

January 6th, 2019  
 The Epiphany of the Lord

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



### The Epiphany of the Lord

For Matthew, the story of the Magi becomes an anticipation of the fate of the Good News of salvation, a fate that he knew in the aftermath of the resurrection. God revealed himself to the Jews through the scriptures, and to the Gentiles through nature. Hence, Matthew shows the Magi (who were Gentiles) receiving a revelation through astrology. The story highlights the paradox: the Jews who have the scriptures reject Jesus, while Gentiles come, and with the help of the Scriptures, find and adore him.

There is nothing to be gained by speculating where the Magi came from and what exactly the star was. The star was only the means by which the great mystery was revealed – the revelation of Christ as the Savior of the Gentiles too.

The Second Reading expresses the theological meaning of today's feast: God invites Jew and Gentile to share on an equal footing the benefits of the salvation brought by Christ.

### Liturgical Celebrations:

**Saturday** – Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys (memorial)

Marguerite is often referred to as the 'Mother of the Colony' for her contributions to the establishment of Ville-Marie, the place we know today as Montreal. Born in France she crossed the Atlantic in 1653 and she began to develop educational opportunities for aboriginal children and the families of the French settlers. Other women joined her and they formed an institute of uncloistered sisters, the Congregation Notre-Dame. She died in 1700 at the age of 80. Marguerite is a patron saint of poor people.

### Pope's Prayer Intention for January:

Evangelization: That young people, especially in Latin America, follow the example of Mary and respond to the call of the Lord to communicate the joy of the Gospel to the world.

## This Week

### Monday, January 7

7:00pm Mass SAS Teacher's Retreat

### Tuesday, January 8

8:00am Mass  
 8:30am **Forty Hours Devotion begins**  
 10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Craft Group  
 7:00am Mass Int John & Marie Howell  
 7:30pm Meeting Bible Study Group

### Wednesday, January 9

8:00am Mass  
 9:15am Mass School Mass  
 7:00pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)  
 7:00pm Mass +Dennis Bruchet, JR.  
 7:45pm Event Taizé Prayer Service

### Thursday, January 10

8:00am Mass  
 6:45pm Meeting Baptismal Preparation Course  
 7:00pm Mass +Teofilo & Anita Mendoza  
 10:00pm **Forty Hours Devotions ends**

### Friday, January 11

8:00am Mass  
 7:00pm Mass +Mario & Michelina Moser

### Saturday, January 12

8:00am Mass Int of Thanksgiving  
 9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary  
 1:00pm Wedding  
**5:00pm Mass** +Ibrahim & Khalil Al Ashhab  
 Bapt  
 Bapt

### Sunday, January 13

**9:00am Mass** Int Altar Servers  
 10:00am Meeting CWL General Meeting & Executive Installation  
**11:00am Mass**  
**5:00pm Mass**

**OFFERTORY**  
Christmas  
Sunday Envelopes: \$16,678.00  
Loose: \$4,944.50

**OFFERTORY**  
December 31st  
We are grateful for these gifts.  
Envelopes: \$12,456.00  
Loose: \$874.95

**REST IN PEACE**  
+ Rosina Faoro

### What is the 40 Hours Devotion?



The Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition.

Affirming our belief in the real presence of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, the Vatican Council II

taught that the Holy Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life” (Lumen Gentium, #11). While the Mass is the central act of worship for us Catholics, an act which participates in the eternal reality of our Lord’s passion, death, and resurrection, Vatican Council II upheld and encouraged the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament outside of Mass. Of course such devotion derives from the sacrifice of the Mass and moves the faithful to both sacramental and spiritual communion with our Lord.

The number forty has always signified a sacred period of time: the rains during the time of Noah lasted 40 days and nights; the Jews wandered through the desert for 40 years, our Lord fasted and prayed for 40 days before beginning His public ministry. The 40 Hours Devotion remembers that traditional “forty-hour period” from our Lord’s burial until the resurrection.

While the Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, three special dimensions have also surrounded this devotion: the protection from evil and temptation; reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory; and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities. Here the faithful implore our Lord to pour forth His abundant graces not only for themselves, but their neighbors, not only for their own personal needs, but for those of the world.

The Forty Hours Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of each person and the parish as a whole. In a world where temptation and evil abound, where devotion to the Mass and our Lord in the Holy Eucharist have declined, where the practice of penance and confession have been forgotten, we need the Forty Hours Devotion more than ever.

**Forty Hours Devotion** begins at St. Augustine’s on **Tuesday January 8<sup>th</sup>** at 8:30am and ends **Thursday January 10<sup>th</sup>** at 10:00pm. Sign up sheets are located in the Church foyer. Please consider spending some time with Our Lord.

### Pope’s Message



“All who heard were amazed at what the shepherds told them” (Lk 2:18). To be amazed: this is what is asked of us today, at the conclusion of the Octave of Christmas, as we continue to contemplate the Child born for us, lacking everything yet

abounding in love. Amazement is what we should feel at the beginning of each year, for life is a gift that constantly gives us a chance to make a new start, even from the most lowly of circumstances.

Today is also a day to be amazed by the Mother of God. God appears as a little child, held in the arms of a woman who feeds her Creator. The statue before our eyes depicts the Mother and Child so close as to appear as one. That is the mystery we celebrate today, which gives rise to boundless amazement: God has become one with humanity forever. God and man, always together, that is the good news of this new year. God is no distant lord, dwelling in splendid isolation above the heavens, but love incarnate, born like us of a mother, in order to be a brother to each of us, to be close to us: the God of closeness. He rests on the lap of his mother, who is also our mother, and from there he pours out upon humanity a new tenderness. Thus we come to understand more fully God’s love, which is both paternal and maternal, like that of a mother who never stops believing in her children and never abandons them. God-with-us, Emmanuel, loves us despite our mistakes, our sins, and the way we treat our world. God believes in mankind, because its first and preeminent member is his own Mother.

At the beginning of the year, let us implore from Mary the grace to be amazed at the God of surprises. Let us renew the amazement we felt when faith was first born in us. The Mother of God helps us: the Mother who gave birth to the Lord, now presents us, reborn, to the Lord. She is a mother who generates in her children the amazement of faith, because faith is an encounter, not a religion. Without amazement, life becomes dull and routine, and so it is with faith. The Church too needs to renew her amazement at being the dwelling place of the living God, the Bride of the Lord, a Mother who gives birth to her children. Otherwise, she risks turning into a beautiful museum of the past. A “Church museum”. Our Lady instead gives the Church the feel of a home, a home in which the God of newness dwells. Let us receive with amazement the mystery of the Mother of God, as the inhabitants of Ephesus did at the time of the Council. Like them, let us acclaim her “Holy Mother of God”. From her, let us allow ourselves to be gazed upon, to be embraced, to be taken by the hand.

### 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** - Again this year, a big thank you to all who donated to the **Advent Giving Tree** during December. The generosity of the members of this Parish is truly amazing! Donations were delivered to Covenant House, Sancta Maria House and the Kits Showers Programme. **Special thanks to:** the Ushers for clearing the bags each week and the many volunteers who helped sort, package and deliver the items. It is always a team effort! We ask you to continue to pray for those who are served by these organizations and for those who minister in them.

**Social Justice – We Need You!**

The St. Augustine's Social Justice initiative is looking for people who are interested in forming a "**Share Lent**" team for Lent 2019. **Share Lent** is the Canadian Bishops's fundraising initiative for Lent through Development & Peace- Caritas Canada, the international development organization of the Canadian Catholic Church.

The inaugural meeting for the Share Lent 2019 Team will take place Sunday, January 13th from 10 am - 11 am in the Parish Library. This year's campaign is entitled "Share the Journey" and focuses on ways of supporting those who have had to flee their homes due to war, violence, famine, or poverty. If you have a compassionate heart and a desire to work for justice the **Share Lent Team** is for you! If you are interested in attending please contact:

Eileen Cervi at [socialjustice@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:socialjustice@staugustineschurch.ca).



**Christmas Creche at St. Augustine's**

**Food Collection this weekend at St. Augustine's Church**

**FOOD COLLECTION  
FOR THE POOR**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food." Matthew 25:35*

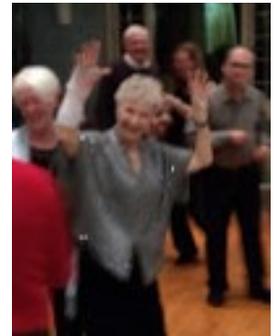


**THANK YOU, THANK YOU from Faith and Foundation**

Final results for the 2018 Fall Campaign are in and – through the generosity of so many school parents and parishioners – we are pleased to announce that \$459,905 was raised.

More than 98 percent of school families donated and 337 individual/family gifts were made (combined school/parish). Non-school parish families made donations totalling nearly \$120,000.

We will have a more detailed financial report of all fundraising activities in 2018 later in the spring, including an update on the Parish-supported mortgage for the new school building.



**CWL News**



Sunday January 13 after 9 am Mass  
CWL General Meeting & Installation of New Executive  
*All women of the Parish are welcome to attend.*



**New Year's Dinner & Social**

Oblate Corner..



PREPARING FOR AND CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS WITH SAINT EUGENE

Posted by Frank Santucci

One of the privileged moments of prayer for Eugene was to be able to unite himself with those he loved in the presence of God. In our Oblate tradition we have come to know this exercise as "oraision." As a seminarian in Paris he wrote to his mother one Christmas morning describing how united he had been with her during Midnight Mass, despite the distance that separated them.

"Dearest Mother, do you really think that I was not beside you last night? How could I fail, meditating as I was on the holy Mother of God, who had just been filled with consolation on giving the world its Saviour, and at the same time had to experience so vividly the poverty, weakness and misery to which she saw her Divine Master reduced for love of men, how could these tender sentiments fail to draw me close to you?

Indeed yes, darling mother, we spent the night together at the foot of the altar, which for me represented the crib in Bethlehem; together we offered our gifts to our Savior and asked him to come to birth in our hearts and strengthen us in all that is weak, etc.

You know my heart all too well, since it was formed from your own, so you will have a very clear understanding that it is as active and goes through the same feelings as your own".

Letter to his mother, 25 December 1809, EO XIV n 37

Who are the people I want to unite myself with before the crib in Bethlehem this year?

Eugene was ordained to the priesthood on 21 December 1811 and celebrated his "First Mass" on Christmas Eve. He invited his mother to be united with him in a special way.

"Dear mother, be one with me on Christmas Eve, join in the holy mysteries in Aix while I celebrate them for you in Amiens, in the most fervent of; let each of us for our own part speak our minds to our good Master who assuredly will be quite unable to say no on such a wonderful day..."

Letter to his mother, 8 December 1811, EO XIV n. 96

After his ordination, the custom was to spend more days in retreat in preparation for celebrating Mass for the first time. On the day of his ordination had written in anticipation:

I leave you now, dear, darling mother. I have three days still to get used to the idea that I am a priest and prepare to celebrate the divine mysteries on the the delightful night our lovable Saviour is born in a stable...

Letter to his mother after his priestly ordination, 21 December 1811, EO XIV n.97

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 - 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