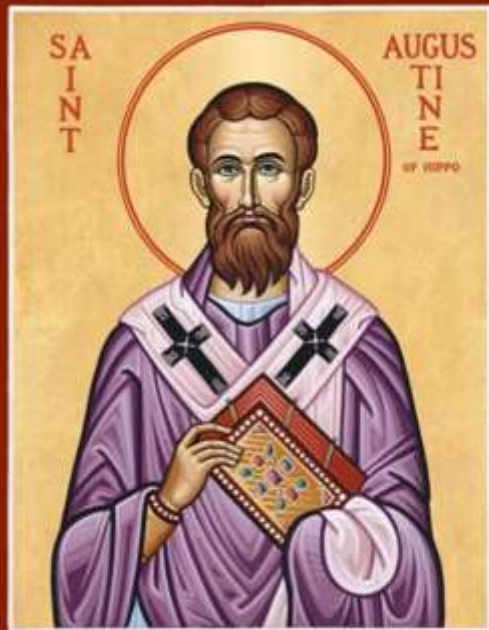
Anyone who exalts himself will be humbled,

and anyone who humbles himself will be exalted.'

Antiphon

Thus says the Lord: You have but one teacher, the Christ,
and you are all brothers.

Saint Augustine
29 August



Hymn for the Memorial of Saint Augustine

Saint Augustine, late did you love
our God, beauty ancient, new.
Though for years you wandered from him,
he was always there with you.
Still, your mother prayed and fasted
that to God you would return,
that to God you would return.

Saint Augustine you had wandered
from the Lord, the Saving One,
in earthly things seeking pleasure
while by you no good was done.
Still, your mother prayed and fasted
that to God you would return,
that to God you would return.

**As a leader of God's people,
you taught them the faith that's true -
preaching against any error,
so God's message would get through.**
God had made our hearts for Himself,
so alone in Him they rest,
so alone in Him they rest.

Saint Augustine, by your example,
may we from our sin depart;
preaching only what the Christ taught,
and from Him not be apart.
**So to Him, we'll bring the lost sheep,
till they know Christ, the world's light,
till they know Christ, the world's light.**

When we eat Christ's precious body,
we become what we receive,
showing Christ is truly present
in the Bread - yes, we believe.
May we be Christ to our neighbour
growing in grace, more and more,
growing in grace, more and more.

Text: Chris deSilva and Alessio Loiacono
CWM RHONDA 87 87 47

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