



### **The Reading Group:**

A group will meet to discuss the *Confessions* on Wednesday evenings from 7.00pm to 8.15pm during Lent at the church of S. Michael and All Angels, Mount Dinham Exeter EX4 4EB.

(The church with the tall spire near the Iron Bridge – please note the Iron Bridge is currently closed for refurbishment. Access to S. Michael’s is from S. David’s Hill going east).

## LENT GROUP 2025 ON AUGUSTINE'S CONFESSIONS

*“How do you tell the story of a life ? Honestly, otherwise there would be no point in telling it. The Confessions of Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-429 AD) are more than one of the most candid autobiographies ever written. They recount Augustine’s rise from impoverished student in an outback township to principal spin-doctor at the court of the Roman Emperor, and the reasons why he gave it all up, reasons rooted in his changing loves and philosophical loyalties. Augustine lived in a world different from our own, but his open mind and persistent curiosity still speak straight to us.”* Professor Oliver Nicholson.

### **Dates (Wednesdays in Lent):**

- March 12<sup>th</sup> Boyhood and studies in North Africa
- March 19<sup>th</sup> Studies at Carthage, life with the Manichees
- March 26<sup>th</sup> From Carthage to Rome and Milan
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> Court rhetor, Neoplatonism, Ambrose
- April 9<sup>th</sup> Conversion to Christian asceticism

### **Introductory Lecture:**

The groups will be preceded by a general introductory lecture on the young Augustine, given by Professor Nicholson, on Thursday 6th March, also at 7.00pm at St. Michael’s.

### **Tickets:**

All are welcome to the lecture and to any of the sessions. All donations to St. Michael’s church are gratefully received.