



February 17th, 2019
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



The world of the beatitudes

For this and the following Sunday we will be reading from Luke's "Sermon on the Plain" which parallels Matthew's "Sermon on the Mount."

The first reading is a little bit of wisdom poetry. It contrasts the wicked who trust in human beings and the righteous who trust in God. The former are compared to a barren desert shrub; the later to a fruitful tree planted besides a flowing river. This prepares us for the Gospel, where Jesus declares the poor blessed. The poor are the 'little ones' who have no one to trust but in God.

The beatitudes echo the programme Jesus announced in the synagogue at Nazareth. Whereas Matthew has nine beatitudes, Luke has only four, with, however, four corresponding 'woes'.

Liturgical celebrations:

Friday – Chair of St. Peter (feast)

Early Roman Christians celebrated on this day a feast in honor of their departed loved ones, including their predecessors in the faith, Peter and Paul. In the 4th century, when the feast of these two saints was moved to June 29th, the emphasis of this day shifted to celebrating Peter and successors as bishops of Rome, and expressing gratitude for their service.

To celebrate the 'Chair' of Peter means giving it a strong spiritual significance and recognizing therein a privileged sign of the love of God.

Saturday – Saint Polycarp (memorial)

Polycarp is one the Fathers of the early Church, and his letter to the Philippians is one of the early pieces of Christian writing. Extremely influential in the catechesis and initiation of new Christians, he was named bishop of Smyrna. Polycarp was martyred for his faith about year 155, at the age of 86. He is a patron of those suffering from earaches.

Pope's Prayer Intention for February:

Universal: For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution and of violence.

This Week

Monday, February 18

10:00am Mass +Rumulo Caras
Family Day—Office Closed

Tuesday, February 19

8:00am Mass +Shane Rice
6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
7:00pm Mass +Margaret Jamieson
7:00pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Executive
7:30pm Meeting Scripture Study—Luke

Wednesday, February 20

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

Thursday, February 21

8:00am Mass
1:00pm Funeral +Laurette Marie Des Roches
7:00pm Mass

Friday, February 22

8:00am Mass
10:00am Meeting Mom's & Tots Play Group
2:00pm Meeting Oblates of Mary Immaculate
6:00pm Event Grade VI Parent's Pot Luck
7:00pm Mass +Editha Livelio

Saturday, February 23

8:00am Mass +Maria Esperanza
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
10:00am Meeting Ushers—Defibrillator Training
5:00pm Mass +Gregory Belliveau

Sunday, February 24

9:00am Mass
11:00am Mass
Bapt
5:00pm Mass +Chai Noan Ang



Pope's Message



Blessed: this is the word with which Jesus begins his preaching in Matthew's Gospel. And it is the refrain he repeats today, as if to fix in our hearts, more

than anything, an essential message: if you are with Jesus, if you love to listen to his word as the disciples of that time did, if you try to live out this word every day, then you are blessed. Not you will be blessed, but you are blessed; this is the first truth we know about the Christian life. It is not simply a list of external prescriptions to fulfil or a set of teachings to know. The Christian life, first and foremost, is not this; rather, it is the knowledge that, in Jesus, we are the Father's beloved children. The Christian life means living out the joy of this blessedness, wanting to live life as a love story, the story of God's faithful love, he who never abandons us and wishes to be in communion with us always. This is the reason for our joy, a joy that no one in the world and no circumstance in our lives can take from us. It is a joy that gives peace also in the midst of pain, a joy that already makes us participate in that eternal happiness which awaits us. Dear brothers and sisters, in the joy of meeting you, this is the word I have come to say to you: blessed!

Even as Jesus calls his own disciples blessed, we are yet struck by the reasons for the individual Beatitudes. We see in them an overturning of that popular thinking, according to which it is the rich and the powerful who are blessed, those who are successful and acclaimed by the crowds. For Jesus, on the other hand, blessed are the poor, the meek, those who remain just even at the cost of appearing in a bad light, those who are persecuted. Who is correct here: Jesus or the world? To understand this, let us look at how Jesus lived: poor in respect to things, but wealthy in love; he healed so many lives, but did not spare his own. He came to serve and not to be served; he taught us that greatness is not found in having but rather in giving. Just and meek, he did not offer resistance, but allowed himself to be condemned unjustly. In this way Jesus brought God's love into the world. Only in this way did he defeat death, sin, fear and even worldliness: only by the power of divine love. Let us together ask here today for the grace of rediscovering the attraction of following Jesus, of imitating him, of not seeking anyone else but him and his humble love. For here is the meaning of our life: in communion with him and in our love for others. Do you believe in this?

I have also come to say thank you for the way in which you live the Gospel we heard. People say that the difference between the written Gospel and the lived Gospel is the same difference between written music and performed music. You who are here know the Gospel's tune and you follow its rhythm with enthusiasm. You are a choir composed of numerous nations, languages and rites; a diversity that the Holy Spirit loves and wants to harmonize ever more, in order to make a symphony. This joyful polyphony of faith is a witness that you give everyone and that builds up the Church. It struck me what Bishop Hinder once said: that he not only feels himself to be your shepherd, but that you, by your example, are often shepherds to him. Thank you for that!

To live the life of the blessed and following the way of Jesus does not, however, mean always being cheerful. Someone who is afflicted, who suffers injustice, who does everything he can to be a peacemaker, knows what it means to suffer. It is most certainly not easy for you to live far from home, missing the affection of your loved ones, and perhaps also feeling uncertainty about the future. But the Lord is faithful and does not abandon his people. A story from the life of Saint Anthony the Abbot, the great founder of monasticism in the desert, may be helpful to us. He left everything for the Lord and found himself in the desert. There, for a time, he was immersed in a bitter spiritual struggle that gave him no peace; he was assaulted by doubts and darkness, and even by temptation to give in to nostalgia and regrets about his earlier life. But then, after all this torment the Lord consoled him, and Saint Anthony asked him: "Where were you? Why did you not appear before to free me from my suffering? Where were you?" But then he clearly heard Jesus' answer: "I was here, Anthony" (Saint Athanasius, Vita Antonii, 10). The Lord is close. It can happen that, when faced with fresh sorrow or a difficult period, we think we are alone, even after all the time we have spent with the Lord. But in those moments, where he might not intervene immediately, he walks at our side. And if we continue to go forward, he will open up a new way for us; for the Lord specializes in doing new things; he can even open paths in the desert (*cf. Is 43:19*).

Dear brothers and sisters, I want to tell you that living out the Beatitudes does not require dramatic gestures. Look at Jesus: he left nothing written, built nothing imposing. And when he told us how to live, he did not ask us to build great works or draw attention to ourselves with extraordinary gestures. He asked us to produce just one work of art, possible for everyone: our own life. The Beatitudes are thus a roadmap for our life: they do not require superhuman actions, but rather the imitation of Jesus in our everyday life.

The Beatitudes are not for supermen, but for those who face up to the challenges and trials of each day. Those who live out the Beatitudes according to Jesus are able to cleanse the world. They are like a tree that even in the wasteland absorbs polluted air each day and gives back oxygen. It is my hope that you will be like this, rooted in Christ, in Jesus and ready to do good to those around you. May your communities be oases of peace.

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.

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council



Nomination forms for upcoming Parish Pastoral Council elections will be available at the back of the Church from Saturday February 9th to Sunday evening February 28th. To be eligible for election potential candidates must be registered and active parishioners of St. Augustine's Parish and agree to be nominated.

Income Tax Receipts

Income Tax Receipts from the year 2018 will be available for pick up after the Sunday Masses this weekend. Please help us save postage and pick up your receipt after Mass or at the Front Office Monday to Friday.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Starting this month, Liturgy of the Word for Children will be offered at the 11 am Mass once a month on the last Sunday of the month in addition to each Sunday at the 9 am Mass. If your child is 3 years old to Gr. 3 they will be invited up after the opening prayer to go to have their own Liturgy of the Word in the Sacristy with two LWC presiders. Children will come back to the main assembly after the prayers of the faithful at the start of the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Parents may come with 3 & 4 year olds but are encouraged to send their children on their own if they are of school age (second year of pre-school and up). Email questions to: lwc@staugustineschurch.ca

Ash Wednesday Palms



We will be collecting last year's palms starting today until Sunday March 3rd. Palms from last year may be placed in the basket in the Church foyer. In the Catholic tradition, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are remnants of the palm leaves distributed from the prior year on Palm Sunday. Catholics keep the palm

leaves throughout the year and return them to the Church before Ash Wednesday of the next year. The leaves are then turned into ashes for use in the Ash Wednesday services. During the service, the parishioners proceed to the front of the church and the ashes are placed on each person's forehead in the shape of a cross. The ashes are not to be washed off but are to remain on the forehead throughout the day of Ash Wednesday.

The Art of Keeping Kids Catholic



Thursday February 28, 2019 7:00pm to 9:00pm
St. Augustine's Parish Hall Speaker: Dolores Madaisky, B.A. in Psychology, M.A. in Family Studies
Host: Catherine Leung, Moms & Tots Ministry
Join Dolores Madaisky, a sought after speaker for schools, parishes, and the Vancouver Diocese, for

an evening presentation and mini workshop to help equip us with the skills for engaging and keeping children in the faith. Registration:

Online: <https://eventgrid.com/Events/39898/the-art-of-keeping-kids-catholic> Email: faithformation@staugustineschurch.ca

(604) 736-4455 Ext.200

Youth Group Skiing

Youth in the Parish, including members of the Youth Group or anyone wanting to join the fun, are going to be skiing at Cypress Mountain with Father Andrew on Saturday March 2.

Email youth@staugustineschurch.ca to sign up or for more details.

Vancouver College Peru Pilgrimage

Students from Vancouver College will be speaking before each Mass on Sunday, February 24th asking for financial assistance for their humanitarian trip to Peru this March.



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.

Alpha returns to St. Augustine's

Starts: April 2, 2019 (Tuesday)

Ends: June 4, 2019 (Tuesday)

6:30pm to 8:30pm

Whether you are seeking answers to questions about the Christian faith or have no church background at all, you are welcome!

Alpha is a way to explore life's big questions in a casual, open and non-judgemental setting. A meal, a video, and good conversation. There's no pressure, no follow up, and it's free to register.

For more info or to register on line: <http://www.staugustineschurch.ca/>

Contact: alpha@staugustineschurch.ca



Around the Archdiocese...

Young Professionals' Lounge:

Meet Alissa Golob Co-founder of Right Now

Welcome back to another exciting season of the Young Professionals' Lounge – a life and career mentorship for young adults. Most young adults who attend are active faith-filled Catholics, with a handful from Protestant denominations. Meet Alissa Golob, co-founder of Right Now: Good news from the political front on Thursday, Feb. 28, at 7 p.m. at UBC-Robson Square Room C.400. Alissa will share the exciting and effective political strategies in the pro-life movement for the upcoming 2019 federal election and across B.C. and the amazing successes that have happened so far. Register today at <https://lifecollective.io/vancouver>

Theology of the Body

Discover human nature as the "Gift of Self" in our relationship with God and one another through Theology of the Body. Using the teachings of Christ on marriage, St. John Paul II reveals our true human nature in the image and likeness of God as a "communion of persons in the sincere gift of self," giving us the authentic meaning of our humanity now and in eternal life. Sessions begin this Spring: April 1- June 24 at St. John the Apostle Parish, Vancouver, and March 26-June 18 at St. Anthony Parish, West Vancouver.

Register at rcav.org/tob.

Restore the Beauty: Women's Conference

This conference is for every woman desiring to experience restoration in her life, the lives of those around her, the Church and the world. This two day event includes inspiring talks, prayerful moments of encounter with God and Mass with Archbishop Michael Miller. Throughout the weekend you'll experience hope and encouragement, while gaining practical tools to help you restore the beauty in your world, no matter your circumstances. We are excited for our amazing speaking team: Sister Miriam James, Fr. Josh Johnson, Michelle Benzinger, and Heather Khym. Event will be May 3 & May 4. Registration opens Feb. 25. www.liferestoration.ca/womensconference

Oblate Corner..



Changing Eucharistic Practices

Posted by Frank Santucci

On his way to Rome, Eugene hoped to arrive in Civitavecchia in time to celebrate Mass on the Feast of the Assumption. At that time one had to fast from midnight in order to receive Communion the next day. Eugene had in fact fasted for over 24 hours in the hope of celebrating Mass on this feast, but never got the opportunity.

On the question of Eucharistic practices that have changed today, I find Eugene's description of something he saw on this journey on how Communion was brought to the dying:

... At Livorno. I was witness to a religious spectacle that] rubbed salt in my wounds. You know how I suffer at the unworthy manner holy viaticum is brought to the sick at Marseilles and you were often as vexed as I was. Well, listen now to how it ought to be done and how it is done at Livorno. When there is no urgency, one waits until nightfall. Then the Blessed Sacrament, borne by a priest in cope and large humeral veil, issues majestically from the church beneath a large canopy of four if not six poles. It is preceded by forty or so at least members of the confraternity, torches in hand, followed by a priest carrying the small canopy that is needed in the stairway. Accompanied by an immense throng all reciting aloud the Miserere. At the toll of the bell all windows in a thrice are lit up from the first to the fourth floor. There are lamps, candles large and small and candelabras and, as the sick person's house is neared, eight to ten relatives or friends come forward, torches in hand, in front of the Blessed Sacrament and join the procession. While the sacrament is administered to the sick person, those assisting remain at the door and recite aloud Our Lady's litanies and other prayers. The journey back is done in like fashion save that as the church is neared the Te Deum is sung. Admit that this is wonderful and that one cannot help waxing indignant when making comparisons with the way we do it.

Letter to Henri Tempier, 15 August 1833, EO VIII n 453.

Times and customs have certainly changed over the centuries, but the need for a respectful Eucharistic devotion shown in contemporary expressions continues.

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
prep@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

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