



September 2nd, 2018
Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

The Law of God



Today, as we resume the reading of Mark's Gospel, we meet a controversy over ritual cleanness.

All three readings tie in with one another. In the first reading Moses urges the people to be faithful to God's Law, without adding to it or subtracting from it. It is not a burden to

be endured, but a source of life and wisdom. The Gospel shows what happened in practice. To the Law of God (given through Moses) they added their own traditions, which came to be regarded as equally authoritative and binding. Worse, they got in the way of God's Law.

Mark is making clear to the Gentile Christians that being followers of Jesus does not involve them in the observance of Jewish practices.

The second reading shows the essential link between faith and love. Nothing could be more practical than this. Nowhere is the way to sanctity so clearly indicated.

Liturgical celebrations:

Monday – St. Gregory the Great (memorial)

Saint Gregory the Great was born about the year 540 into a wealthy Roman family. After a brief but distinguish service as Chief Magistrate of Rome, he resigned to become a Benedictine monk and used his great wealth to establish several monasteries. In 590 Gregory was elected pope. His charity in feeding starving Romans, his protection of Jewish rights and his political diplomacy helped him earn the title 'Great.'

Saturday – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (feast)

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the day on which Christians East and West commemorate the birth of Mary, the Mother of God, was celebrated as early as the sixth century. We know that from the fact that Saint Romanos the Melodist, an Eastern Christian who composed many of the hymns used in the Eastern Catholic and Eastern Orthodox liturgies, composed a hymn for the feast at that time.

The Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary spread to Rome in the seventh century, but it took a couple of more centuries before it was celebrated throughout the West.

The traditional date of the feast, September 8, falls exactly nine months after the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Perhaps because of its close proximity to the feast of the Assumption of Mary, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not celebrated today with the same solemnity as the Immaculate Conception. It is, nonetheless, a very important feast, because it prepares the way for the birth of Christ. It is also an unusual feast, because it celebrates a birthday.

This Week

Monday, September 3 (Labour Day)

10:00am Mass +Cheryl Mellore
11:30am Wedding

Tuesday, September 4

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass +Guaik Tanjuaquio
7:00pm Mass +Chris Spanner

Wednesday, September 5

8:00am Mass +Dao Van Nguyen
9:15am Mass St. Augustine's School
7:00pm Mass Int Rachel Agnew

Thursday, September 6

8:00am Mass +Ariadni Valtinos
6:00pm Meeting ALPHA
7:00pm Mass +Alonzo Gibbons

Friday, September 7

8:00am Mass +Gerald Avis
10:00am Meeting Mom & Tots
10:30am Meeting Circle of Friends
7:00pm Mass Mr. Yu Wah Chau

Saturday, September 8

8:00am Mass
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
1:00pm Wedding
5:00pm Mass +Kwee Gwat Tjioe

Sunday, September 9

9:00am Mass +Aida & Gonzalo Vasquez
11:00am Mass
Bapt
2:00pm Wedding
5:00pm Mass

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts.
 Sunday Envelopes: \$6,803.90
 Loose: \$728.45

MARRIED IN CHRIST

Ryan Chandra & Christina Santorelli
 Michael Manteris & Kristy Hislop
 William Tong & Mitzi Lacsamana
 Shashika Stanislaus & Emily Fister

REST IN PEACE

Cynthia Lee

Pope's Message

"You have the words of eternal life!" (Jn 6:68)

At the end of this World Meeting of Families, we gather as a family around the table of the Lord. We thank God for the many blessings we have received in our families. And we want to commit ourselves to living fully our vocation to be, in the touch-

ing words of Saint Therese, "love in the heart of the Church".

In this precious moment of communion with one another and with the Lord, it is good to pause and consider the source of all the good things we have received. Jesus reveals the origin of these blessings in today's Gospel, when he speaks to his disciples. Many of them were upset, confused or even angry, struggling to accept his "hard sayings", so contrary to the wisdom of this world. In response, the Lord tells them directly: "The words I have spoken to you are spirit and life" (Jn 6:63).

These words, with their promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit, are teeming with life for us who accept them in faith. They point to the ultimate source of all the good that we have experienced and celebrated here in these past few days: the Spirit of God, who constantly breathes new life into our world, into our hearts, into our families, into our homes and parishes. Each new day in the life of our families, and each new generation, brings the promise of a new Pentecost, a domestic Pentecost, a fresh outpouring of the Spirit, the Paraclete, whom Jesus sends as our Advocate, our Consoler and indeed our Encourager.

How much our world needs this encouragement that is God's gift and promise! As one of the fruits of this celebration of family life, may you go back to your homes and become a source of encouragement to others, to share with them Jesus' "words of eternal life". For your families are both a privileged place for, and an important means of, spreading those words as "Good News" for everyone, especially those who long to leave behind the desert and the "house of bondage" (cf. Jos 24:17) for the promised land of hope and freedom.

In today's second reading, Saint Paul tells us that marriage is a sharing in the mystery of Christ's undying fidelity to his bride, the Church (cf. Eph 5:32). Yet this teaching, as magnificent as it is, can appear to some as a "hard saying". Because living in love, even as Christ loved us (cf. Eph 5:2), entails imitating his own self-sacrifice, dying to ourselves in order to be reborn to a greater and more enduring love. The love that alone can save our world from its bondage to sin, selfishness, greed and indifference to the needs of the less fortunate. That is the love we have come to know in Christ Jesus. It became incarnate in our world through a family, and through the witness of Christian families in every age it has the power to break down

every barrier in order to reconcile the world to God and to make us what we were always meant to be: a single human family dwelling together in justice, holiness and peace.

The task of bearing witness to this Good News is not easy. Yet the challenges that Christians face today are, in their own way, no less difficult than those faced by the earliest Irish missionaries. I think of Saint Columbanus, who with his small band of companions brought the light of the Gospel to the lands of Europe in an age of darkness and cultural dissolution. Their extraordinary missionary success was not based on tactical methods or strategic plans, no, but on a humble and liberating docility to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. It was their daily witness of fidelity to Christ and to each other that won hearts yearning for a word of grace and helped give birth to the culture of Europe. That witness remains a perennial source of spiritual and missionary renewal for God's holy and faithful people.

Of course, there will always be people who resist the Good News, who "murmur" at its "hard words". Yet like Saint Columbanus and his companions, who faced icy waters and stormy seas to follow Jesus, may we never be swayed or discouraged by the icy stare of indifference or the stormy winds of hostility.

But let us also humbly acknowledge that, if we are honest with ourselves, we too can find the teachings of Jesus hard. How difficult it is always to forgive those who hurt us; how challenging always to welcome the migrant and the stranger; how painful joyfully to bear disappointment, rejection, betrayal; how inconvenient to protect the rights of the most vulnerable, the unborn or the elderly, who seem to impinge upon our own sense of freedom.

Yet it is precisely at those times that the Lord asks us: "What about you, do you want to go away too?" (Jn 6:67). With the strength of the Spirit to "encourage" us and with the Lord always at our side, we can answer: "We believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God" (v. 69). With the people of Israel, we can repeat: "We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God" (Jos 24:18).

Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, each Christian is sent forth to be a missionary, "a missionary disciple" (cf. *Evangelii Gaudium*, 120). The Church as a whole is called to "go forth" to bring the words of eternal life to all the peripheries of our world. May our celebration today confirm each of you, parents and grandparents, children and young people, men and women, religious brothers and sisters, contemplatives and missionaries, deacons, priests and bishops, to share the joy of the Gospel! Share the Gospel of the family as joy for the world!

As we now prepare to go our separate ways, let us renew our fidelity to the Lord and to the vocation he has given to each of us. Taking up the prayer of Saint Patrick, let each of us repeat with joy: "Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me, Christ beside me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me" [repeated in Irish]. With the joy and strength given by the Holy Spirit, let us say to him with confidence: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (Jn 6:68).

WELCOME TO ST. AUGUSTINE'S PARISH

St. Augustine's Oblate Parish is a Catholic community centered in Christ and the Eucharist that has a shared mission to – welcome and invite all to participate – celebrate in Word and Sacrament – foster evangelization and spiritual formation – advocate for social justice – care for

Around the Parish...**Save the Date:****ST. AUGUSTINE'S ANNUAL HARVEST DINNER**

Date: Saturday, October 27 at 6:15pm

Venue: Parish Centre

PREP - Parish Religion Education Program

is aimed at providing Religious Education to children G1- G7/8 currently attending non catholic schools and who need to be prepared for the sacraments of Initiation - namely First Communion and Confirmation. Please register your child/children at

<http://www.staugustineschurch.ca/prep.html> or contact Ferial at 604 736 4455 Ext 224

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Conference – This Conference on October 20 -21, 2018 at Sheraton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond is OPEN to catechists in PREP, LWC and RCIA. It is a beautiful methodology of teaching the Faith and listening to God with children. It helps adults to deepen one's personal encounter with Christ. For registration and information: rcav.org/cgs-annual-conference/

The Parish Religious Education Program is looking for dedicated Catechists and helpers to help for the next school year. The students are ages 6 to 12. Training will be provided. If you are available on Tuesday evenings and/or Saturday afternoons, contact prep@staugustineschurch.ca

LADIES

The Circle of Friends/Lectio Divina meets the 1st & the 3rd Fridays of each month. Learn how the heart of the Gospel can become more relevant to your daily lives. Join others to be inspired.
10:30-12 noon in the Parish Library.
Barbara@ 604-564-1474.

Taizé Prayer Service

Come and experience a quiet meditative Taizé prayer service with candle-light, music and prayers, scriptures and silence. Prayer Service Time: 7:45 pm - 9 pm, at the Church.

Song practice session: 7:30 pm - 7:45 pm, at the parish centre

Starting September, the monthly Taizé Prayer Service is on every 2nd Wednesday of the month.

parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca or tao.agnes@gmail.com

FORMED®

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School News...

Thank you to all those who expressed interest in serving on the Parish Education Committee (PEC).

The members of the PEC for the 2018/2019 school year are as follows

Chair – Robert Carvalho

Vice chair – Carlos Estrada

Treasurer – Dan Roberts

Secretary – Liz Flores

Society delegate – Carolyn Wong Levesque

Parent Participation - Philbert Yu

Maintenance - Adam Beaudin-Ball

A special thanks to the departing PEC members, Chiara Hnatiuk and Nick Blesch, for their service.

If you have any questions on the PEC please contact St Augustine's School office.

Around the Archdiocese...**Archdiocesan Men's Retreat, Sept. 28- 30 at Rockridge Canyon, Princeton**

The theme this year is "A Man After God's Own Heart." We will follow the story of King David and rediscover the fulfillment that comes from directing our entire lives toward God. With powerful presentations, time for prayer, sacraments, fellowship, and rest, this retreat offers something for everyone. This is The Men's Retreat you do not want to miss! Registration is now open. For more info visit



www.liferestoration.ca/mensretreat

or contact David Cummings 604-312-7742 or david@davidcummings.ca.

Catholic Christian Outreach

Do you want to support the work of the New Evangelization? Jarren Bato is a full-time lay missionary with Catholic Christian Outreach, reaching out to students at the University of British Columbia. If you want to hear more about how you can financially support his ministry, please give Jarren a call



**Catholic Christian
O U T R E A C H**

at 7788664695 or email at jarren.bato@cco.ca

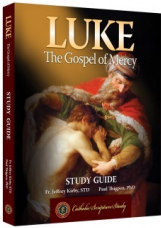
Rosary Rally

September 15, 2018 @ 10:00 am – 11:00 am at Vancouver Art Gallery, South Plaza 800 Robson St, Vancouver, BC

Contact: David Pearce at 604-929-4812

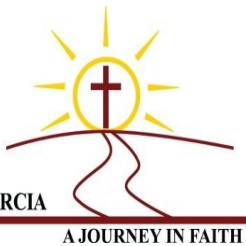
Our Lady said: "Only I can help you." Come to ask her to obtain graces for the world and our families, particularly by praying for the fulfillment of the consecration of Russia to her Immaculate Heart. We also recall her 5th apparition to the children at Fatima on 13th September 1917. This rally will be held at the South Plaza of the Art Gallery. God bless and hope to see you there!

Luke Bible Study



Come join St. Augustine's Adult Faith Group this Fall for an exciting new bible study on *Luke: The Gospel of Mercy*. It includes a teaching video, written commentary, small group discussion and a life application video for each of the sessions. Come discover St. Luke's unique insights into the heart of God presented by Dr. Paul Thigpen and Fr. Jeffrey Kirby. Sessions are held in the parish hall on Tuesday evenings 7:30-9 PM, starting September 18. The cost is \$55 (financial assistance is available). For more information or to register, email biblestudies@staugustineschurch.ca.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)



Welcomes people who feel drawn to Christ. People from no particular background, Christians from Protestant denominations, and men and women from other religions. Baptized, Catholic adults who were never confirmed and who want to be received into full communion with the Church may do so through the RCIA.

RCIA runs from mid-September through May to Pentecost. The first RCIA meeting is Wednesday evening September 19th. The meetings run from 7:30pm to 9:00pm at St. Augustine's Parish

Centre. If you are interested in the Catholic faith or know someone who is, please contact Linda Arnold: 604 736-4455 Ext 229 or rcia@staugustineschurch.ca to register.

What people are saying about RCIA...

"When visiting various Catholic Churches along the Camino de Santiago, I felt a presence that I never felt before. Joining RCIA after a 10 month wait, I found the classes to be relaxed and comfortable. The people in the class and the ones supporting us were friendly and caring - we grew together in faith. The lead up to and during the Easter Vigil was exciting. The joyfulness from within, the ebb and flow of my emotions during the sacraments and experiencing the love and genuine happiness from the congregation made the day one I will never forget. I'm grateful for the caring individuals who continue to support me on this ever growing faith journey. If it wasn't for receiving their guidance I may not have heard the Holy Spirit speaking so clearly to join the Catholic faith." - *Joanne Rowland*

If you are new to our Parish Community or have an address or telephone change, please fill out the information below and submit it to the parish office or drop into the collection basket. please print in block letters.

New Parishioner Need Envelopes Information Change

First Name	First Name
Spouse First Name	Spouse Last Name
Children: Name(s) & Date of Birth	
Mailing Address	
City	Phone
Postal Code	Email
Comments	

Parish Information

PASTOR

Rev. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI 604.736.4455 x 227
 astendzina@rcav.org

PARISH OFFICE

Monday & Friday 9:00am-12noon, 1:00pm-5:00pm
 Tues/Wed/Thurs 10:00am-12noon, 1:00pm-5:00pm
 Monday is the Priest's day off.

Email: parish.saug@rcav.org

DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Linda Arnold 604.736.4455 x 229

PARISH SECRETARY

Jayne Le Vierge 604.736.4455 x 221

PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM—PREP

Ferial Khan 604.736.4455 x 224
 ferial@staugustineschurch.ca

FAITH AND FOUNDATION

Campaign Office 604.736.4455 x 231
 donate@faithandfoundation.com

ST AUGUSTINE SCHOOL

2154 West 7th Avenue V6K 0E3 604.731.8024
 office@staugschool.ca

BAPTISM

604.736.4455 x 221
 Preparation classes held first Thursday of the month

MARRIAGES/WEDDINGS

604.736.4455 x 221 parish.saug@rcav.org

RECONCILIATION

Weekdays 15 minutes before weekday Mass
 Saturday 4:00pm—4:30pm

PARISH MINISTRIES

RCIA (RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS)

Linda Arnold rcia@staugustineschurch.ca

MUSIC MINISTRY

Peter Allen 604.257.3525
 Manfred & Suzanne Milbers 604.255.0567
 Mary Ellen Turnbull 778.995.6423

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

Nelson Cheung 604.328.3882

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sonny Harsono em@staugustineschurch.ca

PARISH COUNCIL

Mary Ellen Turnbull parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca

CWL (CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE)

Samantha Strudwick 604.255.1662

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Roy Pimentel 778.330.6850

LEGION OF MARY

Sr. Lilia Yearley 604.734.0535

ADULT FAITH

Clara Lum faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca

LECTORS

Danny Camparmo lectors@staugustineschurch.ca

USHERS

Bill Borgen 604.224.2632

SOCIAL JUSTICE

Penny Rogers pennyrogers@hotmail.com