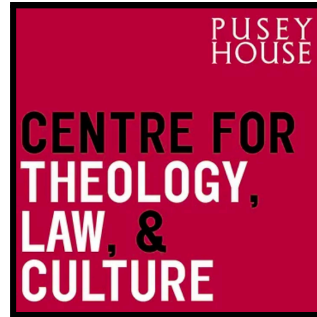
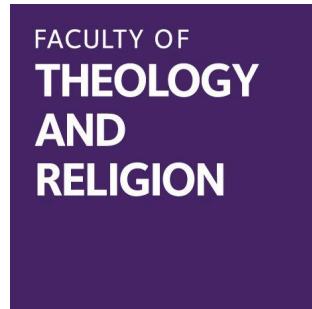




Receiving Augustine

Wednesday 18th and Thursday 19th November 2026

Few thinkers have had so great an influence on the development of Christian theology and the Catholic tradition as St Augustine of Hippo. His significance in the Latin West is unrivalled. His prolific preaching and commentary on Sacred Scripture is supplemented by his explicit and sustained theorising on the exegete's task and methods. His defences of Nicene trinitarianism and Catholic ecclesiology established a Western gold standard. His distinctive models of sin and grace, of sacramentology and signification, and of election and ecclesial unity provided both the framework and the faultlines for more than a thousand years of theological reasoning. Thanks to his voluminous correspondence and his carefully curated Confessions we have a richer appreciation of his biography and intellectual development than virtually any other figure from Late Antiquity. Indeed, thanks to the work of Peter Brown, St Augustine seems almost to embody that historical period.

This conference will bring together patrologists, historians and systematic theologians to study both this most momentous of the Latin Fathers, and his long-contested and ever-developing reception.

Speakers will explore his life and historical context, his theology and Scriptural interpretation, and the long story of how subsequent theologians and thinkers have found in the Bishop of Hippo a model for emulation, an authority to follow, and a conversation partner with and through whom to reason. As usual at Pusey House, this conference will bring together research from both the Academy and the Church, and will be ecumenical in both composition and outlook. In particular, and following on from last year's successful Nicaea conference, there will be a particular emphasis on sharing the very best contemporary research with current undergraduate and postgraduate students from Oxford and further afield, and with those engaged in Christian ministry.

Conference Schedule

Wednesday 18th November 2026

10:00–10:45. Registration for the conference at the front desk.

10:45–11:00. *Welcome and opening remarks to the Conference by Fr George Westhaver.*

Session 1:

11:00–12:30.

11:00–11:30, Carol Harrison, “Augustine and the enduring bond of relationship”.

11:30–11:45. Q&A.

11:45–12:15, Mark Edwards, “Silence and Forgetting in Augustine”.

12:15–12:30. Q&A.

12:30–2:00. *Lunch break.*

Session 2:

2:00–3:30.

2:00–2:30. Oskari Juurikkala, “Augustine’s Other Book: Creation and How to Read It”.

2:30–2:45. Q&A.

2:45–3:15. Carolyn Hammond, “‘After the gospel, no need for research’: Augustine Teaching Christianity”

3:15–3:30. Q&A.

3:30–4:00. *Tea and coffee break.*

Keynote Lecture:

4:00–5:15. Karla Pollmann, “Augustine the Preacher: Christianizing Mass Communication?”.

Evening Divine Service (*all welcome*):

5:30–6:15. Evensong.

Preacher: The Rev’d Dr Joseph Hamilton, Rector of the Domus Australia in Rome.

Dinner (*by invitation*):

7:15–7:45. Drinks Reception in the Library.

7:45. Dinner in the Hood Room.

Thursday 19th November 2026

Morning Divine Service (*all welcome*):

7:30–8:00. Morning Prayer.

8:00–8:30. Holy Communion (Church of England). Roman Catholic Mass is available next door in Blackfriars Priory at 7:30am.

For those attending Morning Prayer/Mass, a cooked breakfast and coffee will be served in the St Cross College Dining Hall from 8:30am.

8:45am–9:15am. Registration for the conference at the front desk.

Session 3:

9:15–10:45.

9:15–9:45. Marie-Ange Rakotoniana, “In Search of Lost Time: Finding the Sabbath Rest in the Sermons of Augustine”.

9:45–10:00. Q&A.

10:00–10:30. Joshua Hordern, “The attraction of Christians to an English national identity: an Augustinian reflection on loyalty and hope”.

10:30–10:45. Q&A.

10:45–11:15. Tea and coffee break.

Session 4:

11:15–12:45.

11:15–11:45. Susannah Ticciati, “‘Seek His Face Always’: *De Trinitate* as Unending Search”.

11:45–12:00. Q&A.

12:00–12:30. Phillip Cary, “Ecclesial Sacraments: The Church as *Res Sacramenti* in Augustine”.

12:30–12:45. Q&A.

12:45–1:45. *Lunch break.*

Session 5:

1:45–3:15.

1:45–2:15. David Bennett, “The Judge Who Weeps: *Misericordia*, Emotion, and Augustine’s Christological Subversion of Classical Eudaimonia”.

2:15–2:30. Q&A.

2:30–3:00. Jonathan Price, “Did St Augustine Invent Identity Politics?”

3:00–3:15. Q&A.

3:15–3:45. *Tea and coffee break.*

Session 6:

3:45–5:20.

3:45–4:15. Joshua Caminiti, “Almost, but not quite: A.H. Armstrong on Augustine”.

4:15–4:30. Q&A.

4:30–5:00. Anthony Dupont, “*Tolle Lege* Imagined: Augustine’s Conversion Represented Throughout the Ages”.

5:00–5:15. Q&A.

5:15–5:20. Closing remarks.

Evening Divine Service (*all welcome*):

5:30–6:00. Evensong.

Drinks Reception in the Library

6:00–7:00.