

## Lent Reading Group: the *Confessions* of St Augustine

Where: St Michael's Church, Mount Dinham, Exeter, EX4 4EB.

When: 7 pm to 8.15 pm on five Wednesdays in Lent,  
viz. March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th and April 5th



Misogynist, ex-Manichee, Originator of Original Sin?  
Augustine of Hippo is the saint you love to hate!  
Such distaste seldom survives a reading  
of what the saint actually wrote.  
Or so Oliver Nicholson (our guide to the 4<sup>th</sup> century)  
has found in over 30 years of teaching the text.  
This Lent you can meet Augustine up close and personal.  
*Confessions* is one of the most honest autobiographies  
ever written.  
How do you deal with a mother who won't let go ?  
Why spend good money to go to the theatre  
to be made to cry ?  
What's wrong with throwing pears at pigs ?  
There's a Latin saying *Lex Orandi statuat Legem Credendi*  
'The way you pray sets up the way you believe.'  
More than any other Early Christian writings,  
the *Confessions* bring to the surface questions  
which lurk in the depths where philosophy meets prayer.  
Come and find out more.  
No previous knowledge of Augustine required.

Any translation of the text is suitable, but recommended is that of  
Henry Chadwick *Saint Augustine: the Confessions* (Oxford UP, World's Classics, 1991)

This is in modern English, with a clear introduction and helpful notes.

Arrangements are being made to have some copies to sell at the first meeting

For a modern translation on the Internet go to <http://faculty.georgetown.edu/jod/augustine/>

Click on Texts and Translations,

And follow the link to a pdf of A.C. Oulter's translation.