

Wednesday 27 May

Today is the feast day of St. Augustine. Augustine was born in Rome and died in Canterbury, England, in 604. When Pope Gregory I heard that the pagans of Britain were disposed to accept the Catholic Faith, he sent the prior of St. Andrew, Augustine, and forty of his Benedictine brethren to England. Despite the great difficulties involved in the task assigned to him, Augustine and his monks obeyed. The success of their preaching was immediate. King Ethelbert was baptized on Pentecost Sunday, 596, and the greater part of the nobles and people soon followed his example. St. Augustine died as the first Archbishop of Canterbury.

As Saint Augustine brought the faith to different countries, consider how you can help the missions in their work.

Hail Mary...

Thursday 28 May

O My God,
I place my trust and confidence in You,
I believe in You and accept everything
You have taught and revealed.

I believe that in one **God**
there are three Divine Persons -
God the Father,
God the Son
and **God** the Holy Spirit.

I believe that **God** the Son became **Man**
without ceasing to be God.
He is **Jesus** Christ, my **lord** and my Saviour,
the Redeemer of the human race.
He died on the Cross for my **salvation**
and eternal happiness.

Our Father...

Friday 29 May

Mount Everest is part of the Himalayas mountain range in south-east Asia, on the frontier of Nepal and Tibet. It is the highest peak in the world - over 8,800 metres (over 29,000 feet) above sea level. After many unsuccessful and sometimes fatal attempts to reach the top, Mount Everest was finally “conquered” on this day in 1953 by two members of a British expedition - Edmund Hillary from New Zealand, and Tenzing Norkay, a local guide from Nepal. They stayed at the summit for only 15 minutes, and whilst there, planted the flags of Britain, Nepal, India, and the United Nations. This was a very great achievement. Each of us have “Mount Everests” in our own lives - various difficulties that need effort and maybe team work to conquer. We can think, too, that a walk of 20 metres for a person with a physical disability or serious illness may be one of the greatest achievements of that individual’s life. Such a short walk would be taken for granted by most people. What one person may achieve with very little effort may be a great achievement for someone with different abilities. What really counts is the effort we put into something to make it our own best. My “success” and “achievement” can only be measured against my own potential.

Let us pray:

Lord, I ask that you inspire me always to do my best
- not comparing myself with others, but only with myself.
Lead me, Lord, to discover and use my own talents to the full.
May I live in such a way that I help others to experience success.
Inspire me to be generous in praising others for the good use of their abilities
- looking not so much at the degree of achievement but at the effort put in.

Amen.