

Vox Populi

15 April 2026

Known as the “father of scholasticism” and "the most luminous and penetrating intellect between St Augustine and St Thomas Aquinas", St Anselm of Canterbury was one of the great minds in the Church during Middle Ages.

Born in Upper Burgundy, part of the Holy Roman Empire, he felt the call to monastic life. During his time as a Benedictine monk, he would compose treatises and dialogues, taking a rational and philosophical approach.

As Archbishop of Canterbury, he also defended the Church’s interests amid conflict between the Church and English monarchs over who should choose and install bishops.

St Anselm was not well regarded in his field during his life however and it was only later that his work would be recognised for its true wisdom.

Such was the greatness of his work, he was the 11th person to be honoured with the title Doctor of the Church by Pope Clement XI.

He played a significant role in the life of the English Church and he is venerated in the Anglican church, as well as in the Catholic Church.

It is fitting, therefore, on the Feast of St Anselm, April 21, Archbishop Anthony Randazzo will ordain two men as transitional deacons for the Personal Ordinariate of Our Lady of the Southern Cross.

The Personal Ordinariate celebrates the English liturgy and spiritual patrimony, while remaining in full communion with Rome.

Andrew Iswahyudi and Nigel McBain will be the first seminarians to be ordained for the Ordinariate who had not previously ministered as Anglican clergy.