



December 2nd, 2018
First Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

Advent



The purpose of Advent is to help us prepare for Christmas. One can't understand the message of Christmas unless we are familiar with at least the broad outlines of the history of salvation.

The Advent liturgy relives in a microcosmic way the history of Israel, viewing it through the eyes of Christian faith. It shows that all

of that history was pointing and leading towards Jesus. He was the one who fulfilled the messianic prophecies.

Advent takes us back in time so that we may appreciate the greatness of what we are heirs to. We are the heirs to the promise God made to the prophets. Advent helps us to appreciate the great blessings God has given us in Christ.

Today's first reading points to the first coming of Christ. It says that the Messiah will be descended from the stock of David, and his reign will be marked by wisdom, justice and integrity.

The Gospel deals with the Second Coming of Christ. The early Christians believed that the Second Coming was near, and would be preceded by cosmic signs. The disciples are urged to await the Lord's coming with confidence, vigilance and prayer.

How to prepare for the Second Coming of Christ is also the topic of the Second Reading.

Liturgical celebrations:

Monday – St. Francis Xavier (memorial)

Francis was born in 1506 in Navarre, Spain. He met St. Ignatius of Loyola at the University of Paris, and was one of the first members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). Francis spent many years working as a missionary with the people of Goa, Southeast Asia, and Japan. He had excellent organizational skills: the communities he established continued to flourish long after his departure. He died in 1552. He is a patron saint of all foreign missions.

Friday – St. Ambrose (memorial)

St. Ambrose was born in Germany about 340. Although he was only a catechumen, the laity elected him as bishop. He hesitated at first, but later was baptized and ordained. Ambrose became a remarkable preacher and teacher of the faith. His most famous student was Augustine of Hippo, whom he baptized.

Saturday – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (solemnity)

In the 13th century, great thinkers such as St. Bernard and St. Thomas Aquinas debated whether Mary could have been born without original sin. By the 19th century, the theological debate was resolved and in 1854 Pius IX defined the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception as a dogma of faith.

This Week

Monday, December 3

6:30pm Meeting CWL Executive Report Writing
7:00pm Mass +Oronzo Pavone

Tuesday, December 4

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass
7:00pm Mass Int Francis Narvaez
7:30pm Meeting Bible Study Group

Wednesday, December 5

8:00am Mass
7:00pm Mass
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thursday, December 6

8:00am Mass
7:00pm Mass Int Monika Poiron & family

Friday, December 7

8:00am Mass Int Maria Konchak & Karen Lawrence
10:00am Meeting Moms & Tots
10:00am Meeting Circle of Friends Women's Prayer Group
5:00pm Mass SERRA Club Mass & Dinner (Private)
7:00pm Mass Int Ewa Woznick & family

Saturday, December 8

8:00am Mass +Mariano Rivera
8:30am Meeting Finance Committee
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
3:00pm Event Knights of Columbus Hour of Family Prayer
5:00pm Mass +Gertrude Card
6:00pm Reception Lighting of the Nativity Scene

Sunday, December 9

9:00am Mass
11:00am Mass RCIA Rite of Welcome
5:00pm Mass



Advent Penitential Service—December 2018

The Parish Advent Penitential Service will be held at 7:00pm on Friday December 14th.

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts.
 Sunday Envelopes: \$7,934.35
 Loose: \$1,091.45

MARRIED IN CHRIST

Marco Alessio & Teresa Maria Vaccaro

Meaning of Advent Wreath

Since circles have no beginning and no end, the circular shape of the [Advent Wreath](#) is used to symbolize God the Father and eternal life. The wreath holds four candles which are lit over the four weeks of Advent. There are three violet (purple) candles and one rose candle.

Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of penance, sacrifice, and prayer. During the first two and the last weeks of Advent we light violet candles. The Third

Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for Christmas is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the rose candle on the third Sunday of Advent.

Traditionally, each of the four candles on an Advent wreath has their own meaning. The first Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope. The second Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith. The third Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy. The fourth Sunday symbolizes Peace.

When Advent Wreaths are decorated the materials often have symbolic meaning. The use of evergreens reminds us of our eternal life with Christ, holly represents the crown of thorns from the Passion of Jesus, and pine cones symbolize Christ's Resurrection.

RCIA—Rite of Acceptance**First Sunday of Advent - Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens**

The Rite of Acceptance is of the utmost importance. Assembling publicly for the first time, the candidates who have completed the period of enquiry and are preparing for all the sacraments of Christian initiation declare their intention to the Church and the Church in turn, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers their grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church.

Catechumens for Baptism:

Diana Power Lexcee Power Grace Linsey Kevin Chong

"THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER"

This year, we will be celebrating **Saturday, December 8th** the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**, as a day of praise and prayer for the strengthening of families and the parish community at large. We invite the entire community to participate in this gathering in St. Augustine's Church at 3pm.

The highlights of this event, the Parish Family Prayer and Praise Gathering, are as follows:

Singing: songs of praise and worship; Marian songs; Offering of prayer intentions; Communal prayers for intercession; Recitation of the Holy Rosary. Both prayer intentions received and prayers for intercession will be offered in the ensuing 5PM Mass.

As last year, the etching of the Holy Family by Giovanni Balestra (1774-1842) will be displayed on the Church sanctuary during the gathering. This art work is visiting our parish as part of a year-round pilgrimage to the various jurisdictions of the Knights of Columbus all over the world; a tradition which has brought together more than 17 million participants in 147, 000 gatherings.



Christmas is the season for families to renew their ties. It is about enjoying the company of your loved ones; about loving, giving and, in some cases, a time for forgiving. It is also a time and blessed opportunity for memorable traditions and faith enrichment for members of our families, especially the young.

On this same evening, after the 5pm Mass, a short candle-lit program will be held outside the Church. Christmas carols will be sung culminating in the lighting of the Christmas Nativity Scene.

Traditional Christmas refreshments such as hot chocolate, apple cider and cookies will be served at the Parish Hall after. Group singing will continue here.

The celebration is open to all parishioners.

Fr. Andrew Stendzina

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 our common home.

Around the Parish ...

Advent Giving Tree

We invite you to observe Advent by participating in the parish Advent Giving Tree. Take an "ornament" off the tree in the foyer and purchase items for Covenant House, Sancta Maria House, and the Kits Shower Programme (new items only, please.) Place all **UNWRAPPED** items under the tree by noon on Sunday, December 23rd. Anyone who can help sort and package the collection and/or drive to Covenant House on December 23rd (12:00 pm- 2:00 pm), please contact Eileen at dcampar-mo@hotmail.com. Thank you!

Feature Organization: Covenant House

Covenant House's Residential Crisis Program welcomes homeless, runaway and at-risk youth between the ages of 16 and 24. When they arrive, young people are often distraught. They are scared, sick, hungry and exhausted. Covenant House's first priority is to meet their basic needs: medical attention, nutritious food, safe place to sleep. Along with safe, supported housing, young people receive food, clothing and hygiene supplies. They can also receive substance misuse counselling, treatment for mental illness and support with finding a job and a safe place to live when they leave.

When out of their crisis, many young people apply to Covenant House's long-term supportive transitional housing program, [Rights of Passage](#), where they are provided with support in an environment that feels like home. For more information about Covenant House, visit their web-site at www.covenanthousebc.org.

Youth Ministry Co-ordinator

Part-time position with a partially Flexible Schedule.

Salary commensurate with training and experience. Start date to be determined.

St. Augustine's Parish is seeking someone who has collaboration and organisational skills, ability to train and work with volunteers, and who is passionate about the Gospel and communicating the Gospel message to youth.

The successful candidate will oversee the outreach to the youth of the parish (13-18 year olds) Some facilitation with young adults in the parish may also be part of the role.

Applicants should be practicing Catholics who have some training and experience with youth, have a flexible and positive work attitude, and be able to think critically and theologically about their work. For a copy of the job description please contact Fr. Andrew Stenzina, OMI at astenzina@rcav.org or Linda Arnold at adminsvc.saug@rcav.org.

Letters of application and resumes should be e-mailed to Bill Borgen at parishcouncil@staugustineschurch.ca by December 7th.

Youth Ministry Sunday: December 2, 2018

The purpose of this Archdiocesan collection is to assist the work of the Ministries and Outreach Office in providing formation, training, and support for Youth Ministry. Youth Ministry in our Archdiocese continues to grow, as evidenced by the number of Parishes with Youth Ministry programming, and the number of participants at diocesan events and training opportunities. Parishes with active Youth Ministry programming will receive a rebate from this collection. Please be generous in supporting the youth of our Parish and Archdiocese.

Moms & Tots

Please note that the Moms and Tots group will be cancelled on the following dates:

December 7 December 28 January 4.

School News...

Luncheon for Seniors

The School is Hosting their "Thirteenth Luncheon for all the Seniors of St. Augustine's Parish"

Venue – The School; Date/Time–Friday Dec. 7th at 12:00 pm

Cost – No cost

As there is maximum seating, please RSVP by Nov. 27th to

Gerri Fujisawa at 604-738-1155 or gerifuji@telus.net

Some Parking will be available at the School

FORMED®

Looking for good, wholesome Catholic content...tired of searching the internet? Check out formed.org a virtual library with video and ebooks for adults and children! Find comprehensive and inspiring content. Share with your friends and family! Simply sign up for FREE by visiting formed.org and entering our parish access code **4FX3T6**. You may then create your personal account.

This site has numerous Advent resources aimed at Children, Teens and Adults.

Experience Advent with Dr. Tim Gray

Enrich your Advent preparation with daily videos from Dr. Tim Gray that will ready your heart for the coming of Christ.

Add on children's reflections with Brother Francis to get the whole family spiritually prepped for Christmas!



Around the Archdiocese

The Catholic Faith – in plain English

December 3, 2018 @ 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm at John Paul II Pastoral Centre - St John Paul II Way

This course is suitable for all adult learners including Catholics and non-Catholics. It will be especially useful for anyone who teaches religious education (PREP, RCIA, Catholics Schools), anyone in lay ministry (youth ministry, young adult ministry, prayer group leaders), and anyone seeking deeper answers to their questions. You can attend all sessions or drop in for specific topics as you please; there is no cost or pre-registration required.

Taught by Fr. Vincent Hawkswell and Maureen Creelman every Monday from September 24, 2018 to June 3, 2019 (11 am – 1 pm at St. Anthony's Parish in West Vancouver, repeated 7pm – 9pm at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre).

For more information and for the list of topics and dates, visit

<https://rcav.org/adult-catechesis-course>.

Contact: Maureen Creelman at 604-683-0281

Oblate Corner..



200 YEARS AGO: NOTA BENE – DRESSING HIS MISSIONARIES FROM HEAD TO TOE

Posted by Frank Santucci

“It is only after having dressed his missionaries from head to foot in this solid armor of virtue that Bishop de Mazenod allows himself to say to them: then, full of confidence”

YENVEUX, A. Les saintes Règles de la Congrégation des Missionnaires Oblats de Marie Immaculée d'après les écrits, les leçons et l'esprit de Mgr. C.J.E. de Mazenod, Paris, 1903, vol. 1, p. 17

To answer the question as to what the Missionary must do in order to become an apostolic man – a co-operator of the Savior, Eugene spells out the “virtues and examples of our Savior Jesus Christ” that they must “strive to imitate.”

We must work seriously to become saints, walk courageously in the footsteps of so many apostles who have left us such fine examples of virtue in the exercise of a ministry to which, like them, we are called;

renounce ourselves totally,

maintain in view exclusively the glory of God, the building of the Church, the salvation of souls;

renew ourselves constantly in the spirit of our vocation;

live in a habitual state of self-denial and

in an unremitting determination to achieve perfection,

working unstintingly to become humble,

gentle,

obedient,

lovers of poverty,

repentant,

mortified,

detached from the world and our families,

brimming with zeal,

ready to sacrifice our goods, our talents, our rest, our persons and our lives for the love of Jesus Christ, the service of the Church and the sanctification of our neighbor.

1818 Rule, Part One, Chapter One, §3. Nota Bene.

Missions, 78 (1951) p. 16

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.	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Parishioner <input type="checkbox"/> Need Envelopes <input type="checkbox"/> 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 - REGISTRATION REQUIRED

604.736.4455 x 221

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

Bill Borgen

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

MOM'S N TOTS

Cat Leung

cat_murtha@hotmail.com

FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy

604.736.5288