ANGLICAN PARISH OF ALTONA/LAVERTON



St Eanswythe's Altona St Clement's Altona Meadows O Te Wairua Tapu Ki Poipiripi



To proclaim God's love and life in Christ: growing in faith \$\psi\$ serving others \$\psi\$ nurturing a common life

8 September 2024 Feast of St Eanswythe

9:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's

Wominjeka :: Haere mai Welcome



A warm welcome to our worship today, especially if you are with us for the first time or visiting.

Please join us for a shared lunch at the end of the service.

Our parish lies on the country of the Kulin nation.

We recognise and honour the Indigenous custodians of this land over countless generations, and we pay our respects to their elders, past and present. We commit ourselves to the path of reconciliation, justice and healing (including to Pay The Rent to local First Nations people).

Gathering in God's Name

We meet in God's name, as God's people – children of God in all our rich diversity, with all that we carry from the complexity of our lives.

We turn to God in praise and prayer; this includes recalling all that has separated us from God, and claiming the love and forgiveness that is always held out to us.

The Collect then 'collects' these prayers and turns our attention towards the Bible readings which will follow.

OPENING HYMN

- 1. God of passion, you called Eanswythe to life-long delight in you. Call us, too, and plant within us joy and love in all we do.
- 3. Living God, you called our sister to the study of your word: call us, too, that in the scriptures we may meet our risen Lord.
- 5. God of hope, you called
 Saint Eanswythe
 to unfailing trust in you.
 Call us, too, and give us courage
 for the challenge of the new.

- 2. God of grace, you called our sister to a life of constant prayer. Call us, too, and in your Spirit, may we praise you everywhere.
- 4. God of justice, you called Eanswythe to be riend the weak and poor. In the least of these your children, call us, now, to serve you more.

Words: Elizabeth Smith (1956-)

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Let us pray.
Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' Jesus said: 'This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself.'

E te whānau a te Karaiti, i te mea kua hara tātou, whakatata mai ki te hohou i te rongo. (We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do as members of Christ's body).

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent, and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Ma te Atua e muru o koutou hara; kia mau te rongo. (God forgives us; be at peace).

Almighty God, who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith: pardon you and set you free from all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, vou alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT (PRAYER OF THE DAY)

Almighty and everlasting God, increase our faith, hope, and love, and, that we may receive all you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Opening the Scriptures

The readings come from different parts of the Bible: different perspectives on the great story of God's presence and purpose among us. In the psalm we respond with the ancient words of prayer of God's people.

The sermon adds to our own reflections on the readings, and then we respond by affirming the faith as handed to us from previous generations.

We bring our prayers for the world and the Church, trusting that all things and all people are in God's hands.

FIRST READING

A reading from Proverbs (22.1-2, 8-9, 22-23)

- A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favour is better than silver or gold.
- The rich and the poor have this in common: the LORD is the maker of them all.
- Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail.
- Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor.
- Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate;
- for the LORD pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM (125)

- ¹ Those who put their trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion: which cannot be shaken, but endures for ever.
- ² As the mountains stand about Jerusalem, so stands the Lord about his people: from this time forward for evermore.
- ³ For the sceptre of wickedness shall have no sway over the land apportioned to the righteous: lest the righteous set their hands to do evil.
- ⁴ Do good, O Lord, to those who are good: to those that are upright in heart.
- ⁵ As for those who turn aside to crooked ways, let the Lord lead them away with the evildoers: and in Israel let there be peace.

SECOND READING

A reading from James (2.1-10, 14-17)

¹ My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ² For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³ and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷ Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you? ⁸ You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' ⁹ But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷ So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

1. Te Ariki, te Ariki, kua ara mai nei koe i te mate. He has risen from the dead, te matamua o te hunga mate, koropikoria, whakaatungia Ko Îhu te Ariki

2. He is Lord, he is Lord. and he is Lord. Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

3. E Ihu te Ariki, koropikoria, whakaatungia Ko Iĥu te Ariki.

THE GOSPEL

Alleluia. Alleluia.

E kore tatou e ora i te taro kau, engari i nga kupu katoa e puta mai i te mangai o te Atua.

(We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God).

Alleluia.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Mark Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ. (7.24-37)

²⁴ From there Jesus set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵ but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶ Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷ He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' ²⁸ But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' ²⁹ Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' ³⁰ So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone. ³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' ³⁵ And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

For the Gospel of the Lord:

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

NICENE CREED

Let us together affirm the faith of the Church: We believe in one God, the Father, the almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.



We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for all people and for the Church throughout the world.

The prayers may include this or another response:

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The prayers conclude with our Parish Prayer

God of this ancient land, holy beyond time and place, you search us out and name us your beloved children. Work in us to fulfil your longing and compassion for every person. Send your Spirit to renew our life, and give us courage to rise and follow where Jesus calls. Amen.

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ: **His Spirit is with us.**

The peace of the Lord be always with you. **And also with you.**

Everyone is invited to turn to those around, and offer a greeting of peace from where you stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN

- 1. God is here! As we his people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of his Spirit into open minds and hearts.
- 3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold, here, as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
- 2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are scripture, font and table; here the cross has central place. Here in faithful proclamation, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
- 4. Lord of all, of Church and Kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel, help us work your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive: we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

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Celebrating at the Lord's Table

Our offerings of money and groceries remind us that we are called to participate with our lives and livelihoods in the coming of God's kingdom of justice, healing and peace.

In the Great Thanksgiving, the priest voices the prayer of the whole assembly, recalling the mighty acts of God, Jesus' saving death and resurrection, and his last meal with his friends. The prayer calls on the Holy Spirit to make Christ present in our sharing of bread and wine, and to remake us as Christ's body in the world. We respond with the Lord's Prayer, as the crucified and risen Jesus prays anew through us.

Our sharing is a gift of grace, a communion with Jesus and with each other. There is a place here for each and every person.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation. Through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The priest prays on behalf of all, praising God for God's mighty acts. All respond:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Last Supper is recalled, including Jesus' command to continue sharing bread and wine: in memory of him, and proclaiming his death and resurrection. All respond:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The prayer calls on God's blessing and looks to the fulfilling of all things within the goodness of God. All join in affirming:

Blessing and honour and glory and power are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kua akona nei tātou e tō tātou Ariki, ka waiata tātou

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi

Our Father in heaven

Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.

Hallowed be your name

Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.

Your kingdom come

Kia meatia tāu e pai ai

Your will be done

ki runga ki te whenua, kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.

on earth as is in heaven

Hōmai ki a mātou āianei

Give us today

he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.

our daily bread

Murua ō mātou hara,

Forgive us our sins

Me mātou hoki e muru nei

as we forgive

i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.

those who sin against us

Āua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;

Save us from the time of trial

Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:

And deliver us from evil

Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,

Yours is the kingdom, the power

me te korōria,

and the glory.

Āke āke āke. Āmine.

For ever and ever. Amen

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ

We who are many are one body For we all share in the one bread

Jesus Lamb of God, have mercy on us. Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE COMMUNION

The priest breaks the bread and says

The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

The bread which we break, alleluia, is the communion of the body of Christ.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

We are one body, alleluia, for though many, we share one bread.

Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. Come, let us celebrate the feast. Draw near with faith, to feed on Christ in your hearts with thanksgiving. **Alleluia!**

Jesus bearer of our sins, have mercy on us. Jesus redeemer of the world, grant us your peace

Everyone is invited to share communion or receive a blessing. Children who have been baptised are welcome to share communion. If you would prefer not to share communion but to receive a personal blessing, please indicate when the minister comes to you.

While communion is being shared, we sing:

Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

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He honore he kororia, Maungarongo kite whenua Whakaaro, pai e ki nga tangata katoa. Ake ake, ake ake, amine, Te Atua, te Piringa, toku oranga.

Going into the World

The Eucharist offers us a way to be renewed, transformed, and blessed: now we take that blessing to share with others, in our words and actions, our hearts and lives.

'The Eucharist never ends - it must be lived.'

Notices

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God our redeemer, who inspired Eanswythe to witness to your love and to work for the coming of your kingdom: may we, who in this sacrament share the bread of heaven, be fired by your Spirit to proclaim the gospel in our daily living and never to rest content until your kingdom comes, on earth as it is in heaven.

Father, we offer ourselves to you as a living sacrifice through Jesus Christ our Lord. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

INDUCTION OF MOTHERS UNION MEMBERS

RECESSIONAL HYMN

- 1. Lord, for the years your love has kept and guided, urged and inspired us, cheered us on our way, sought us and saved us, pardoned and provided: Lord of the years, we bring our thanks today.
- 2. Lord, for that word, the word of life which fires us, speaks to our hearts and sets our souls ablaze, teaches and trains, rebukes us and inspires us: Lord of the word, receive your people's praise.
- 3. Lord, for our land in this our generation, spirits oppressed by pleasure, wealth and care: for young and old, for commonwealth and nation, Lord of our land, be pleased to hear our prayer.
- 4. Lord, for our world when we disown and doubt him, loveless in strength, and comfortless in pain, hungry and helpless, lost indeed without him: Lord of the world, we pray that Christ may reign.
- 5. Lord for ourselves; in living power remake us-self on the cross and Christ upon the throne, past put behind us, for the future take us:

 Lord of our lives, to live for Christ alone.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-) Used by permission. CCLI Licence #285867.

BLESSING AND SENDING OUT

God give you grace to follow Eanswythe and all the saints in faith and hope and love; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. In the name of Christ. Amen.

Notices

Mothers Union Meeting: We will be meeting on Thursday 12 September at 11:00am at St Eanswythe's attended by Guest Speaker from the Victorian Council of Churches. Please come along and support your branch.

BCA Boxes: Beryl will be collecting and clearing BCA boxes in September 2024.

Caritas Meeting: We will be meeting on Tuesday 10 September at 3pm at St Eanswythe's, looking at "memories of four past Christmas concerts".

Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Sunday, 10 November 2024 at 11am at St. Eanswythe's preceded by a combined service at St. Eanswythe's starting at 9:30am. All members are encouraged to attend. Would those who lead ministries in the parish, please forward your annual report as a Word document to the Parish Administrator, Edita Abram, parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au by 18 October.

Safe Ministry: The Anglican Diocese of Melbourne is renewing its commitment to the active and visible care of children and vulnerable people who attend our churches or come under our care. As the people of this parish, we each have a responsibility as a disciple of Jesus to be more aware of the kinds of situations that can cause harm to those who are part of our community of faith.

Over the coming weeks I will be reaching out to those with special responsibilities in our parish to provide guidance on the steps necessary for continued Safe Ministry. I would be most grateful for your support and cooperation as we take the steps necessary to ensure that our parish remains a safe and supportive environment for all people in our faith community.

Australian Anglican Church Calendar 2025: If you would like to purchase a Calendar for 2025, please provide your details on the form on the Notice Board. With 13 beautiful photographs of Anglican Churches in all states and territories of Australia it makes a quality adornment on your wall, or a splendid gift.

APBA Lectionary 2025 (Luke): If you would like to purchase a 2025 Lectionary at \$17, please provide your details on the form on the Notice Board.

St Peter's Bookroom Spring Book Fair: As-New & Second-Hand Book Fair on this Sunday, 8 September from 10am to 2pm, with Christian theology and spirituality books available.

Reflective Bible Study: The reflective Bible study group meets once a month and is open to all. Held in St Eanswythe's meeting room (enter through the door from the car park behind the Op Shop), on the following Tuesdays at 7.30pm:

10 September (2nd Tuesday) 12 November (2nd Tuesday) 15 October (3rd Tuesday) 10 December (2nd Tuesday)

For our Prayers this Week

The world and nation:

We pray for:

- Grace and inspiration to serve faithfully following St Eanswythe's example.
- Foster carers for their contribution to improving the lives of young people and families.
- Households and communities restoring homes and properties following battering winds of the past week.

The Church:

World Council of Churches: Ghana, and Nigeria.

For Christians facing persecution and martyrdom, and for those who pray and grieve for them.

Anglican Church of Australia: Locums and all retired clergy.

Diocese of Melbourne: St James' Glen Iris (Samuel Crane). Agencies supported by our parish:
Anglican Overseas Aid – supporting health care and education in the West

health care and education in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Our parish & community: For God's guidance, love and care of our people.

We pray for our Vicar Rev'd Kerry and his family.

Those with particular needs at this time: Denise, Stuart, Anthony, Carol, Lewis, Christopher, Maria, Kay, Michael, Anna, Toby, John, Margaret, Wilford, Elisabeth, Jennie, Brian, Enid, Hayden.

The communion of saints: Anniversaries this Week: Victor Nicholas (2nd), Roy Durbridge (4th), Eric Vincent (6th).



To add a name to the pew sheet prayer list, for those needing prayers now or to be remembered on the anniversary of their death, please contact the clergy or parish office.

Eucharist Readings for this Week

Take some time to prepare for worship together by exploring the readings for this week.

Readings for Wednesday 11 September, 9:00am St Clement's Mother Esther CHN, founder of the Community of the Holy Name, (d.1931)

1 Corinthians 7.25-31; Ps 45.10-15; Luke 6.20-26

Readings for Thursday 12 September, 10:00am St Eanswythe's 1 Corinthians 8.1-13; Ps 139.13-18; Luke 6.27-38

Readings for Sunday 15 September: Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

Wisdom 7.26-8.1; Ps 19; James 2.18-26: Mark 8.27-38

Morning Prayer:

Shared on Tuesday and Friday morning at 9:00am at St Eanswythe's Everyone is welcome.

Groups Meeting Regularly in the Parish

Sunday School:

Sundays at 10:30am at St Eanswythe's (except December school holidays)

Tiddlers Playgroup:

Tuesdays in term time, 10:00am at St Eanswythe's. Contact Jan Lee (9398 2993)

Clementines Playgroup:

Fridays in term time, 9:30am at St Clement's. Contact Louise Mattey (9395 5472)

Mothers' Union:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Thursday at 11:00am. Contact Sandra Hansen (0410 040 661)

Caritas:

Monthly at St Eanswythe's, 2nd Tuesday at 3:00pm. Contact Joan Meiers (0416 264 840)

This Week in our Parish

Sunday 8 September:

St Eanswythe's Patron Day

9:30am Combined Service, St Eanswythe's, Followed by a Shared Lunch

Tuesday - Friday

10:30am-2:30pm Op Shop open

Tuesday 10 September

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 10:00am Tiddler's Playgroup, St Eanswythe's* 3:00pm Caritas, St Eanswythe's 7:30pm Reflective Bible Study, St Eanswythe's

Wednesday 11 September

9:00am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Benetas St George's Aged Care Service, Altona Meadows

Thursday 12 September

10:00am Holy Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 11:00am Mothers Union, St Eanswythe's

Friday 13 September

9:00am Morning Prayer, St Eanswythe's 9:30am Clementines Playgroup, St Clement's*

Sunday 15 September:

Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

8:30am Holy Eucharist, St Clement's 10:30am Sung Eucharist, St Eanswythe's 1:00pm Te Hakari Tapu, St Eanswythe's 5:00pm Evening Prayer, St Clement's

*During school term

Parish Contact List

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 $www.anglicanaltlav.org.au \mid T: 03\ 9398\ 1005 \mid E: parish@anglicanaltlav.org.au$

Vicar: The Rev'd Kerry Davis [Tuesday to Sunday, Monday rest day]

M: 0425 163 063 | E: kdavis@anglicanaltlav.org.au

Assistant Priest and Maori Minister: The Rev'd Danny McRoberts

M: 0448 841 196 | E: dann.mcroberts@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Lily Griffin, Soon Ghee Yap & Denis Lee

1!

Who was St Eanswythe?

"Eanswythe, an Anglo-Saxon princess, was the daughter of Eadbald, King of Kent, and grand-daughter of Ethelbert and Bertha, King and Queen of Kent, when St. Augustine landed at Thanet in the year 597. Her father wished her to marry a Northumbrian prince, who was a pagan, Eanswythe being a Christian, resolutely

refused and resolved to devote her life to Christ and His Church and good works. The King consented and built her a home near St. Peter's Church at Folkestone, England.

There she gathered around her other women who formed a community which become noted for its charity and intellectual pursuits. The sick and poor were helped, the lands around the abbey were cultivated and it became an important agricultural centre. For many years Eanswythe, as Abbess, exercised a wonderful influence throughout her father's kingdom, and after a good life of good works and simple Christian faith she died in the year 640 and was buried in St. Peter's Church.

Canonized by the Catholic Church, there are many stories of St Eanswythe's miracles before and after her death. Among other things, she is said to have given sight to a blind man, cast out a demon from one who had been possessed and miraculously diverted a spring and caused it to flow uphill into Folkestone.

In March 2020, the "Finding Eanswythe Project", which included members from the Canterbury Archaeological Trust and Christchurch University, announced that human remains within a lead container at a church in Folkestone were almost certainly those of Saint Eanswythe. If so they

are the only verified remains of the Kentish royal dynasty and are thought to be the earliest verified remains of an English Saint.

St Eanswythe's in Altona is, as far as is known, the only church outside of Kent which is dedicated to this remarkable woman and Christian leader from so many centuries ago.

https://www.info@friendsofstmaryandsteanswythe.org.uk https://wwwfindingeanswythe.uk/eanswythe/legends Revered W H Edwards https://www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk/st-eanswythe

Giving: Deposits can be made to the parish Bendigo Bank account at any time (BSB 633 000, account number 157 594 722, account name "St Eanswythe's Altona with St Clement's Laverton Anglican Churches"). For pledge giving please include your name or envelope/reference number. For further details see anglicanaltlav.org.au/giving