

May 19th 2019
Fifth Sunday of Easter

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

The Commandment of Love



The First Reading tells of the conclusion of Paul's first missionary journey. He and Barnabas retrace their steps, encouraging the little communities they have founded, and preparing them for the persecutions which would inevitably come.

In the Gospel the scene is the Last Supper. Judas has departed and Jesus is alone with his own. Jesus is going forward to the cross. By so doing, he is giving glory to God, who in turn will give glory to him. The apostles can't follow him yet. In the meantime they are to live by a 'new commandment' – the commandment of love. It is new only in the sense that it sets a new standard – 'as I have loved you'. The world will know that they are his disciples by their fidelity to this commandment.

The Second Reading, which comes from the final part of Revelation, is one we frequently hear at funerals. The final part of Revelation opens with a vision of a new heaven, a new earth, and a new Jerusalem. This glorious future to which God is leading us will be fully realized only in the hereafter.

World Day of Prayer for the Church in China – May 24

In May 2007, Pope Benedict XVI asked that May 24 be observed as a Day of Prayer for the Church in China. He chose this day since it is the traditional Feast of Our Lady of Help of Christians, who is venerated at the Shrine of Sheshan in Shanghai.

Pope's Pastoral Works – May 26



This collection provides an opportunity for Catholics to make a financial offering to assist the Holy Father. One-third of the funds collected is for what is traditionally known as Peter's Pence: donations used by the Pope for his charitable contributions to those most in need. Two-thirds of the collection is to support the Holy Father in

administering the Holy See and serving the Universal Church. Information about how Peter's Pence is used is available in the Holy See's yearly financial report.

Pope's Pray Intention for May

Evangelization: That the Church in Africa, through the commitment of its members, may be the seed of unity among her peoples and a sign of hope for this continent.

This Week

Monday, May 20

10:00am Mass Victoria Day—Office Closed

Tuesday, May 21

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass
5:00pm Event First Communion Rehearsal
6:30pm Meeting ALPHA
7:00pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Board
7:00pm Mass Int Delia Jimenez

Wednesday, May 22

8:00am Mass
11:00am Funeral +Helmut August Wenzel
7:00pm Mass +Lorraine Davies
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thursday, May 23

8:00am Mass +Frank Maine
6:00pm Meeting Marriage Ministry
7:00pm Mass +Frank Maine

Friday, May 24

8:00am Mass Int Luis Calapatia
10:00am Meeting Moms & Tots Play Group
2:00pm Meeting Oblates of Mary Immaculate
7:00pm Mass

Saturday, May 25

8:00am Mass Int Linda Corman
2:30pm Mass First Holy Communion—Grade II
5:00pm Mass

Sunday, May 26

9:00am Mass Pancake Breakfast
11:00am Mass +Mitchell Slater
Pancake Breakfast
5:00pm Mass

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts.

Sunday Envelopes: \$8,495.00

Loose: \$708.40

**Pope's message**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is risen! Christos vazkrese!

It is wonderful to see how with these words Christians in your country greet one another in the joy of the Risen Lord during the Easter season.

The entire episode we have just heard, drawn from the final pages of the Gospels, helps us immerse ourselves in this joy that the Lord asks us to spread. It does so by reminding us of three amazing things that are part of our lives as disciples: God calls, God surprises, God loves.

God calls. Everything takes place on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, where Jesus first called Peter. He had called him to leave behind his trade as a fisher in order to become a fisher of men (cf. Lk 5:4-11). Now, after all that had happened to him, after the experience of seeing the Master die and hearing news of his resurrection, Peter goes back to his former life. He tells the others disciples, "I am going fishing". And they follow suit: "We will go with you" (Jn 21:3). They seem to take a step backwards; Peter takes up the nets he had left behind for Jesus. The weight of suffering, disappointment, and of betrayal had become like a stone blocking the hearts of the disciples. They were still burdened with pain and guilt, and the good news of the resurrection had not taken root in their hearts.

The Lord knows what a strong temptation it is for us to return to the way things were before. In the Bible, Peter's nets, like the fleshpots of Egypt, are a symbol of a tempting nostalgia for the past, of wanting to take back what we had decided to leave behind. In the face of failure, hurt, or even the fact that at times things do not go the way we want, there always comes a subtle and dangerous temptation to become disheartened and to give up. This is the tomb psychology that tinges everything with dejection and leads us to indulge in a soothing sense of self-pity that, like a moth, eats away at all our hope. Then the worst thing that can happen to any community begins to appear – the grim pragmatism of a life in which everything appears to proceed normally, while in reality faith is wearing down and degenerating into small-mindedness (cf. Evangelii Gaudium, 83).

But it was at the very moment of Peter's failure that Jesus appears, starts over, patiently comes to him and calls him "Simon" (v. 15) – the name Peter received when he was first called. The Lord does not wait for perfect situations or frames of mind: he creates them. He does not expect to encounter people without problems, disappointments, without sins or limitations. He himself confronted sin and disappointment in order to encourage all men and women to persevere. Brothers and sisters, the Lord never tires of calling us. His is the power of a Love that overturns every expectation and is always ready to start anew. In Jesus, God always offers us another chance. He calls us day by day to deepen our love for him and to be revived by his eternal

newness. Every morning, he comes to find us where we are. He summons us "to rise at his word, to look up and to realize that we were made for heaven, not for earth, for the heights of life and not for the depths of death", and to stop seeking "the living among the dead" (Homily at the Easter Vigil, 20 April 2019). When we welcome him, we rise higher and are able to embrace a brighter future, not as a possibility but as a reality. When Jesus's call directs our lives, our hearts grow young.

God surprises. He is the Lord of surprises. He invites us not only to be surprised, but also to do surprising things. The Lord calls the disciples and, seeing them with empty nets, he tells them to do something odd: to fish by day, something quite out of the ordinary on that lake. He revives their trust by urging them once more to take a risk, not to give up on anyone or anything. He is the Lord of surprises, who breaks down paralyzing barriers by filling us with the courage needed to overcome the suspicion, mistrust and fear that so often lurk behind the mindset that says, "We have always done things this way". God surprises us whenever he calls and asks us to put out into the sea of history not only with our nets, but with our very selves. To look at our lives and those of others as he does, for "in sin, he sees sons and daughters to be restored; in death, brothers and sisters to be reborn; in desolation, hearts to be revived. Do not fear, then: the Lord loves your life, even when you are afraid to look at it and take it in hand" (ibid.).

We can now turn to the third amazing thing: God calls and God surprises, because God loves. Love is his language. That is why he asks Peter, and us, to learn that language. He asks Peter: "Do you love me?" And Peter says yes; after spending so much time with Jesus, he now understands that to love means to stop putting himself at the centre. He now makes Jesus, and not himself, the starting point: "You know everything" (Jn 21:18), he says. Peter recognizes his weakness; he realizes that he cannot make progress on his own. And he takes his stand on the Lord and on the strength of his love, to the very end.

The Lord loves us: this is the source of our strength and we are asked to reaffirm it each day. Being a Christian is a summons to realize that God's love is greater than all our shortcomings and sins. One of our great disappointments and difficulties today comes not from knowing that God is love, but that our way of proclaiming and bearing witness to him is such that, for many people, this is not his name. God is love, a love that bestows itself, that calls and surprises.

Here we see the miracle of God, who makes of our lives works of art, if only we let ourselves to be led by his love. Many of the witnesses of Easter in this blessed land created magnificent masterpieces, inspired by simple faith and great love. Offering their lives, they became living signs of the Lord, overcoming apathy with courage and offering a Christian response to the concerns that they encountered (cf. Christus Vivit, 174). Today we are called to lift up our eyes and acknowledge what the Lord has done in the past, and to walk with him towards the future, knowing that, whether we succeed or fail, he will always be there to keep telling us to cast our nets.

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

The Knights of Columbus will again host their bi-monthly fund raising Pancake Breakfast after the 9 am and 11 am masses on May 26, 2019, respectively. Proceeds of the event will be distributed to the Refugee Ministry and the other Knights of Columbus charitable initiatives.

Annual Parish Barbeque

Join us for food, fun and friendship on June 22 from 11am to 2pm for St. Augustines Parish BBQ! We'll have a bouncy castle, soccer challenge & face painting at St. Augustine's school. Tickets are two dollars for adults and one dollar for kids. Tickets will go on sale starting this Sunday before and after masses.

CWL Strawberry High Tea—Sunday June 23rd



Hosted by St. Augustine's CWL
Ladies and Gentlemen of the parish are cordially invited to this event.
12:30pm- 2:30pm
St. Augustine's Parish Hall
2028 W 7th Avenue, Vancouver
Attire: Dressy summer wear for men and women. Fascinators and summer hats are recommended for women.
Tickets: \$20.00 – will go on sale after all the masses. Proceeds go to Oblate Missions of Kenya and other charities.

Contact person: Teresa Clark: teresa_51@hotmail.com 778-227-901

Project Advance

The annual appeal provides critical funding to key ministries and projects in our Archdiocese. Last year you helped raise \$7.47 million for our entire faith community. This year our goal is \$65,000. We hope that everyone will participate in this year's appeal. For more information stop by at the back of the Church and see one of our appeal committee members or visit www.projectadvance.ca to give online.

School News...

Pass the Torch gala 2019

Pass the Torch gala 2019 was a huge success! Thank you to Father Andrzej, the Church, and all of the parishioners for your unending support of our school. Our children are fortunate to have such a wonderful community surrounding them.

St. Augustine's School

will be holding a **Ready, Set, Learn** Early Literacy Session on Wednesday, June 12 from 8:45am to 10:00am for children of 3 years and 4 years who are **NOT** starting Kindergarten in September 2019.

The Province recognizes that families need information about how to support the early learning of young children, along with the development of positive connections with the school system and local community agencies. **Ready, Set, Learn** activities include interactive play for children and their parents, and information for parents that supports preschool-aged children's learning.

Come to St. Augustine's School with your child and spend time learning and having fun together through interactive story reading, speech and language games, arts and crafts and more. We will have the session in the school Learning Commons. A snack will be provided. Nannies and caregivers are welcome. RSVP the school office by e-mail or (604) 731-8024.

Around the Archdiocese...

Single young Catholics you are warmly invited to "Burning Brightly: An Evening Mixer for Single Catholic Young Adults"

The event will be held on Saturday June 8th 7pm- 11pm at St. Mary's Parish, Vancouver Basement Hall.

We will have:

- * inspiring, world class speakers
- * opportunity to share answers to questions posed by the speakers with each of the opposite gender
- * a semi-professional youth swing, jazz & country band with an open dance floor
- * open appetizer and beverage table
- * two alcoholic beverages

The attire is semi-formal and all proceeds will go to the locally founded ministry Catholic Street Missionaries.

In order to provide a high quality event we are suggesting a donation of \$30 but if there is any concerns with this amount please don't hesitate to message.

Please email directly for registration: burningbrightlymixer@gmail.com

Our Lady of Good Counsel Domestic Abuse Society

Don't miss out on this year's walkathon - **2019 Walk to Keep the Dream Alive** - on Sunday June 2, 12:00pm. Join us by registering online at www.DomesticAbuseServices.ca or call our office for details. The walk, which is accessible to All, will be held at Tynehead Regional Park in Surrey and will raise funds for Domestic Abuse Services - Our Lady of Good Counsel Society's programs including Eva's House and will help impact the lives of many women and children. (604)585-6688



Pass the Torch Annual Gala Dinner & Auction

Fr. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI with School Principal Michael Yaptinchay

Oblate Corner..



IF ONE IS GOING TO GET INVOLVED AT ALL, IT MUST BE IN AN EFFECTIVE WAY

Posted by Frank Santucci

When the requests for a mission season came in, they were put together and Eugene and the Oblates evaluated them and made decisions on how to proceed.

What emerges clearly from this letter is that the method of the Oblate missionaries was not one of superficial preaching, but of an in-depth approach of taking over a village for several weeks in order to achieve lasting results.

My dear Courtès. I did manage to get our men together to plan the assignments for the various missions that we have been asked to do. The outcome of our meeting was that we shouldn't hesitate to give preference to missions over retreats. Also that the Peynier mission must be determined, since the Pastor requests it, but that it isn't opportune to offer the retreat at Fontvieille in as much as such an exercise given by only two missionaries over a fortnight would have only shallow results in a population of some two thousand five hundred. If one is going to get involved at all, it must be in an effective way, and the thing is impossible as conceived by the pastor of Fontvieille. If the old fellow has given you an answer in the meantime, you can tell him without hesitation that you approached me on the matter and I refused to release missionaries for a simple retreat. To achieve anything in such a tough area at least three missionaries are needed on a four-week mission. He can take it or leave it.

The Auriol mission was wonderful, our men worked like Trojans but are ready to get back to work.

Goodbye, my very dear friend.

BE VERY PRUDENT IN THE MIXED LOCALITIES THAT YOU EVANGELISE

Father Mille lived and ministered in Switzerland in areas of mixed religion, and where some of the Protestants were strongly anti-Catholic. Eugene encourages discretion in the approach of the Oblates.

I think Father Guibert has written you that he thinks it would do Father Hermite good to go out occasionally on a mission. He must have given you his advice about the leader you would be well-advised to name. Whoever it is, I urge him to be very prudent in the matter.

This is especially necessary in the mixed localities that you evangelise. Don't direct your efforts to converting Protestants. All the better for them if they profit from our passage, but don't have them particularly in mind, the private good could be at the expense of the common good: what is more, you are sent ad domesticos fidei. Organize yourselves on that basis. It wouldn't take much to unleash a persecution whose consequences would be incalculable.

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