

March 17th, 2019
Second Sunday of Lent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

The Transfiguration



The First Reading tells of God's promise to Abraham that he would have numerous descendants, and that those descendants would possess the land of Canaan. As a pledge of his fidelity God made a solemn covenant with him.

Our passage describes an ancient rite of covenant or treaty making. To ratify a covenant the contracting parties cut an animal (or animals) in two and walked between the divided parts, invoking the fate of the animals on themselves should they fail to observe the terms of the contract.

Since God's covenant with Abraham is unilateral, only God (symbolized by the furnace and the torch) passed between the pieces. The birds of prey symbolise the forces hostile to Israel.

This covenant led to the covenant at Sinai, and culminated in the new and eternal covenant which Jesus sealed in his own blood on Calvary.

The chief significance of the Tabor experience was for Jesus himself, and this is what Luke emphasizes. The incident was meant to confirm him in the course he had taken. It comforted him to know that the road he was travelling was marked by the feet of prophets such as Moses and Elijah. The transfiguration also benefited the apostles. It prepared them for the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus, the Messiah.



Parish Penitential Service:

Friday, April 12, 2019 at 7:00 pm. There will no Evening Mass on that day.

Stations of the Cross



Beginning Friday, March 8th at 7:30pm—and for every Friday in Lent—we will have the Stations of the Cross led by one of our Parish Groups. Please note that each group will **choose** the format they wish to use, e.g. the CWL and Legion of Mary may choose to use Mary's Way of the Cross, the Knights may choose a different one. A full list will be posted in the foyer of the Church.

This Week

Monday, March 18

7:00pm Mass

Tuesday, March 19

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass Int Joe Boileau
7:00pm Mass +Paul Vincent Lynam
7:00pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Board

Wednesday, March 20

8:00am Mass +Judge Ian Donald
7:00pm Mass +Yvette Kelly
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thursday, March 21

8:00am Mass +Cheryl Mellor
7:00pm Mass +Robert Bentley

Friday, March 22

8:00am Mass
10:30am Meeting Moms & Tots Play Group
7:00pm Mass

Saturday, March 23

8:00am Mass
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
1:00pm Wedding
5:00pm Mass

Sunday, March 24

9:00am Mass
Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
11:00am Mass
Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast
5:00pm Mass

Pope's Prayer Intention for March:

Evangelization: That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.



OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts.
 Sunday Envelopes: \$9,272.55
 Loose: \$637.30



Pope's message



"Return to me with all your heart... return to the Lord" (J 2:12, 13). The prophet Joel makes this plea to the people in the Lord's name. No one should feel excluded: "Assemble the aged, gather the children, even infants at the breast, the bridegroom... and the bride" (v. 16). All the faithful people are summoned to come and worship their God, "for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love" (v. 13).

We too want to take up this appeal; we want to return to the merciful heart of the Father. In this season of grace that begins today, we once again turn our eyes to his mercy. Lent is a path: it leads to the triumph of mercy over all that would crush us or reduce us to something unworthy of our dignity as God's children. Lent is the road leading from slavery to freedom, from suffering to joy, from death to life. The mark of the ashes with which we set out reminds us of our origin: we were taken from the earth, we are made of dust. True, yet we are dust in the loving hands of God, who has breathed his spirit of life upon each one of us, and still wants to do so. He wants to keep giving us that breath of life that saves us from every other type of breath: the stifling asphyxia brought on by our selfishness, the stifling asphyxia generated by petty ambition and silent indifference – an asphyxia that smothers the spirit, narrows our horizons and slows the beating of our hearts. The breath of God's life saves us from this asphyxia that dampens our faith, cools our charity and strangles every hope. To experience Lent is to yearn for this breath of life that our Father unceasingly offers us amid the mire of our history.

The breath of God's life sets us free from the asphyxia that so often we fail to notice, or become so used to that it seems normal, even when its effects are felt. We think it is normal because we have grown so accustomed to breathing air in which hope has dissipated, the air of glumness and resignation, the stifling air of panic and hostility.

Lent is the time for saying no. No to the spiritual asphyxia born of the pollution caused by indifference, by thinking that other people's lives are not my concern, and by every attempt to trivialize life, especially the lives of those whose flesh is burdened by so much superficiality. Lent means saying no to the toxic pollution of empty and meaningless words, of harsh and hasty criticism, of simplistic analyses that fail to grasp the complexity of problems, especially the problems of those who suffer the most. Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia of a prayer that soothes our conscience, of an almsgiving that leaves us self-satisfied, of a fasting that makes us feel good. Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia born of relationships that exclude, that try to find God while avoiding the wounds of Christ present in the wounds of his brothers and sisters: in a word, all those forms of spirituality that reduce the faith to a ghetto culture, a culture of exclusion.

Lent is a time for remembering. It is the time to reflect and ask ourselves what we would be if God had closed his doors to us. What would we be without his mercy that never tires of forgiving us and always gives us the chance to begin anew? Lent is the time to ask ourselves where we would be without the help of so many people who in a thousand quiet ways have stretched out their hands and in very concrete ways given us hope and enabled us to make a new beginning?

Lent is the time to start breathing again. It is the time to open our hearts to the breath of the One capable of turning our dust into humanity. It is not the time to rend our garments before the evil all around us, but instead to make room in our life for all the good we are able to do. It is a time to set aside everything that isolates us, encloses us and paralyzes us. Lent is a time of compassion, when, with the Psalmist, we can say: "Restore to us the joy of your salvation, sustain in us a willing spirit", so that by our lives we may declare your praise (cf. Ps 51:12.15), and our dust – by the power of your breath of life – may become a "dust of love".



RCIA Rite of
 Election at
 Holy Rosary
 Cathedral



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.

Visit Formed.org this Lent for a Lenten Study of Prayer

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.

Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast



The Knights of Columbus will host a Pancake Breakfast after the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses on Sunday March 24th.

Admission by donation. Everyone welcome.

Share Lent 2019



For this year's Share Lent, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada encourages us to reach out to forcibly displaced persons and to share their journey. How?

1) Read the Development and Peace Share Lent materials as a way to encounter children, women and men who have been forcibly displaced and to learn how their partners are making a difference. Go to devp.org/sharelent

2) Join us for a Solidarity Supper on

April 7th at 6 pm in the Parish Hall. Tickets are \$5 and can be obtained by e-mailing

dcamparmo@hotmail.com or by purchasing after Masses March 17/18, March 23/24 & March 30/31.

3) Donate online at devp.org/give or give during the Solidarity Sunday collection on the 5th Sunday of Lent on April 7. The funds collected are used to support over 162 projects in 37 countries around the world!



Week 2: March 17

Share the journey with members of the Umuechem community in Nigeria

In 1990, a peaceful community in the south of Nigeria became the victim of what has been recognized as the first crime committed by an oil company. Traumatized by a massacre of unparalleled violence, a large majority of the members of this community fled to neighbouring communities, never to return home again. To make sure that their story is never forgotten and to combat impunity, Development and Peace's partner Social Action is supporting the Umuechem community in their legal action against the oil company.

Discover the story of people forced to flee their homes and ways for each one of us to act in solidarity with them: devp.org/lent.

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



Parish Pasta Dinner ~ Saturday, April 27, 2019, 6:00 PM

Parish Centre

The *Community Life* team is hosting a spring Pasta dinner and you are cordially invited to come and join us! Tickets are \$10.00/adult and \$5.00 for children over 5

years of age. We are planning for 100 guests and the meal will consist of Lasagna (meat or vegetarian), garlic bread, fresh salad and dessert.

You may register by sending an email to cberndorf@shaw.ca stating family name, names of those attending, adult or child, phone number, and the type of lasagna you wish to have.

We ask that you then submit the correct amount in an envelope with the collection with PASTA DINNER on the front of the envelope.

Tickets will be available at the weekend masses on March 23-24 if you wish to sign up in person.

Welcome everyone, and come and join us for this Parish Community Dinner!

Alpha returns to St. Augustine's

Starts: April 2, 2019 (Tuesday) Ends: June 4, 2019, 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. Contact: alpha@staugustineschurch.ca

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

School News...



Fifteenth Luncheon for all the Seniors of St. Augustine's Parish

Venue – The School

Monday April 8th at 12:00 pm

Cost – No cost

As there is maximum seating, please RSVP – by March 26th to Geri Fujisawa at 604-738-1155 or

gerifuji@telus.net Some parking will be available at the School.

Pass the Torch 2019 - May 11, 2019—90% SOLD!

Pass the Torch 2019 tickets now on sale! Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment. Log onto www.passthetorchgala.com to purchase tickets and for more information regarding meal options, auction items, etc.

Also follow us on social media for the latest updates:

- Instagram @passthetorchgala

- Twitter @PasstheTorchVan

- Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/passthetorchgala>

Employment Opportunity

The owner of residences in the Shaughnessy area seeks a Maintainer on a contract basis, for buildings and exterior properties, to include regular home maintenance, carpentry, plastering & painting, furniture moves, landscaping and waste management. Requirements: four years experience in a facility maintenance, training/experience in one or more trades, safety training and a valid BC driver's license. Please apply in writing, including at least two references, by April 30th to 1311 The Crescent, Vancouver BC V6H 1T7 Attn: Administrator *No phone calls please.* Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

Oblate Corner..



I AM NOT OBLIGED TO PERFORM THIS ACT OF CHARITY BUT THERE IS A KIND OF SOLIDARITY IN THE EPISCOPATE

Posted by Frank Santucci

Eugene, being a bishop and not being allowed to work in Marseilles, offered his episcopal services for performing confirmations and pastoral care among the most abandoned in areas where the local bishop was unable to minister. In this way he combined his Oblate vocation and his state of life.

... I am on my way to the Durance Valley where I am going to administer the sacrament of confirmation in place of the poor

Archbishop of Avignon who is confined to his room. They have not seen a bishop in those parts for fifteen to twenty years; could one refuse the faithful the service they have a right to?

I know that I am not strictly obliged to perform this act of charity but it seems to me that there is a kind of solidarity in the episcopate. I wish I had the health to do more, but this irritation that is lodged in my throat restrains me whether I like it or not when it comes to preaching, since I can hardly speak sometimes for any length of time.

Letter to Hippolyte Courtès, 17 July 1834, EO VIII n 482

I FEEL A LOT OF COMPASSION FOR THESE PEOPLE WHO ARE LEFT WITHOUT A SERVICE THEY HAVE A RIGHT TO Eugene, the missionary Oblate, was always aware of seeking out the most abandoned. Now as a bishop, without a diocese or an official function in the Church, he identifies the most abandoned who need his sacramental and pastoral services.

I would like all who are impeded by age from fulfilling the essential duty of pastoral visitation and administration of the sacrament of confirmation in the parts of their diocese that are difficult of access to send me there, so long as I have some youth left, that is to say, if God grants me the health, over the period of the next ten years or so. The truth is, I feel a lot of compassion for these people who are left without a service they have a right to and which is so necessary for their sanctification.

Letter to Henri Tempier, 22 May 1834, EO VIII n 481

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