



December 30th, 2018
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

Finding in the Temple



The Gospel tells the story of how the twelve-year-old Jesus got lost in Jerusalem. It shows that misunderstandings can occur even in the best of families. We are inclined to say that Jesus got lost in the Temple. But Jesus did not get lost in the Temple. Rather, he was at home there. It was there he began to find

himself, and to discover his true identity. He was not just the son of Mary, but the unique Son of God.

Many lost, lonely, homeless souls have come to the house of God, or have wandered into it almost by accident, and felt at home there, and found peace there, and found themselves there. In God's house we discover who we are. Whatever the world may think of us, in God's house we know we are God's precious daughters and sons.

In the incident of the losing and finding in the Temple, we see the love that Mary and Joseph had for Jesus. Afterwards he went down to Nazareth with them and obeyed them.

Home is a place where we are accepted as we are, with our strengths and weaknesses. This kind of acceptance enables us to grow as human beings and children of God.

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God – January 1

This feast is a celebration of Mary's motherhood of Jesus. The title "Mother of God" is a western derivation from the Greek Theotokos, which means "God-bearer". On this day, we are reminded of the role that the Blessed Virgin played in the plan of our salvation. Through the Holy Spirit, God the Father prepared Mary to be the dwelling place where His Son and His Spirit could dwell among men. Christ's birth was made possible by Mary's fiat, or sanctioning of God's plan with her words, "Be it done to me according to thy word". Calling Mary "Mother of God" is the highest honour we can give to her. Just as Christmas honours Jesus as the "Prince of Peace", the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God honours Mary as the "Queen of Peace". New Year's Day is also designated as the "World Day of Peace", further acknowledging the role of Mary in our hearts and in our world.



This Week

Monday, December 31

5:00pm Mass Int Marina Al-Ashhab

Tuesday, January 1 Happy New Year!

9:00am Mass
11:00am Mass

Wednesday, January 2

8:00am Mass +Mary McMahon

Thursday, January 3

8:00am Mass Int Fr. Andrzej Stenzina, OMI
7:00pm Mass +Remedios Rodrigo

Friday, January 4

8:00am Mass I+Oni Odjegba
7:00pm Mass I+Anita Behrend

Saturday, January 5

8:00am Mass +Teresa Weisser
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
5:00pm Mass +Rachael Agnew

Sunday, January 6

9:00am Mass Int Fr. Abbott
11:00am Mass
5:00pm Mass Int Fr. John Horgan



Pope's Message



Mary "gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Lk 2:7). In these plain and clear words, Luke brings us to

the heart of that holy night: Mary gave birth; she gave us Jesus, the Light of the world. A simple story that plunges us into the event that changes our history for ever. Everything, that night, became a source of hope.

Let us go back a few verses. By decree of the Emperor, Mary and Joseph found themselves forced to set out. They had to leave their people, their home and their land, and to undertake a journey in order to be registered in the census. This was no comfortable or easy journey for a young couple about to have a child: they had to leave their land. At heart, they were full of hope and expectation because of the child about to be born; yet their steps were weighed down by the uncertainties and dangers that attend those who have to leave their home behind.

Then they found themselves having to face perhaps the most difficult thing of all. They arrived in Bethlehem and experienced that it was a land that was not expecting them. A land where there was no place for them.

And there, where everything was a challenge, Mary gave us Emmanuel. The Son of God had to be born in a stable because his own had no room for him. "He came to what was his own and his own people did not accept him" (Jn 1:11). And there, amid the gloom of a city that had no room or place for the stranger from afar, amid the darkness of a bustling city which in this case seemed to want to build itself up by turning its back on others... it was precisely there that the revolutionary spark of God's love was kindled. In Bethlehem, a small chink opens up for those who have lost their land, their country, their dreams; even for those overcome by the asphyxia produced by a life of isolation.

So many other footsteps are hidden in the footsteps of Joseph and Mary. We see the tracks of entire families forced to set out in our own day. We see the tracks of millions of persons who do not choose to go away but, driven from their land, leave behind their dear ones. In many cases this departure is filled with hope, hope for the future; yet for many others this departure can only have one name: survival. Surviving the Herods of today, who, to impose their power and increase their wealth, see no problem in shedding innocent blood.

The Octave of Christmas

Did You Know...

Catholics recognize that Christmas is not only on December 25. The Church's liturgy actually emphasizes the eight days or octave of Christmas. The Church recognizes that the days of the Christmas Octave are repeating the solemnity of Christmas for eight days, concluding on a high note with another solemnity that echoes the solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord.

Two Principal Solemnities

There are two principal feasts in the Liturgical Year: Easter and Christmas. These are both solemnities (and holydays of obligation) and in the current Liturgical Calendar are the only feasts that have octaves attached. Solemnities are festive and exceptional days, the highest ranked feasts of the liturgical calendar.

What Is an Octave?

An octave is the eight-day period during which Easter or Christmas is celebrated, and includes the actual feast. The eighth day is also called the octave or "octave day." and days in between are said to be "within the octave":

Octave means an eight-day celebration, that is, the prolongation of a feast to the eighth day inclusive. The feast itself is considered the first day, and it is followed by six days called "days within the octave." The eighth or octave day is kept with greater solemnity than the "days within the octave."

Why an Octave?

It has often been said that Catholics know how to celebrate. The Church has a built-in pattern within the liturgical calendar that provides what man needs to celebrate the feasts of the year: times of preparation and penance building to major feasts that are prolonged, and multi-level feast days spread throughout the year.

The octave gives us time to impress upon our souls the mysteries, joys and graces of the principal feasts of the Church year.

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.

**The Theme of the 2019 World Day of Peace is
'Good Politics at the Service of Peace'**

'Political Responsibility Belongs to Every Citizen'



The theme of the 52nd World Day of Peace – to be observed on January 1, 2019 –, and of the Pope's Message for the occasion is "Good Politics at the Service of Peace," announced the Vatican in Italian on November 6, 2018, a few days before the great celebrations for the centenary of the end of the 1914-1918 War. The Vatican's press release emphasized the responsibility of each one in politics.

"Political responsibility belongs to every citizen and, in particular, to those that have received the mandate to protect and to govern." And see in what this responsibility consists, which passes through dialogue: "This mission consists in safeguarding the right of and in encouraging dialogue between the actors of society, between the generations and between the culture." The commentary emphasizes "trust." There is no peace without mutual trust. And trust has, as the first condition, respect for the given word."

Taking up an expression of Saint Paul VI, the Vatican recalled the connection between charity and politics and insisted on the care of the environment and of young peoples. "Political engagement – which is one of the highest expressions of charity – carries the concern for the future of life and of the planet, of the youngest and the littlest, in their thirst for fulfillment."

The Holy See's note also quotes Saint John XXIII: "When man is respected in his rights a sense of duty germinates in him to respect the rights of others," Saint John XXIII reminded in his 1963 encyclical *Pacem in Terris*.

The note highlights humanity's communion of destiny. "Man's rights and duties augment the awareness of belonging to the same community, with others and with God (Cf. *Ibid.*, 45). Therefore, we are called to contribute and to proclaim to him peace as the good news of a future where each living being will be considered in his dignity and in his rights."

The invitation to engage in politics was also Pope Francis' prayer intention in July 2015.

That same year, Pope Francis invited men and women engaged in politics, especially those that are Christians, to be "courageous," because politics is a sort of daily "martyrdom": to seek the common good without allowing oneself to be corrupted," he reminded on April 30, 2015, when meeting with the Communities of Christian Life, inviting them to engage in politics. "It's important to be involved in politics" and "one can become a saint by engaging in politics." It means to "carry the cross of all the failures and also the cross of numerous sins. Because in the world, it's difficult to do good in the midst of society without soiling one's hands or heart a bit. But go ask for pardon for that, ask for pardon and continue to act," he stressed. However, "don't let that discourage you" and continue "to fight for a more just and solidary society," added Pope Francis.

"If the Lord calls you to this vocation to engage in politics, it will make you suffer, that will make you sin, perhaps, but the Lord is with you. Ask for pardon and go forward. But let us not allow this culture of rejects to reject us all! It also rejects creation, because everyday creation is destroyed more. Don't forget this word of Blessed Paul VI: politics is one of the highest forms of charity."



New Year's Eve: 5pm

New Year's Day: 9am & 11am ONLY

Thank You...



I would like to thank everyone who shared their gifts of time and talent decorating the church and preparing the liturgies so that we could have wonderful Christmas celebrations. The whole Christmas season at St. Augustine's was very beautiful and heartwarming.

I also would like to express a deep gratitude for all the Christmas cards and gifts we had received during this special time of the year. Thank you very much.

Have a very Happy New Year! God bless!

Fr. Andrzej

St. Augustine's Parish Donations

St. Augustine's is thankful for your donations. If you would prefer you can support St. Augustine's by making an automatic gift each month from either your bank account or your credit card. If you would like to sign up for a debit or credit card donation please download the fillable PDF pre-authorization form found on our web-site and return it to the parish office. The pre-authorization form can also be found in the foyer of the Church.

St. Augustine's Christmas Nativity Scene



A very Merry Christmas to **Dennis Bruchet** and family. Dennis is the craftsman behind St. Augustine's (now vintage) Nativity scene erected each year at the Maple Street entrance to the Church.

Oblate Corner..



200 YEARS AGO: COMMUNITY PRAYER: THE SOURCE OF ALL MISSIONARY SUCCESS

Posted by Frank Santucci

It seems surprising that as the sixth ministry Eugene puts the community prayer of the Breviary:

All the priests, oblates, and novices are bound to recite the Divine Office in common, according to the rite of the Holy Roman Church, at the hours

prescribed by the schedule.

The surprising part is not that the Missionaries must pray regularly, but that this is seen as one of the MINISTRIES of the Missionaries. In other words, the time given to praying the Breviary is as important as any one of the other ministries.

Apart from the personal sanctification that Eugene never stops stressing ("be" in order to "do"), the community prayer is other-centered in that it is a ministry done for the good of the whole Congregation and its mission.

The Institute regards this exercise as the source of all the blessings which must pour out upon all the ministry of the whole Society.

1818 Rule, Part One, Chapter 3, §6 Divine Office

Praying the Divine Office, the Liturgy of the Hours, is an act of the Church and for the good of the whole Church, of which the community of Missionaries is a cell.

Two clarifications on the text:

– One of the ends of the Missionaries was to make up for the disappearance of the Orders, whose foundation was built on singing the Divine Office at various moments of the day – hence this initial insistence. As the Oblates became geographically more widespread and their ministry more varied in small groups or individually – it was the spirit of this part of the Rule that had to be maintained in their individual prayer: praying the Breviary was a ministry for the welfare of the mission of the whole Congregation.

– Eugene used the word "oblates" to denote all those who had professed their first vows and were not yet priests (i.e. scholastics – seminarians). This was 8 years before the Congregation took the official name of "Oblates" for all its members.

The Liturgy of the Hours is the prayer of the Church, the spouse of Christ. In it, we praise the Father for his wonderful works and invoke his blessing on our mission. Each community will ordinarily celebrate part of the Hours in common. Where possible, the faithful will be invited to join us in this public prayer of the Church. CC&RR, Constitution 33

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