



December 8th 2019  
Second Sunday of Advent

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

### Preparing the way for the Lord



Isaiah foretells that even though the family tree of Jesse (David's father) has been reduced to a mere stump, nevertheless from that stump a new shoot will spring – a true king filled with the Spirit and endowed with all the virtues of his ancestors. The new king (the Messiah) will be a champion of the poor and will restore the peace of paradise.

Matthew introduced John the Baptist as the herald, foretold by Isaiah, of the long awaited Messiah, and the one who prepared the people to receive him. Matthew sees Jesus as fulfilling the Old Testament promises.

Paul also sees Jesus as the one through whom God fulfilled his promises, and at the same time the reading from Romans continue the theme of peace and harmony of the first reading from Isaiah.

### Liturgical celebrations

#### Monday – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (solemnity)

In the 13th century, great thinkers such as St. Bernard and St. Thomas Aquinas debated whether Mary could have been born without original sin. By the 19th century, the theological debate was resolved and in 1854 Pius IX defined the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception as a dogma of faith.

#### Thursday – Our Lady of Guadalupe (feast)

This memorial commemorates the apparitions of the Blessed Virgin in 1531 at Tepeyac, on the outskirts of Mexico City. Our Lady appeared four times, twice to aboriginal convert Juan Diego, with whom she left orders to build a Church and an imprint of her image on a cloak. In 1946 Pius XII named her a patron of the Americas.

#### Friday – St. Lucy (memorial)

Lucy was born in Syracuse, Italy, and martyred about 304. Details of her life have been lost in the ensuing legends. During the Middle Ages, people suffering from eye trouble began invoking Lucy's aid because her name is derived from lux ('light'). She is also associated with festivals of light, especially in Scandinavia.

#### Saturday – St. John of the Cross (memorial)

John was born in 1542 in Spain. He entered the Carmelite community and was ordained in 1567. With a great Carmelite mystic, Teresa of Avila, he worked for the reformation of his order. He died in 1591, was canonized in 1726 and was proclaimed Doctor of the Church in 1926.



#### Advent Penitential Service—December 2019

The Parish Advent Penitential Service will be held at 7:00pm on Friday December 20th.

## This Week

### Monday, December 9

7:00pm Mass +Mary Lim Cheung Tao

### Tuesday, December 10

6:00am Meeting Men's Prayer Group  
8:00am Mass Int Jame M Yint Swe  
3:30pm Meeting Catechism of the Good Shepherd  
7:00pm Mass +Ileana Gleason  
7:30pm Meeting Our Lady Bible Study

### Wednesday, December 11

8:00am Mass +Mary Finnegan  
7:00pm Mass +Gertrude Behrend  
7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

### Thursday, December 12

8:00am Mass +Fr. Roland Palmer  
8:30am Meeting St. Patrick's Regional Secondary School  
7:00pm Concert St. Augustine's School Advent Concert

### Friday, December 13

8:00am Mass +Connie To  
7:00pm Mass Anointing of the Sick - Archbishop Miller

### Saturday, December 14

8:00am Mass  
3:30pm Meeting Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium  
**5:00pm Mass**  
Food Collection

### Sunday, December 15

8:30am Meeting Legion of Mary  
**9:00am Mass** +Mariano Rivera  
Bapt  
Bapt  
Food Collection  
**11:00am Mass** +Adolf Behrend  
Food Collection  
2:00pm Wedding  
**5:00pm Mass**  
Food Collection

**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts.  
 Sunday Envelopes: \$9,784.00  
 Loose: \$689.05

**WELCOME TO OUR FAITH COMMUNITY**

Laura Belga de Sousa Lage  
 Isabel Belga de Sousa Lage

**Pope's Message...**

*"Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingly power" (Lk 23:42).*

On this last Sunday of the liturgical year, we join our voices to that of the criminal crucified beside Jesus, who acknowledged and acclaimed him a king. Amid cries of ridicule and humiliation, at the least triumphal and glorious moment possible, that thief was able to speak up and make his profession of faith. His were the last words Jesus heard, and Jesus' own words in reply were the last he spoke before abandoning himself to the Father: "Truly I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (*Lk 23:43*).

The chequered history of the thief seems, in an instant, to take on new meaning: he was meant to be there to accompany the Lord's suffering. And that moment does nothing more than confirm the entire meaning of Jesus' life: always and everywhere to offer salvation. The attitude of the good thief makes the horror and injustice of Calvary – where helplessness and incomprehension are met with jeers and mockery from those indifferent to the death of an innocent man – become a message of hope for all humanity. "Save yourself!" The shouts of scornful derision addressed to the innocent victim of suffering will not be the last word; rather, they will awaken a response from those who let their hearts be touched, who choose compassion as the authentic way to shape history.

Today, in this place, we want to renew our faith and our commitment. We know too well the history of our failures, sins and limitations, even as the good thief did, but we do not want them to be what determines or defines our present and future. We know how readily all of us can take the easy route of shouting out: "Save yourself!" and choose not to think about our responsibility to alleviate the suffering of innocent people all around us. This land has experienced, as few countries have, the destructive power of which we humans are capable. Like the good thief, we want to speak up and profess our faith, to defend and assist the Lord, the innocent man of sorrows. We want to accompany him in his ordeal, to stand by him in his isolation and abandonment, and to hear once more that salvation is the word the Father desires to speak to all: "Today you will be with me in Paradise".

**Pope's Prayer Intention for December**

**Evangelization:** *The Future of the Very Young*—That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

**Development & Peace****65,000 thank yous!**

In the Amazon, there are 65,000 species of vertebrates and trees. This is also the number of signatures that we want to reach in support of the *seringueiros* and the Mura people of Brazil. On behalf of all those striving to preserve their land, their water, their culture, their lives and our common home, Development and Peace - Caritas Canada thanks you for responding to cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor. Together, we have the power to change lives. To continue to take action throughout the campaign, go to: [devp.org/campaign](http://devp.org/campaign), and join the Facebook group *For our common home*.

***A future for the Amazon, a future for all.***

**Around the Parish...****Year 2020 Parish Envelopes**

Personalized Year 2020 Envelope Donation Boxes are available for pick up outside the Parish Hall. Please do not take a box unless it has your name on it. If there is not a box with your name please pick up a box at the Parish Office during regular office hours. Do NOT use 2019 Envelopes in the year 2020 as your donation may be credited to another family.

**Charitable Donations and Tax Receipts: Canada Revenue Agency**

Donations must be received by the Parish by **December 31, 2019** in order for the donor to receive a tax receipt for 2019. This is a requirement of the Canada Revenue Agency. If you date a cheque December 31, 2019 but it is not received in the Parish Office until 2020 the amount of your donation will be reflected in your 2020 donation receipt.

**Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB Parish Visit**

**Archbishop Michael Miller, CSB** will celebrate a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick at 7:00pm on Friday December 13th at St. Augustine's Church.

Archbishop Miller will also celebrate the 11:00am Mass on Sunday December 15th at St. Augustine's.

All are encouraged and welcome to attend these special events in our Parish life.

**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.

**Around the Parish...****CWL News**

A BIG thank you to everyone that came to the Christmas Fair. We really appreciate the parishioners' support and generous donations.

**Advent Giving Tree**

**ADVENT GIVING TREE** - Don't forget to purchase your items for Covenant House, Sancta Maria House, and the Kits Shower Programme (new items only, please - see list of items on the poster by the Giving Tree.) Place all **UNWRAPPED** items under the tree by noon on Sunday, December 22nd. Anyone who can help sort and package the collection and/or drive to Covenant House on December 22nd (12:00 pm - 2:00 pm), please contact Eileen at

[dcamparmo@hotmail.com](mailto:dcamparmo@hotmail.com).

**Feature Organization: Sancta Maria House**

Sancta Maria House is a Catholic, Christian recovery home that embraces the 12- Step Programme; they accept women from all faith backgrounds. They offer a structured, supportive, abstinence program for women in a loving family-like setting. Their mission is that women who come to the home will hear Jesus' message of love, and experience His healing powers as they journey through recovery and heal. Their goal is to provide loving support, direction and encouragement as women journey in achieving freedom from their addictions. See the poster by the Giving Tree for some special donation requests from Sancta Maria House.

## FOOD COLLECTION FOR THE POOR

EVERY 1ST & 3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

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

**Second Sunday of Advent****Rite of Welcoming Candidates for Confirmation & Eucharist**

is celebrated only with candidates (those already baptized –usually in another Christian denomination—who are seeking reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church or Catholics who are seeking completion of their Christian initiation).

**Candidates for Full Profession of Faith:**

Craig Meier   Terrance (Drew) Wilson   Sophia Dvorzsak   Roberta Neault  
Carmen Berretta   Ross Skaken   Daniel Lucifora   Deborah Bayley

**PROJECT ADVANCE**

Thank you for supporting Project Advance. Our goal this year is \$65,000. To date we have raised \$57,000. You can still contribute by making out a cheque to Project Advance and putting it in the Sunday collection basket. You can also make online gifts to Project Advance for our parish by visiting [www.projectadvance.ca](http://www.projectadvance.ca) Any shortfall from our goal will be made up from our Sunday donation collection.

**School News...**

**The School is Hosting their Eighteenth Luncheon for  
all the Seniors of St. Augustine's Parish**

**Venue** – The School; **Date/Time** –Monday, Dec. 16, 2019 at Noon. **Cost** – No cost. **As there is maximum seating, please RSVP by Dec 10th** to Geri Fujisawa at 604-738-1155 or [gerifuji@telus.net](mailto:gerifuji@telus.net) For those seniors where transportation is too challenging, a request can be made for assistance with transportation when you RSVP.

Some Parking will be available at the School.

**School Registration 2020**

If you or someone you know is interested in enrolling a child in Kindergarten at St. Augustine School for the 2020-2021 school year, please come to the general Open House on Thursday, January 9th, 2020 at 7:00pm at the School.

Please RSVP the School Office at (604) 731-8024 or [office@saschool.ca](mailto:office@saschool.ca). Adults only please.

**Fall Campaign Update**

Thank you to all of our donors as our campaign to support the new school continues to grow. Donations now exceed \$400,000 with more than three weeks to go. Our goal is \$500,000. If you would like to make a gift to the campaign, you can deposit your donation in the Sunday collection, at the Parish or School Office, or to a Faith and Foundation representative at the entrance of the Church. If you are writing a cheque, please make it out to: St. Augustine Parish - School Building Project. Deadline for the campaign is **December 31, 2019**

## Oblate Corner



Brother Alfred Desrochers was born at Saint-Jacques-de-Montcalm on March 14, 1887, entered the Oblates in 1906, and during almost fifty years he rendered priceless services to the Congregation as a skilled builder. He left his mark in all the regions of Quebec, in Ontario, at James Bay and all the way to Alberta.

**Saint Joseph, first overseer**

It was not on the family farm that Brother Desrochers learned the craft of construction. It was rather a natural talent that he developed by consulting with other workers, and by applying himself carefully to his work. He was tall and solidly built, with an iron will, audacious and

prudent at the same time, while in full command with his strong voice and decisive manner. He was chosen by his superiors to lead a team of brothers with a variety of talents. Under his direction, they accomplished important undertakings. Around forty buildings are the work of this brother: Churches at Rouyn, Kapuskasing and McLennan; houses of formation at Chambly, Richelieu, Beauval, Sainte-Agathe-des Monts; retreat houses at Mont-Joli, New Richmond, Cap-de-la-Madeleine, La Pocatière, and many others. At all these places, before starting the projected work, Brother Desrochers installed in plain sight a small statue of St. Joseph, his "overseer" as he called him. Every morning, with a short simple prayer, he asked for the protection of the carpenter of Nazareth. More than once this protection came into evidence.

**Crooked pipe and straight heart**

Brother Desrochers was in the habit of smoking his pipe, especially after meals. His preference was for a certain "crooked pipe" that he loaded with good and strong tobacco from Saint Jacques, his native town! When the clock announced the time to get back to work, he summoned everyone with his authoritarian voice, and woe to the latecomers! On the job, there was no question of losing time. One day, two lay employees were freely taking their time. On seeing the brother, one said to the other: "Watch out, here comes the crooked pipe!" His companion replied immediately: "Yes, I know him well: he has a crooked pipe... but his heart is straight. His voice is loud, but he's a good fellow."

**His dream becomes a reality**

When it seemed time to build the Notre-Dame Basilica at Cap-de-la-Madeleine, our Brother had lived a very full seventy years. In his heart of hearts he was dreaming of offering his collaboration. The Oblate authorities responded to this desire by asking him to oversee the work. This last task went on for seven years. It became a tangible expression of his fidelity as the son of the Lady for whom he always had a special devotion.

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