



April 7th, 2019
Fifth Sunday of Lent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

The compassion of Jesus



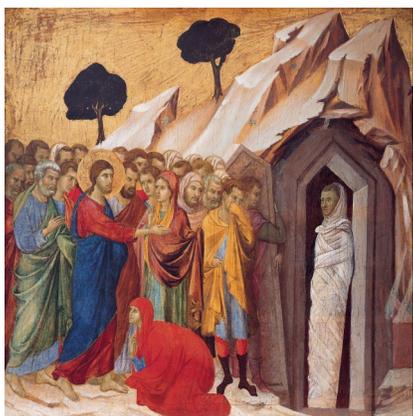
The First Reading contains a message of hope addressed to the Jewish exiles in Babylon. There will be a new exodus, so glorious that it will put the great events of the first exodus in the shade. All of this will happen because God is faithful to his people.

This prepares us for the Gospel. Christians see the radically new thing that God has done for us in and through Jesus. Specifically we see God's love and compassion in Jesus' treatment of a sinful woman. The story is taken from John, but resembles the style of Luke. It's an 'entrapment' story which sought to show Jesus' wisdom in besting his adversaries.

The aim of the Scribes and Pharisees was to set a snare for Jesus. If he pardoned the woman, he could be accused of encouraging people to break the Law of Moses. If he agreed that she should be stoned, he would lose his name for mercy. But Jesus turned the tables on her accusers by suggesting that they look at their own sins.

Paul has willingly sacrificed everything for the justification that comes from faith in Christ, and for the hope of resurrection (Second Reading). Like a runner at the final stage of a race, he doesn't look back but keeps his eyes on the winning tape.

11:00 am Mass



In the Gospel we see a scene which is all too common in our world – people weeping over the death of a loved one. Jesus is at the heart of this sad scene, for it is his good friend Lazarus who is dead.

In the midst of the darkness Jesus shines the light of hope. He tells Lazarus' sister that those who believe in him never really die. He says the same to us.

This Week

Monday, April 8

7:00pm Mass Int Joe Briganti

Tuesday, April 9

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass
10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Craft Group
6:30pm Meeting Ministries Leadership Team
6:30pm Meeting ALPHA
7:00pm Mass + Dominic Ubaldino De Souza
7:30pm Rehearsal Choir Vigil Practice

Wednesday, April 10

8:00am Mass
8:45am Event St. Augustine's School Stations of the Cross
7:00pm Mass +Federico & Rebecca Coquilla
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thursday, April 11

8:00am Mass +Mary Finnegan
7:00pm Mass +Jeanne Desautels (Steele)

Friday, April 12

8:00am Mass +Antonio Perrotta
7:00pm --- Parish Penitential Service
7:30pm Event Taizé led Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 13

8:00am Mass
9:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
5:00pm Mass +Ibrahim & Peggy Alashhab

Sunday, April 14

9:00am Mass +Rose Coenen
10:00am Meeting Catholic Women's League General Meeting
11:00am Mass
12:15pm Meeting Wills & Estate Planning
5:00pm Mass Int Ronald Santos

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts.
 Sunday Envelopes: \$9,169.00
 Loose: \$590.95

REST IN PEACE

Carmel Shaughnessy Nichols

Pope's message

"The two of them alone remained: mercy with misery" (In Joh 33, 5). In this way Saint Augustine sums up the end of the Gospel we have just heard. Those who came to cast stones at the woman or to accuse Jesus with regard to the Law have gone away, having lost interest. Jesus, however, re-

mains. He remains because what is of value in his eyes has remained: that woman, that person. For him, the sinner comes before the sin. I, you, each one of us come first in the heart of God: before mistakes, rules, judgements and our failures. Let us ask for the grace of a gaze like that of Jesus, let us ask to have the Christian perspective on life. Let us look with love upon the sinner before his or her sin; upon the one going astray before his or her error; upon the person before his or her history.

"The two of them alone remained: mercy with misery". The woman caught in adultery does not represent for Jesus a paragraph of the Law, but instead a concrete situation in which he gets involved. Thus he remains there with the woman, for the most part standing in silence. Meanwhile, he twice performs a mysterious gesture: he writes with his finger on the ground (Jn 8:6, 8). We do not know what he wrote and perhaps that is not the most important element: the attention of the Gospel focuses on the fact that the Lord writes. We think of the episode at Sinai when God wrote the tablets of the Law with his finger (cf. Ex 31:18), just as Jesus does now. Later, God, through the prophets, promised that he would no longer write on tablets of stone, but directly on the heart (cf. Jer 31:33), on the tablets of the flesh of our hearts (cf. 2 Cor 3:3). With Jesus, the mercy of God incarnate, the time has come when God writes on the hearts of men and women, when he gives a sure hope to human misery: giving not so much external laws which often keep God and humanity at a distance, but rather the law of the Spirit which enters into the heart and sets it free. It happens this way for the woman, who encounters Jesus and resumes her life: she goes off to sin no more (cf. Jn 8:11). It is Jesus who, with the power of the Holy Spirit, frees us from the evil we have within us, from the sin which the Law could impede but not remove.

All the same, evil is strong, it has a seductive power: it attracts and fascinates. Our own efforts are not enough to detach ourselves from it: we need a greater love. Without God, we cannot overcome evil. Only his love raises us up from within, only his tender love poured out into our hearts makes us free. If we want to be free from evil, we have to make room for the Lord who forgives and heals. He accomplishes this above all through the sacrament we are about to celebrate. Confession is the passage from misery to mercy; it is God's writing upon the heart. There – in our hearts – we constantly read that we are precious in the eyes of God, that he is our Father and that he loves us even more than we love ourselves.

"The two of them alone remained: mercy with misery". Those two, alone. How many times do we feel alone, that we have lost our way in life. How many times do we no longer know how to begin again, overwhelmed by the effort to accept ourselves. We need to start over, but we don't know where to begin. Christians are born from the forgiveness they receive in Baptism.

"The two of them alone remained: mercy with misery". What do we need to do to come to love mercy, to overcome the fear of Confession? Let us accept once more the invitation of Isaiah: "Do you not perceive it?" (Is 43:19). It is important to perceive God's forgiveness. It would be beautiful, after Confession, to remain like that woman, our eyes fixed on Jesus who has just set us free: no longer looking at our miseries, but rather at his mercy. To look at the Crucified One and say with amazement: "That's where my sins ended up. You took them upon yourself. You didn't point your finger at me; instead, you opened your arms and forgave me once again". It is important to be mindful of God's forgiveness, to remember his tender love, and taste again and again the peace and freedom we have experienced. For this is the heart of Confession: not the sins we declare, but the divine love we receive, of which we are ever in need. We may still have a doubt: "Confessing is useless, I am always committing the same sins". The Lord knows us, however; he knows that the interior struggle is difficult, that we are weak and inclined to fall, that we often relapse into doing what is wrong. So he proposes that we begin to relapse into goodness, into asking for mercy. He will raise us up and make us new creatures. Let us start over, then, from Confession, let us restore to this sacrament the place it deserves in life and pastoral ministry!

Pope's Pray Intention for April

Universal: For doctors and their humanitarian collaborators in war zones, who risk their lives to save the lives of others.

FORMED

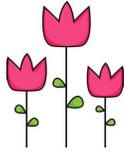
"Looking for good, wholesome Catholic content...tired of searching the internet? Check out formed.org a virtual library with video and ebooks for adults and children!

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.



CWL news

April 14 10:00 am General Meeting
This will be a short meeting ending at 10:45

Save the date

Spring Fair Sunday May 5

We are accepting donations for the fair....

- jewelry, raffle items/baskets, small treasures and/or donations of cash - please drop off at the Parish office. If you have questions contact Karen 604-879-9744 or kzawortny@gmail.com

Share Lent 2019

Solidarity Supper - April 7th

Come and be part of a Culture of Encounter!

The Share Lent Solidarity Supper will be on April 7th at 6 pm. in the Parish Centre. This event will be a way to participate in what Pope Francis is calling "a culture of encounter". Come encounter the stories of refugees around the world supported by Development & Peace. Come encounter your fellow parishioners over a meal of solidarity with all who have been displaced from their homes. Come and encounter Christ as we learn, pray, and eat together on Solidarity Sunday. Tickets available after Mass in the Arcade and by e-mailing Eileen at dcampamro@hotmail.com.

Week 5: April 7

Share the journey with Syrian refugees in Lebanon

Since the war broke out in Syria in 2011, some 12.5 million Syrians have had to flee their homes. Development and Peace partner House of Peace (HOPE) is working to build bridges between Syrian refugees and their host communities in Lebanon.



On this Solidarity Sunday, we extend a warm thank you for your generosity. Your donation will help our sisters and brothers across the world, from Colombia all the way to Lebanon, Nigeria, and elsewhere!

Thank you for helping us build a world of peace and justice, where no one will be forced to flee their home! devp.org/give

RCIA AND THE SCRUTINIES



Every year on the third, fourth and fifth Sundays of Lent the Church solemnly celebrates the scrutinies with the elect (catechumens) who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. The gospel readings are all from the gospel of John. For the first

Scrutiny, the gospel reading is the Samaritan woman at the well, the second scrutiny's gospel is the man born blind and the third scrutiny's gospel is the raising of Lazarus. Here at St. Augustine's these scrutinies are celebrated at the 11:00AM Mass. The purpose of these rites is 'self-searching and repentance'; they are intended 'to uncover', and then heal all that is weak or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong and good.

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



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 coberndorf@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!

Understanding Wills and Estate Planning

Everything you wanted to know... but were reluctant to ask about wills and planning your estate. St. Augustine's has the benefit of parishioners with expert knowledge on these matters who have volunteered to explain the practical realities of organizing your will and related estate issues:

Do I need one? What do I need to think about? Do I need a lawyer? How often should I update my will? When is it time to get a will? Is a hand-written will sufficient?

These and other questions will be answered for you at the following information session at the Parish Centre, second floor meeting room:

Sunday, April 14th at 12:15pm

(after the 11:00am Mass)

Excellent handouts and resource materials will be shared. Please RSVP:

Colleen at 604-736-4455 Ext. 231

Email Scams



We are asking parishioners to beware and cautious of email phishing scams that appear to be coming from St. Augustine's Parish or from Fr. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI requesting financial help or purchase of items in the way of money transfers, gift cards or by Credit Card. Under no circumstances would these requests to parishioners be made by Fr. Andrzej or anyone employed at St. Augustine's Parish.

Please delete such emails immediately.

Around the Archdiocese...

The Catholic Faith – in plain English

Learn the teachings and practices of the Catholic Faith in this robust course. 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.

This course will be taught by Fr. Vincent Hawkswell (retired pastor and BC Catholic editor) and Maureen Creelman (retired high school math and physics teacher). This course now runs every Sunday until June 2 (2 p.m. – 4 p.m. at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre), repeated Monday until June 3 (9 a.m. – 11 a.m. at St. Anthony's Parish in West Vancouver and 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. 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>.

Oblate Corner..



A LAY ASSOCIATE RESPONDS TO THE LIFE AND MINISTRY OF BRUNO GUIGUES, OMI

Posted by Frank Santucci

Every day Eleanor Rabnett , a member of the Mazenodian family in Ottawa, Canada, responds to the reflection of "St Eugene Speaks" by sharing her reactions (see <http://www.eugenedemazenod.net>).

Yesterday I presented Bishop Bruno Guigues, who was basically the founder and builder of the Church in Ottawa of which, some 180 years later, Eleanor forms a part of. Here is her response:

Once again I begin by going to the Historical Dictionary to read about Bishop Bruno Guigues OMI before attending to this morning post for reflection. I readily recognize the original spirit of Eugene de Mazenod within Bishop Guigues and how he made it a part of himself. No mimicking St. Eugene but rather living and sharing that Mazenodian Spirit. Called to share this beautiful charism with all those he met.

I am struck that he was not just a copycat image of Eugene de Mazenod but how in the way of all holy men and women he absorbed the gift of Eugene's charism and spirituality, making it his own and living it as he had been created to. I recognize Eugene's light being shed upon Bishop Guigues and how he in his own way shed his light on the Oblates and all he met and cared for. He ensured that the charism remained relevant and alive here in Canada by his very life.

I am a little amazed, awed at the sentiments that rise from within me as I consider the immense gifts that we have received and how we give that back. This congregation, indeed this Mazenodian Family which began a continent away and was so instrumental in building our country (like the threads of a tapestry of life all interwoven to make a vast and full picture of life) and then spread back out into the world at large.

I look again and see how the lives of men such as Bruno Guigues OMI connect with and play a part in each of the lives of those who make up the Mazenodian Family; in our lives within the Church and within our local communities – all of which intersect with each other becoming a part of a greater whole. In the midst of all the trials and joys that will make up this day, I feel blessed with joy and gratitude. Lord, let all that I am and do today be a lived 'giving thanks'.

Eleanor Rabnett, Oblate Associate

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