



AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO

## Augustine of Hippo

28 August

d. 430

Bishop and Theologian

- ✦ Trained as lawyer-rhetorician
- ✦ Was Manichee, then a Neo-Platonist, before his conversion
- ✦ Led struggles against Manichees, Donatists and Pelagians
- ✦ Wrote many books, including, *Confessions*, *On the Trinity*, *On Christian Doctrine*, and *The City of God*
- ✦ Doctor of the Western Church

I was saying these things and weeping in the most bitter contrition of my heart, when, lo, I heard the voice as of a boy or girl, I know not which, coming from a neighbouring house, chanting, and oft repeating, 'Take up and read; take up and read.' I grasped, opened, and in silence read that paragraph on which my eyes first fell—'Not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying; but put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof.'

*Confessions*, VIII.xiia