



November 3rd 2019
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

Zacchaeus



The world and all it contains is like a grain of sand compared with the greatness of God. Yet God loves all that he has created, and overlooks people's sins so that they can repent (First Reading). The Gospel gives us an example of this in the way Jesus seeks out the tax-collector, Zacchaeus, and calls him to repentance.

At that time tax-collectors were put in the same category as thieves, murderers and prostitutes. Furthermore, because they worked for the Romans, they were regarded as traitors, and treated as outcasts. We can understand, then, how the good people of Jericho were offended when Jesus went to the house of Zacchaeus. But Jesus justified his action by saying that Zacchaeus too was a son of Abraham, and therefore entitled to the mercy of God as any other Israelite. And he declared that it was to seek out and save people like Zacchaeus that he had come.

Touched by the kindness of Jesus, Zacchaeus saw the error of his ways and resolved to change. In this episode we again see Luke's concern for the proper use of wealth – it should be distributed to the poor.

Liturgical celebrations

Monday – Saint Charles Borromeo (memorial)

Charles Borromeo lived during the Catholic Reformation. At 22 he was created Cardinal Archbishop of Milan and Papal Secretary of State. As Archbishop, he chose to live an ascetic life and reformed his vast diocese. His dedicated life entailed great personal sacrifice. He is a patron saint of Catechist and Catechumens.

Saturday – The dedication of the Lateran Basilica (feast)

This feast celebrates the dedication of the Cathedral Church of Rome by Pope Sylvester I in 324. Originally known as the Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior, this Church is called St. John Lateran because it was built on the property owned by the Laterani family and given to the Church. This Church is the Cathedra (chair) of the Bishop of Rome.

Pope's Prayer Intention for November

Universal: That a spirit of dialogue, encounter and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together.

This Week

Monday, November 4

3:30pm Event Private Function
7:00pm Mass +Doreen Mendes

Tuesday, November 5

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group
8:00am Mass Int Ursula Kaiser
10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Women's Craft Group
3:30pm Meeting Catechism of the Good Shepherd
6:30pm Meeting Spiritual Renovation LT
7:00pm Mass +Giuliana Bellé
7:30pm Meeting Our Lady Bible Study

Wednesday, November 6

8:00am Mass +Patricia Proudfoot
9:15am Mass Saint Augustine's School
7:00pm Mass +Rosario Halili Punzalan
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

Thursday, November 7

8:00am Mass Int for the Country of Bolivia
7:00pm Mass +Federico & Rebecca Coquilla
7:00pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Executive

Friday, November 8

8:00am Mass
11:00am Funeral +Agnelo Fernandes
7:00pm Mass Int Angela Kaiser

Saturday, November 9

8:00am Mass
3:30pm Meeting Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium
5:00pm Mass +Shui Pang Tao
Bapt

Sunday, November 10

8:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
9:00am Mass
10:00am Meeting Catholic Women's League
11:00am Mass Int Fr. Andrzej Stendzina, OMI
5:00pm Mass +Mary Finnegan

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts.
 Sunday Envelopes: \$9,328.60
 Loose: \$776.30

REST IN PEACE

Agnelo Fernandes

Pope's Message...

I would like to reflect on three words taken from the readings we have just heard: a noun, a verb and an adjective. The noun is the mountain: Isaiah speaks of it when he prophesies about a mountain of the Lord, raised above the hills, to which all the nations will flow (*cf. Is 2:2*). We see the

image of the mountain again in the Gospel when Jesus, after his resurrection, tells his disciples to meet him on the mount of Galilee; the Galilee inhabited by many different peoples: "Galilee of the Gentiles". It seems, then, that the mountain is God's favourite place for encountering humanity. It is his meeting place with us, as we see in the Bible, beginning with Mount Sinai and Mount Carmel, all the way to Jesus, who proclaimed the Beatitudes on the mountain, was transfigured on Mount Tabor, gave his life on Mount Calvary and ascended to heaven from the Mount of Olives. The mountain, the place of great encounters between God and humanity, is also the place where Jesus spent several hours in prayer (*cf. Mk 6:46*) to unite heaven and earth, and to unite us, his brothers and sisters, with the Father.

What does the mountain say to us? We are called to draw near to God and to others. To God, the Most High, in silence and prayer, avoiding the rumours and gossip that diminish us. And to others, who, from the mountain, can be seen in a different perspective: that of God who calls all peoples. From on high, others are seen as a community whose harmonious beauty is discovered only in viewing them as a whole. The mountain reminds us that our brothers and sisters should not be selected but embraced, not only with our gaze but also with our entire life. The mountain unites God and our brothers and sisters in a single embrace, that of prayer. The mountain draws us up and away from the many transient things, and summons us to rediscover what is essential, what is lasting: God and our brothers and sisters. Mission begins on the mountain: there, we discover what really counts. In the midst of this missionary month, let us ask ourselves: what really counts in my life? To what peaks do I want to ascend?

A verb accompanies the noun "mountain": the verb to go up. Isaiah exhorts us: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord" (*2:3*). We were not born to remain on the ground, to be satisfied with ordinary things, we were born to reach the heights and there to meet God and our brothers and sisters. However, this means that we have to go up: to leave behind a horizontal life and to resist the force of gravity caused by our self-centredness, to make an exodus from our own ego. Going up requires great effort, but it is the only way to get a better view of everything. As mountain-climbers know, only when you arrive at the top can you get the most beautiful view; only then do you realize that you would not have that view were it not for that uphill path.

And as in the mountains we cannot climb well if we are weighed down by our packs, so in life we must rid ourselves of things that are useless. This is also the secret of mission: to go, you have to leave something behind, to proclaim, you must first renounce. A credible proclamation is not made with beautiful words, but by an exemplary life: a life of service that is capable of rejecting all those material things that shrink the heart and make people indifferent and inward-looking; a life that renounces the useless things that entangle the heart in order to find time for God and others. We can ask ourselves: how am I doing in my efforts to go up? Am I able to reject the heavy and useless baggage of worldliness in order to climb the mountain of the Lord? Is mine a journey upwards or one of worldliness?

If the mountain reminds us of what matters – God and our brothers and sisters – and the verb to go up tells us how to get there, a third word is even more important for today's celebration. It is the adjective all, which constantly reappears in the readings we have heard: "all peoples", says Isaiah (*2:2*); "all peoples", we repeated in the Psalm; God desires "all to be saved", writes Paul (*1 Tim 2:4*); "Go and make disciples of all nations", says Jesus in the Gospel (*Mt 28:19*). The Lord is deliberate in repeating the word all. He knows that we are always using the words "my" and "our": my things, our people, our community... But he constantly uses the word all. All, because no one is excluded from his heart, from his salvation; all, so that our heart can go beyond human boundaries and particularism based on a self-centredness that displeases God. All, because everyone is a precious treasure, and the meaning of life is found only in giving this treasure to others. Here is our mission: to go up the mountain to pray for everyone and to come down from the mountain to be a gift to all.

Going up and coming down: the Christian, therefore, is always on the move, outward-bound. Go is in fact the imperative of Jesus in the Gospel. We meet many people every day, but – we can ask – do we really encounter the people we meet? Do we accept the invitation of Jesus or simply go about our own business? Everyone expects things from others, but the Christian goes to others. Bearing witness to Jesus is never about getting accolades from others, but about loving those who do not even know the Lord. Those who bear witness to Jesus go out to all, not just to their own acquaintances or their little group. Jesus is also saying to you: "Go, don't miss a chance to bear me witness!" My brother, my sister, the Lord expects from you a testimony that no one can give in your place. "May you come to realize what that word is, the message of Jesus that God wants to speak to the world by your life.... lest you fail in your precious mission." (*Gaudete et Exsultate, 24*).

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.

Refugee Family Update

Progress continues to be made as our community collaborates with Christ the Redeemer parish to support our sponsored nine-member family from Kenya. We've been able to secure a rental home in Surrey and efforts are underway to furnish it. Many thanks to our parishioners who've offered their time and resources. Stay tuned as we'll inform the parish of items that are still required.

An arrival date for the family has not been confirmed but could happen at almost any time. Our Parish refugee family co-ordinator is Marian McDermott. She can be reached at 604-649-9104 or mmcd5448@yahoo.ca

Community Life

On behalf of St. Augustine's Community Life Committee, we wish to let you know of an upcoming initiative to enhance our Parish Family community. At all Masses on the weekend of November 16th/17th we will be inviting parishioners to wear name tags displaying their first name only. Materials for the name tags will be provided at the entrance to Church before service begins. Of course, this invitation is voluntary and there is no obligation to participate. We do encourage everyone to take part in this and other Parish initiatives aimed at allowing us to all become one family in Church during the celebration of Mass.

Christmas Fair Save the Date!



Sunday, December 1st

The Bake Table Co-ordinator is requesting parishioners for any donation of regular & Christmas theme home-baked goodies (squares, short bread, tarts, loafs, pies, biscotti, cookies, scones, soda bread, biscuits, etc); homemade jams, chutney & preserves (fruits & vegetable); etc.

Please contact Geri for instructions re drop-off place and times at 604-738-1155 or gerifuji@telus.net.

CWL News



CWL Sunday followed by General Meeting

- Sunday November 10 at the 9 am Mass

Memorial Mass

- Friday November 15, 5 pm

Christmas Fair

- Sunday December 1

Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium

Cause of Our Joy (COOJ) is the Junior Praesidium (age 18 and under) at St Augustine's under the guidance of Spiritual Directors, Fr. Andrew Stendzina and Bishop David Monroe. We meet weekly in the Parish library from 3:30 to 4:30pm. Info: 604-767-8087

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)



RCIA meets Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm to 9:00pm at St. Augustine's Parish Centre. If you are interested in the Catholic faith or know someone who is, please contact Linda Arnold: 604 736-4455 Ext 229 or rcia@staugustineschurch.ca to register.

School News

Fall Campaign Update

A big "thank you" to our parents and parishioners who've donated to the Fall Campaign in support of our new school. In excess of \$290,000 has been raised so far, more than half-way to our \$500,000 goal. For more information, please get a copy of our latest newsletter at the entrance of the Church or go to our school/parish websites:

staugustineschurch.ca or staugustineschool.ca or faithandfoundation.com where you can also see our campaign video. If you are making a cheque to the campaign – please make it payable to **St. Augustine Parish - School Building Fund**.

Donations will be received until December 31, 2019.

Around the Archdiocese...

Faith, Hope and Love . . .

Are these present in your marriage?

Have you given up hope that they can be?

In 1 Corinthians 13:13 Jesus tells us the greatest of these is Love. Living in a marriage that is missing love can be difficult. If you have given up hope that your marriage can and will get better, ask your spouse to consider attending a Retrouvaille program. Retrouvaille is an international Christian-based ministry that offers a three-stage program to help couples improve their marriages. First, a weekend program is attended, followed by post-weekend meetings. Finally, an on-going monthly small group of couples gather for support and growth. If improving your marriage is important to you, reach out today. For more information about an upcoming Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, please call 604-530-6710 or visit www.retrouvaillevancouver.com and www.retrouvaille.org

Vocation Live-In

On the weekend of November 15 - 17, there will be a Vocation Live-In for boys or young men interested in the priesthood or the consecrated life, at the Seminary of Christ the King, Mission, BC. For more information call 604-826-8975.



Archives Week

Did you know that the Archdiocese of Vancouver has an archives office? The Archives of the Archdiocese of Vancouver was officially established in 1980 at the request of Archbishop Carney to ensure the preservation of records that have historical and/or long term significance to the Archdiocese.

Nov. 18 to 22 is Archives Week, an annual celebration to draw public attention to the importance of the province's nearly 200 archival institutions! During this week, we encourage you to learn more about our Archives Office by visiting rcav.org/archives

FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE POOR

EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

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



Oblate Corner



A Pioneer in Oregon: Georges Blanchet, OMI

The Oblates arrived in Oregon in 1847, at the request of Bishop Magloire Blanchet, of Walla Walla. Five missionaries made up the first contingent that came from France. They were: father Pascal Ricard, superior, scholastic brothers Felix Pandosy, Casimir Chirouse, Georges Blanchet and lay brother Célestin Verney. Brothers Pandosy and Chirouse were

ordained a few months after their arrival, but Georges Blanchet refused this responsibility for a long time, out of humility, and because he had lost a finger in a hunting accident.

All around man

He was born in France in 1818 and entered the Novitiate of Notre-Dame de l’Osier in 1841. He pursued his ecclesiastical studies and taught for four years at the Juniorate in Lumières. Arriving in Walla Walla, Washington on September 5, 1847 he immediately became purchaser, architect, and builder for the missions in this territory. Wherever he lived, whether in Yakima, Vancouver, New Westminster, Lake Stuart or other missions, his name was always attached to a Church, a School, or a Residence.

One day, as American officials were seeking a name for a small burgeoning town at the extremity of Puget Sound, Brother Blanchet came up with a personal suggestion: “I propose Olympia. This well-known name from Greek antiquity could make our city famous one day, who knows?” Time proved him right, since Olympia became the capital of the state of Washington.

With gentleness

In 1872 Bishop Louis D’Herbomez ordained him to the priesthood, at the age of fifty-four. When he arrived at Lake Stuart, in British Columbia, he was saddened to learn that a recently converted Amerindian had insulted Father Pandosy. In the preceding year, the priest, in a sermon, had spoken quite strongly against drunkenness and violence. One of the congregation, who probably felt that he was the object of these words, rose in the midst of the assembly, shook his fist towards the preacher and cried out: “Come here, let’s go outside and face each other, then we’ll see who’s the top man.”

The Catholics in the area couldn’t let this insult to the priest go unpunished. The tribal chiefs ordered the delinquent one to go kneel in the middle of Church and ask forgiveness. He obstinately refused for a year. When Father Blanchet got wind of the affair, he asked that the braggart be brought to him. Slowly, with gentleness, he reasoned with him: “Come on, my friend, what is this all about? You’re aware that what you did was wrong, aren’t you? Well, just do what is asked of you and it will be all over once and for all.”

The guilty one answered: “You, at least, are speaking to me softly. Yes, I committed a serious fault, and I will do everything you told me.” That very night he asked forgiveness of the whole assembly, added that he regretted all his past, and that he would not do that again. A marvel of Grace: he kept his word.

He died on November 17, 1906, at eighty-eight years of age, after a long career of sixty years in the missions. He was called by the Amerindians “cher grand-père” (dear grandfather) and he left his name on a river and a lake in British Columbia.

André DORVAL, OMI

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

Peggy Ho Yuen 604.266.1803

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

LEGION OF MARY

Mary Lou Barin 604.767.8087
maryl.barin@gmail.com