

January 12th 2020
 Baptism of the Lord

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911



Baptism of the Lord

The story of Jesus' baptism is an epiphany story: Jesus is revealed as the Son of God. This is Matthew's main emphasis. John's baptism was a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. The fact that Jesus should undergo such a baptism was a source of embarrassment for the early Christians. Why did he undergo it? To give an example of humility, to raise John's baptism to a new level, to show solidarity with sinners,

and to inaugurate his mission to sinners – a mission which is beautifully described by Isaiah (First Reading). Matthew also probably wanted to show what baptism means for Christians.

Liturgical celebrations:

Thursday – St. Anthony, Abbot (memorial)

In both calendars the Church commemorates the abbot from the 3rd century. St. Anthony, the father of monks, retired to the desert at about the age of eighteen in order to live in perfect solitude. He laid the foundations of community life, and gave to his disciples that profound broad and sane instruction, the mature result of solitude and prayer, which forms the surest basis of Christian asceticism.

Pope's Prayer Intention for January

Evangelization: *Promotion of World Peace* – We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

This Week

Monday, January 13

7:00pm Mass +Ibrahim Al-Ashab
 7:30pm Meeting Vocations Ministry

Tuesday, January 14

8:00am Mass
 7:00pm Mass +Martin Joseph Connolly
 7:30pm Meeting Bible Study Group

Wednesday, January 15

8:00am Mass
 9:15am Mass St. Augustine's School
 7:00pm Mass
 7:30pm Meeting Rite of Christian Initiation (RCIA)

Thursday, January 16

8:00am Mass
 6:30pm Meeting Ministry Leadership
 7:00pm Mass
 7:45pm Event Taizé Prayer

Friday, January 17

8:00am Mass
 7:00pm Mass +Joan D'Souza

Saturday, January 18

8:00am Mass +Venancio Herrera
 9:00am Event Sacramental Retreat –Grade II
 12:00pm Meeting CWL Executive Workshop
 3:30pm Meeting Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium
 5:00pm **Mass** Private Intention
 Food Collection

Sunday, January 19

8:30am Meeting Legion of Mary
 9:00am **Mass**
 Food Collection
 11:00am **Mass**
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 Food Collection
 5:00pm **Mass** +Zulma Cherlet
 Food Collection

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts

Sunday Envelopes: \$8,868.25

Loose: \$580.30

REST IN PEACE

Tora Anderson

Pope's Message...

"But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman" (Gal 4:4). Born of woman: Jesus came in this way. He did not appear in the world as an adult but, as the Gospel tells us, he was "conceived in the womb" (Lk 2:21). It was there that he made our humanity his own: day after day, month after month.

In the womb of a woman, God and mankind are united, never to be separated again. Even now, in heaven, Jesus lives in the flesh that he took in his mother's womb. In God, there is our human flesh!

On the first day of the year, we celebrate this nuptial union between God and mankind, inaugurated in the womb of a woman. In God, there will forever be our humanity and Mary will forever be the Mother of God. She is both woman and mother: this is what is essential. From her, a woman, salvation came forth and thus there is no salvation without a woman. In her, God was united to us, and if we want to unite ourselves to him, we must take the same path: through Mary, woman and mother. That is why we begin the year by celebrating Our Lady, the woman who wove the humanity of God. If we want to weave humanity into this our time, we need to start again from the woman.

Born of woman. The rebirth of humanity began from a woman. Women are sources of life. Yet they are continually insulted, beaten, raped, forced to prostitute themselves and to suppress the life they bear in the womb. Every form of violence inflicted upon a woman is a blasphemy against God, who was born of a woman. Humanity's salvation came forth from the body of a woman: we can understand our degree of humanity by how we treat a woman's body. How often are women's bodies sacrificed on the profane altars of advertising, of profiteering, of pornography, exploited like a canvas to be used. Yet women's bodies must be freed from consumerism; they must be respected and honoured. Theirs is the most noble flesh in the world, for it conceived and brought to light the love that has saved us! In our day, too, motherhood is demeaned, because the only growth that interests us is economic growth. There are mothers who risk difficult journeys desperately seeking to give a better future to the fruit of their womb, yet are deemed redundant by people with full stomachs but hearts empty of love.

Born of woman. The Bible tells us that woman come onto the scene at the height of creation, as a summation of the entire created world. For she holds within herself the very purpose of creation: the generation and safekeeping of life, communion with all things, care for all things. So it is with the Mother of God in today's Gospel. The text tells us, "But Mary kept all these things, pondering them in her heart" (v. 19). She kept all these things: joy at the birth of Jesus and sadness for the lack of hospitality shown in Bethlehem; the love of Joseph and the amazement of the shepherds; the promise and the uncertainty of the future. She took everything to heart, and in her heart, she put everything in its right place, even hardships and troubles. In her heart, she lovingly set all things in order and entrusted everything to God.

In the Gospel, Mary does this a second time: at the end of the hidden life of Jesus, we are told that "his mother kept all these things in her heart" (v. 51). This repetition makes us realize that "keeping in her heart" was not something nice that Our Lady did from time to time, but something habitual. Women typically take life to heart. Women show us that the meaning of life is not found in making things but in taking things to heart. Only those who see with the heart see things properly, because they know how to "look into" each person: to see a brother apart from his mistakes, a sister apart from her failings, hope amid difficulty. They see God in all persons and things.

As we begin this new year, let us ask ourselves: Do I know how to see with the heart? Do I know how to look at people with the heart? Do I take to heart the people with whom I live? Or do I tear them down by gossip? And above all, do I put the Lord at the centre of my heart, or other values, other interests, like advancement, riches, power? Only if we take life to heart will we know how to take care and overcome the indifference all around. So let us ask for the grace to live this year with the desire to take others to heart and to care for them. And if we want a better world, a world that will be a peaceful home and not a war field, may we take to heart the dignity of each woman. From a woman was born the Prince of peace. Women are givers and mediators of peace and should be fully included in decision-making processes. Because when women can share their gifts, the world finds itself more united, more peaceful. Hence, every step forward for women is a step forward for humanity as a whole.

Born of woman. Jesus, newly born, was mirrored in the eyes of the woman, in the face of his mother. From her, he received his first caresses; with her, he exchanged the first smiles. With her began the revolution of tenderness. The Church, looking at the Baby Jesus, is called to continue that revolution. For she too, like Mary, is both woman and mother. The Church is woman and mother, and in Our Lady, she finds her distinctive traits. She sees Mary immaculate, and feels called to say no to sin and to worldliness. She sees Mary fruitful, and feels called to proclaim the Gospel and to give birth to it in people's lives. She sees Mary a mother, and she feels called to receive every man and woman as a son or daughter.

In drawing close to Mary, the Church discovers herself, she finds her centre and her unity. The enemy of our human nature, the devil, seeks instead to divide, to highlight differences, ideologies, partisan thinking and parties. But we do not understand the Church if we regard her by starting with structures, programmes and trends, ideologies and functions. We may grasp something, but not the heart of the Church. Because the Church has a mother's heart. And we, as her sons and daughters, invoke today the Mother of God, who gathers us together as a people of believers. O Mother, give birth to hope within us and bring us unity. Woman of salvation, to you we entrust this year. Keep it in your heart. We acclaim you, the Holy Mother of God. All together now, for three times, let us stand and acclaim the Lady, the Holy Mother of God. [with the assembly] Holy Mother of God, Holy Mother of God, Holy Mother of God!

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.

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.

Have you recently requested envelopes? Please check the envelope table to pick them up. Unclaimed envelopes will be recycled at the end of January.

Advent Giving Tree



Again this year, a big thank you to all who donated to the **Advent Giving Tree** during December. The generosity of the members of this Parish is truly amazing! Donations were delivered to Covenant House, Sancta Maria House and the Kits Showers Programme. Special thanks to: the Ushers for clearing the bags each week and the many volunteers who helped sort, package and deliver the items. It is always a team effort! We ask you to continue to pray for those who are served by these organiza-

tions and for those who minister in them.

What is a Vocation?

The word vocation comes from the Latin *vocare* which means **to call**. God *calls* or *invites* you to a particular vocation: single life, marriage, priesthood or consecrated life. Although each of us must make a decision about our vocation, that choice is a response to an invitation from God. Pope Francis has commented on this personal aspect of vocation: "In calling us God says to us: "You are important to me, I love you, I count on you." Jesus says this to each one of us! Joy is born from here, the joy of the moment in which Jesus looked at me. To understand and to feel this is the secret of our joy. To feel loved by God, to feel that for Him we are not numbers, but persons; and to feel that it is He who calls us" (*Vatican City, 9 July 2013*).

We invite you to learn more about what a Vocation is and how it can impact your life.

St. Augustines Vocations Ministry

Contact Ben Hume at email: bhume03@gmail.com

Men's Prayer Group

The Men's Prayer Group meets each Tuesday at 6am in the Parish Centre Hall. Newcomers are very welcome. We start with morning prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, followed by private reflection, and then coffee and discussion.

Pro-Life Mass & 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, Feb. 1, 8 a.m.** at **St. Augustine's Church**. For upcoming dates, visit rcav.org/pro-life-mass-and-prayer-vigil

School News...

THANK YOU. THANK YOU.

The Fall Campaign ended on a high note with \$471,153 raised. 241 School families donated to the cause – representing an amazing 99 percent of all families (for a total of \$350,049). In addition, 86 non-school families/ individuals contributed \$120,104. All of these funds are directed at reducing our debt on the new school and to eventually enable the Parish to be in a position to complete the final phase of the building project. The Parish has reduced its mortgage from \$4M (December 2017) to about \$2.5M (December 2019). Today, more than 350 children attend our school and it continues to grow. Without the tremendous and sustained generosity of Parish and School families over so many years, this would not be possible. Faith and Foundation says "thank you".



Around the Archdiocese...

Who Am I Workshop

This two-weekend workshop will help you discover the richness within yourself, improve your relationships, increase your productivity and help you find greater solidarity in decision-making. Join us on Feb. 1-2 & Feb. 8-9 at the John Paul II Pastoral Centre in Vancouver. Contact RCAF: 604 683-4288

Catholic Street Missionaries Training and Outreach for Young Adults

We at Catholic Street Missionaries love meeting new people, making new friends, sharing our love for God, praying for his presence and guidance, and going out to bring his hope and love to the homeless, the addicted, and the prostituted. Young adults age 19-39 who would like to serve Jesus in the poor are invited to spend a day with us to experience how we reach out to our less privileged brothers and sisters on the streets of Vancouver. Sunday, Jan. 19, 1:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Includes Bible meditation, training, homeless outreach, sharing, and pizza. All participants need to be present at 1:30 p.m. to attend the training and Bible meditation before going on outreach with us. Registration is free but required: onedayoutreachjan19.eventbrite.ca.

Breathe: A Catholic Marriage Conference

Whether you're newly married or have been married for a few decades, this weekend will be a time to breathe life into various aspects of your marriage. You will also be given practical tools designed to help you build unity, rediscover joy, and experience peace in your marriage by stepping away from the busyness of life in order to recharge, refresh, and journey deeper into the sacrament. You'll hear life-giving messages and engaging stories that will inspire and spark something. Join us at Harrison Hot Springs Resort on Friday, Feb. 7, and Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020. Early bird tickets are available until Tuesday, Dec. 31. Register online at catholicmarriageandfamily.com

Volunteer Opportunities, Archdiocese of Vancouver

The Archdiocese of Vancouver is accepting applications for volunteer opportunities in the following areas: Administrative Support, Program Support, and Events Support. To apply, please complete our Volunteer Information Form at rcav.org/employment

**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

**An "adventurer" who paved the way for the Oblates in Chile**

God "governs all things well" we read in the book of Wisdom (8:1). He directs our lives in such a manner that we sometimes accomplish things that were humanly unforeseeable. A good example of this providential action is the life of a Canadian, Father Arthur Terrien, whose appetite for adventure led him to Chile. Here he was to prepare, unknowingly, the coming of the Oblates to this country.

This legendary apostle of the Andes Pampa, Señor Terrien as he was called by the people of that country, was born in Watton, Quebec, into a very poor family. He was barely sixteen when he had to migrate to the United States, in 1896, to earn a living in the mills of New England. Feeling attracted to Religious Life, he later entered the Brothers of the Holy Cross, in Montreal, where he remained for seven years. However, his independent spirit was too strong for this reclusive life. In 1916 he headed west

and reached Oregon. There, for a time, he taught French, but he eventually signed up as a sailor on a merchant ship headed for South America. He got off in Chile and settled at Iquique, serving as a professor at the Dos Bosco College located in that city.

Indefatigable apostle

A few years later, Bishop José Maria Caro, in Iquique, became aware of this stranger, who seemed to possess the necessary qualities for the priesthood. He sent him to study Theology at Santiago. Finally, on September 24, 1927, he was ordained by Bishop Labbé, who was Apostolic Vicar at the time. This was the beginning of his heroic life of dedication in favor of the pampa laborers and the Aymaras of the Andes. He covered hundreds of kilometers over vertiginous trails, that reached four thousand meters, to reach Amerindians grouped here and there in scattered villages. Almost all were Catholic, but there was no resident Priest. The traveling missionary took advantage of this visit to Baptize the newborn, give Catechism lessons, bring the Eucharist to the sick and see to urgent repairs in the small Chapels. For their part, the Amerindians performed their ritualistic dances, called Chunchos, which require a lot of endurance, since they can stretch out for about twelve hours.

An insatiable dream

Señor Terrien led this kind of eventful life, while neglecting his health, for some fifteen years. In 1942 he felt the need for a rest. He accepted the chaplaincy at Puerto San Antonio Hospital. On top of this very demanding ministry, he found the time to give lessons in Spanish and English at the Sara Cruchaga Secondary School. All the children esteemed him very highly. They often grouped around him to delight in his magic tricks.

In October 1943 he obtained permission from the Bishop of Iquique to retire from active ministry. His eyes had become sore and he suffered from rheumatism. He longed to see his homeland, Canada, once again, if it was still possible.

However, he kept repeating: "God's Will be done and not mine." He would not see his homeland again, nor his family. He was found dead in his hospital room on June 13, 1944. He was sixty-four years old.

During all his encounters on the pampa, he often asked the Master of the Harvest to send workers in the vast fields of Chile. Undoubtedly, he had paved the way for the coming of the Oblates. In fact, in December 1948, four of them, Fathers Albert Sanschagrin, Robert Voyer, Maurice Veillette and René Ferragne, arrived in Santiago to settle in the midst of the Chilean population.

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

PASTORAL CARE OF 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