



November 17 2019  
Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

**Witnessing to Christ in a world of confusion**



As the liturgical year draws to a close, the focus is on the end of the world and the Second Coming of Christ. The prophet Malachi says that for evildoers the Day of the Lord will be the day of Judgement; but for the upright it will be a day of salvation. His stark message was meant to act as a

warning to sinners and as an encouragement to the just.

The second reading also relates to the Second Coming. Some of the Thessalonians, believing that the *Parousia* was imminent, saw no need to work. Presenting himself as an example, Paul tells them to go on living and working as normal, not to be content to live off the community.

Luke talks about the *Parousia* in close association with the destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple. The destruction of the Temple, which Jesus has predicted, had already occurred by the time Luke was writing. This would have been interpreted by some as a sign that the end of the world was starting. But Luke reminds them of the words of Jesus, in which he warned his disciples not to be deceived by rumours and apparent signs that the end was near.

The Gospel goes on to address the situation of Christians in a time of persecution. Persecution will be an opportunity to bear witness to the Gospel. The Lord himself will see to it that believers will triumph in the end, provided they remain steadfast.

**Liturgical celebrations**

**Thursday – The presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (memorial)**

The feast originated as a commemoration of the dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary's the New in Jerusalem in 543. An apocryphal source recounts that Mary's parents brought their three-year-old daughter to the Temple in Jerusalem to offer her to God, as was the custom. The feast entered the Western calendar in 1585 and it celebrates the recognition of Mary as a temple where God lives.

**Friday – Saint Cecilia (memorial)**

Legend claims that a Roman woman named Cecilia was martyred for the faith sometimes in the second or third century, a few days after her husband Valerian was beheaded for refusing to sacrifice to the gods. Her association with music – she is a patron saint of musicians – stems from the story that at her wedding feast she sung to God in her heart.

**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 18**

7:00pm Mass +Gina Greco

**Tuesday, November 19**

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group  
 8:00am Mass Private Intention  
 10:00am Meeting Busy Hands Women's Craft Group  
 3:30pm Meeting Catechism of the Good Shepherd  
 7:00pm Meeting Knights of Columbus Executive  
 7:00pm Mass +Pietro Fusco  
 7:30pm Meeting Our Lady Bible Study

**Wednesday, November 20**

8:00am Mass Private intention  
 7:00pm Mass +Philip Brown  
 7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

**Thursday, November 21**

8:00am Mass +Sam Finnie  
 7:00pm Meeting Parish Pastoral Council  
 7:00pm Mass  
 7:45pm Event Taizé Prayer

**Friday, November 22**

8:00am Mass Private Intention  
 7:00pm Mass Private Intention

**Saturday, November 23**

8:00am Mass Private Intention  
 9:45am Meeting Ministry Teams Assembly  
 3:30pm Meeting Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium  
 5:00pm Mass +Klemens Kujawa

**Sunday, November 24**

8:30am Meeting Legion of Mary  
 9:00am Mass +Erlinda Torres  
 10:00am Event Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast  
 11:00am Mass  
 Bapt  
 Bapt  
 Bapt  
 5:00pm Mass +Jos Shirra

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts.  
 Sunday Envelopes: \$9,386.50  
 Loose: \$717.95

**WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY**

Miles Andrew Zaballero

**Pope's Message...**

Your faith has saved you" (*Lk 17:19*). This is the climax of today's Gospel, which reflects the journey of faith. There are three steps in this journey of faith. We see them in the actions of the lepers whom Jesus heals. They cry out, they walk and they give thanks.

First, they cry out. The lepers were in a dreadful situation, not only because of a disease that, widespread even today, needs to be battled with unremitting effort, but also because of their exclusion from society. At the time of Jesus, lepers were considered unclean and, as such, had to be isolated and kept apart (*cf. Lev 13:46*). We see that when they approach Jesus, they "kept their distance" (*Lk 17:12*). Even though their condition kept them apart, the Gospel tells us that they "called out" (*v. 13*) and pleaded with Jesus. They did not let themselves be paralyzed because they were shunned by society; they cried out to God, who excludes no one. We see how distances are shortened, how loneliness is overcome: by not closing in on ourselves and our own problems, by not thinking about how others judge us, but rather by crying out to the Lord, for the Lord hears the cry of those who find themselves alone.

Like those lepers, we too need healing, each one of us. We need to be healed of our lack of confidence in ourselves, in life, in the future; we need to be healed of our fears and the vices that enslave us, of our introversion, our addictions and our attachment to games, money, television, mobile phones, to what other people think. The Lord sets our hearts free and heals them if only we ask him, only if we say to him: "Lord, I believe you can heal me. Dear Jesus, heal me from being caught up in myself. Free me from evil and fear". The lepers are the first people, in this Gospel, who called on the name of Jesus. Later, a blind man and a crucified thief would do so: all of them needy people calling on the name of Jesus, which means: "God saves". They call God by name, directly and spontaneously. To call someone by name is a sign of confidence, and it pleases the Lord. That is how faith grows, through confident, trusting prayer. Prayer in which we bring to Jesus who we really are, with open hearts, without attempting to mask our sufferings. Each day, let us invoke with confidence the name of Jesus: "God saves". Let us repeat it: that is prayer, to say "Jesus" is to pray. And prayer is essential! Indeed, prayer is the door of faith; prayer is medicine for the heart.

The second word is to walk. It is the second stage. In today's brief Gospel, there are several verbs of motion. It is quite striking that the lepers are not healed as they stand before Jesus; it is only afterwards, as they were walking. The Gospel tells us that: "As they went, they were made clean" (*v. 14*). They were healed by going up to Jerusalem, that is, while walking uphill. On the journey of life, purification takes place along the way, a way that is often uphill since it leads to the heights. Faith calls for journey, a "going out" from

ourselves, and it can work wonders if we abandon our comforting certainties, if we leave our safe harbours and our cozy nests. Faith increases by giving, and grows by taking risks. Faith advances when we make our way equipped with trust in God. Faith advances with humble and practical steps, like the steps of the lepers or those of Naaman who went down to bathe in the river Jordan (*cf. 2 Kings 5:14-17*). The same is true for us. We advance in faith by showing humble and practical love, exercising patience each day, and praying constantly to Jesus as we keep pressing forward on our way.

There is a further interesting aspect to the journey of the lepers: they move together. The Gospel tells us that, "as they went, they were made clean" (*v. 14*). The verbs are in the plural. Faith means also walking together, never alone. Once healed, however, nine of them go off on their own way, and only one turns back to offer thanks. Jesus then expresses his astonishment: "The others, where are they?" (*v. 17*). It is as if he asks the only one who returned to account for the other nine. It is the task of us, who celebrate the Eucharist as an act of thanksgiving, to take care of those who have stopped walking, those who have lost their way. We are called to be guardians of our distant brothers and sisters, all of us! We are to intercede for them; we are responsible for them, to account for them, to keep them close to heart. Do you want to grow in faith? You, who are here today, do you want to grow in faith? Then take care of a distant brother, a faraway sister.

To cry out. To walk. And to give thanks. This is the final step. Only to the one who thanked him did Jesus say: "Your faith has saved you" (*v. 19*). It made you both safe, and sound. We see from this that the ultimate goal is not health or wellness, but the encounter with Jesus. Salvation is not drinking a glass of water to keep fit; it is going to the source, which is Jesus. He alone frees us from evil and heals our hearts. Only an encounter with him can save, can make life full and beautiful. Whenever we meet Jesus, the word "thanks" comes immediately to our lips, because we have discovered the most important thing in life, which is not to receive a grace or resolve a problem, but to embrace the Lord of life. And this is the most important thing in life: to embrace the Lord of life.

It is impressive to see how the man who was healed, a Samaritan, expresses his joy with his entire being: he praises God in a loud voice, he prostrates himself, and he gives thanks (*cf. vv. 15-16*). The culmination of the journey of faith is to live a life of continual thanksgiving. Let us ask ourselves: do we, as people of faith, live each day as a burden, or as an act of praise? Are we closed in on ourselves, waiting to ask another blessing, or do we find our joy in giving thanks? When we express our gratitude, the Father's heart is moved and he pours out the Holy Spirit upon us. To give thanks is not a question of good manners or etiquette; it is a question of faith.

**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.

## Development & Peace

### A future for the Amazon, a future for all!



The Amazon is home to half of all the plants and animals in the world. It is also home to more than 30 million people, nearly 3 million of whom belong to 380 indigenous groups. Logging, industrial farming and mining companies threaten their way of life and their survival. Act now!

- 1) Read the info brochure in this weekend's bulletin
- 2) Sign the Solidarity Letter to defend the defenders available next weekend;
- 3) Take the intergenerational pledge for our common home online at [devp.org/pledge](http://devp.org/pledge)

*Change starts with each and every one of us.*

For more information: [devp.org/campaign](http://devp.org/campaign)

### 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](mailto:gerifuji@telus.net).

Donations for the fair would be gratefully appreciated including: jewellery, gift items, crafts, Christmas decos, raffle prizes, etc. Lurana can pick up if unable to deliver. Call 604-736-3182.

Christmas Fair Gift Table received a donation of a great number/variety of New/Used "Children" and "Adult" DVDs. Logistically, the limited space at the Gift Table requires ADVANCE SALE to take place. Contact Geri Fujisawa: [gerifuji@telus.net](mailto:gerifuji@telus.net) to get the Listing/Pricing of the DVDs; place order by Nov. 22. Pick up at the Gift Table on Fair Day, Dec. 1st.

### The Liturgical Ministries Training and Fellowship Meeting

will be held on Saturday, November 23, 2019, beginning with coffee and tea at 9:45 am. Register by signing up on the forms in the pews this weekend November 16 and 17, or email [liturgy@staugustineschurch.ca](mailto:liturgy@staugustineschurch.ca) or call 604-736-4455 Ext 200.

### Pancake Breakfast Sunday November 24th.



The St. Augustine's Knights of Columbus will host a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday the 24th of November after the 9:00am & 11:00am Mass.

All are welcome; admission by donation.

### School News...

#### Fall Campaign Update

Over 90% of school families have made a donation to the Fall Campaign in support of the new school. Two grades have now achieved 100% participation. Nearly \$350,000 has been raised to date – getting closer every day to our \$500,000 goal. THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SCHOOL AND PARISH DONORS. For more information please pick up a copy of our newsletter at the entrance of the church or go to our school/parish websites:

[faithandfoundation.com](http://faithandfoundation.com) or [staugustinechurch.ca](http://staugustinechurch.ca). 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...

#### Little Flower Academy



is accepting applications from prospective Grade Eight candidates for the 2020-2021 school year. All students wishing to apply must sit the **ENTRANCE EXAM** on Saturday, December 7, 2019. For more information and online application, please visit our website ([www.lfabc.org](http://www.lfabc.org)) or contact Kathi Wilson, Registrar at [wilsonk@lfabc.org](mailto:wilsonk@lfabc.org) or 604-738-9016 ext. 114.

### Surviving and Thriving with Stress for you and Your Family

This session will examine typical symptoms, sources, and practical solutions to the stresses of everyday life in both adults and children. Ideas will be shared which have helped many people not only survive with stress but THRIVE in spite of it! Our speaker is Denis Boyd, registered psychologist specializing in marriage, grief, and stress counselling. Join us on Wednesday, Nov. 20, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at St. Anthony of Padua Church Hall in Vancouver.

### Into the Deep: The Art of Community in Mental Health

How do we find hope and healing in relationship? Discover the vital role of community in mental health through Lisa Rumpel's journey to wellness and Stephen Ching's experience as a counsellor. With both personal and professional reflections on how community is an art to creatively foster, the gifts of presence, love, and kindness come to light. For we are hardwired for connection and are not meant to live alone. This free event takes place on Friday, Nov. 22 at 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. "Into the Deep" is a free bi-monthly series of talks, lectures and experiences for seeking disciples.

### Pro-Life Mass and Prayer Vigil



One of the fundamental answers to abortion is prayer. Please join your voice with ours as we pray on the first Saturday of each month at a different parish for a new culture of life. Mass will be Saturday, Dec. 7, 9 a.m. at Our Lady of Mercy Church in Burnaby. For upcoming dates, visit

[rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil](http://rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil)

## 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

The Sower of "Aves"



Poland can count among its sons many illustrious men. To name but a few we remember the holy martyrs Josaphat Kuncewicz and Maximilian Kolbe. Also, the wonderful composer Chopin, the young Jesuit Stanislas Kostka, and not the least, Karol Wojtyla, Pope John XXIII. The Oblate Congregation, for its part, is proud to have given the Church a humble Polish religious, who, without attaining a similar notoriety, we hope will become famous one day, by receiving the honors of beatification. We are speaking of **Brother Antoine Kowalczyk**, whose edifying life was recounted in a captivating book by Father Paul-Émile Breton: *Le forgeron de Dieu* (God's Blacksmith).

His life (1866-1947)

He was born in Dzierzanow, in the diocese of Poznam, on June 4, 1866. After being employed for a few years as blacksmith, he entered the Oblates in 1891, and five years later, was sent to Western Canada. His first assignment was at the mission of La Biche Lake, where he was victim of a terrible accident while working at the local sawmill. He became entangled in a moving belt. His right arm was brutally crushed and the doctors had no choice but to amputate. Despite this handicap Brother Antoine lived fifty more years. At the Saint Jean Juniorate in Edmonton, he led a very active life and became a model of courage, humility, and piety for hundreds of students. On July 10, 1947, he died at the age of eighty one. He left a reputation of great sanctity. In April 1952, the first canonical steps were taken towards his beatification.

"Me, say an Ave"

Father Breton admits that he hesitated before entitling his book *Forgeron de Dieu*. Brother Antoine had developed such a devotion to Mary that he could have been presented to readers as a sower of "Aves". But the author explained his choice: "I wanted to bring out especially the virile aspect of his spiritual life. This humble Brother was not satisfied with a mere recital of frail "Aves" wrapped in sentimentality. He lived a rude existence, like the life of a blacksmith. He struggled and suffered. He had to hammer his soul with sacrifices, trials, and self-denials."

Nevertheless, Brother Antoine had extreme confidence in the Blessed Virgin. He entrusted all his tasks and all his difficulties to her. His sorrows, his joys, his personal intentions and those of others would invariably come to Mary. Since he had difficulty with the French language he would simply promise: "Moi, dire un avé" (Me, say an "Ave"). I have already written in the Apostolat about his adventure with a herd of swine, how he succeeded in leading them across a field of beautiful oats without the least damage to the crop, thanks to the "Aves" that he had recited beforehand.

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      momstots@staugustineschurch.ca

FOOD COLLECTION

Terry Murphy      604.736.5288

LEGION OF MARY

Mary Lou Barin      604.767.8087  
maryl.barin@gmail.com