



February 23rd 2020
Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

OUR FAITH. OUR FOUNDATION.

SINCE 1911

Love your enemies



Since God is holy, we are to be holy. We are holy when we imitate the generosity of God by not exacting vengeance, or bearing a grudge against another. In Leviticus, the commandment: "You must love your neighbour as yourself" is restricted to fellow-Israelites. But

Jesus broadened it to include everyone, Gentiles as well as Jews, enemies as well as friends. Why? Because this is the way the heavenly Father acts. He shows equal love towards good and bad, not because he is indifferent to morality, but because he loves without limit.

Paul gives us a profound reason why we should respect one another: we are the Temple of God. Individually and collectively the Holy Spirit dwells in us. This is also the basis of our unity.

What is Lent?



The season of Lent is a liturgical season consisting of forty days of fasting, prayer, and penitence beginning at Ash Wednesday and concluding at sundown on Holy Thursday. The official liturgical color for the season of Lent is violet. Lent begins on February 26, 2020.

The observance of Lent is related to the celebration of Easter. In the first three centuries of the Christian era, most Christians prepared for Easter by fasting and praying for three days. In some places this was extended to the entire week before Easter (now known as "Holy Week"). There is evidence that in Rome, the length of preparation was three weeks.

The word Lent derives from the Middle English word *lenten*, meaning springtime – the time of lengthening days. There is biblical support for doing penance, in both the Old and New Testaments. The season of Lent builds on this biblical support, but like all Catholic liturgical seasons, it developed over time. In its early three-week form, Lent was the period of intense spiritual and liturgical preparation for catechumens before they were baptized at Easter. Many members of the community imitated this time of preparation with the catechumens.

Popes Prayer Intention for February

Universal: *Listen to the Migrants' Cries*—We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

This Week

Monday, February 24

7:00pm	Mass	+Sister Margaret Fujisawa, S.A.
7:30pm	Prayers	+Brother Stan Racich, OMI

Tuesday, February 25

6:00am	Meeting	Men's Prayer Group
8:00am	Mass	+Edgar Salmingo
10:00am	Meeting	Busy Hands Women's Craft Group
10:00am	Funeral	Brother Stan Racich, OMI
7:00pm	Mass	

Wednesday, February 26 Ash Wednesday

8:00am	Mass	
9:15am	Mass	St. Augustine's School
7:00pm	Mass	+Helen Bruchet

Thursday, February 27

8:00am	Mass	
7:00pm	Mass	

Friday, February 28

8:00am	Mass	
7:00pm	Mass	+Edgar Salmingo
7:30pm	Event	Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 29

8:00am	Mass	
9:00am	Event	Development & Peace Workshop
3:30pm	Meeting	Legion of Mary Junior Praesidium
5:00pm	Mass	
		Food Collection

Sunday, March 1

8:30am	Meeting	Legion of Mary
9:00am	Mass	Mary Yim Cheung Tao
		Food Collection
11:00am	Mass	
		RCIA Presentation of Candidates & Catechumens
5:00pm	Mass	+Roel Ramirez
		Food Collection

OFFERTORY

We are grateful for these gifts

Sunday Envelopes: \$9,423.00

Loose: \$755.10

REST IN PEACE

Brother Stan Racich, OMI

Pope's Message

The boat of our life is often storm-tossed and buffeted by winds. Even when the waters are calm, they quickly grow agitated. When we are caught up in those storms, they seem to be our only problem. But the issue is not the momentary storm, but how we are navigating through life. The secret of navigating well is to invite Jesus on board. The rudder of life must be surrendered to him, so that he can steer the

route. He alone gives life in death and hope in suffering; he alone heals our heart by his forgiveness and frees us from fear by instilling confidence. Today, let us invite Jesus into the boat of our life. Like the disciples, we will realize that once he is on board, the winds die down (*cf. v. 32*) and there can be no shipwreck. With him on board, there will never be a shipwreck! Only with Jesus do we then become capable of offering reassurance. How greatly we need people who can comfort others not with empty words, but with words of life, with deeds of life. In the name of Jesus, we are able to offer true comfort. It is not empty words of encouragement, but the presence of Jesus that grants strength. *Reassure* us, Lord: comforted by you, we will be able to bring true comfort to others.

We are wanting in true life and we need the outstretched hand of the Lord to draw us out from evil. This is the beginning of faith: to cast off the pride that makes us feel self-sufficient, and to realize that we are in need of salvation. Faith grows in this climate, to which we adapt ourselves by taking our place beside those who do not set themselves on a pedestal but are needy and cry out for help. This is why it is important for all of us *to live our faith in contact with those in need*. This is not a sociological option, the fashion of a single pontificate; it is a theological requirement. It entails acknowledging that we are beggars pleading for salvation, brothers and sisters of all, but especially of the poor whom the Lord loves. In this way, we embrace the spirit of the Gospel. "The spirit of poverty and of love – says the Council – is in fact the glory and witness of the Church of Christ" (*Gaudium et Spes*, 88).

Jesus heard the cry of Peter. Let us ask for the grace to hear the cry of all those tossed by the waves of life. The *cry of the poor*: it is the stifled cry of the unborn, of starving children, of young people more used to the explosion of bombs than happy shouts of the playground. It is the cry of the elderly, cast off and abandoned to themselves. It is the cry of all those who face the storms of life without the presence of a friend. It is the cry of all those forced to flee their homes and native land for an uncertain future. It is the cry of entire peoples, deprived even of the great natural resources at their disposal. It is the cry of every Lazarus who weeps while the wealthy few feast on what, in justice, belongs to all. Injustice is the perverse root of poverty. The cry of the poor daily grows louder but is heard less and less. Every day that cry gets louder, but every day heard less, drowned out by the din of the rich few, who grow ever fewer and more rich.

Ash Wednesday – February 26, 2020 - The first day of Lent

Ash Wednesday is one of the most popular and important holy days in the liturgical calendar. Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. As the Priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

Alternatively, the Priest may speak the words, "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

Ashes also symbolize grief, in this case, grief that we have sinned and caused division from God.

The ashes are made from blessed palm branches, taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass.

It is important to remember that Ash Wednesday is a day of penitential prayer and fasting. It is not required that a person wear the ashes for the rest of the day, and they may be washed off after Mass. However, many people keep the ashes as a reminder until the evening.

In some cases, ashes may be delivered by a Priest or a family member to those who are sick or shut-in.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the Season of Lent. It is a season of penance, reflection, and fasting which prepares us for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

Why we receive the ashes

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. Then, while the faithful recited the Seven Penitential Psalms, the penitents were turned out of the Church because of their sins -- just as Adam, the first man, was turned out of Paradise because of his disobedience. The penitents did not enter the Church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion. In earlier times, the distribution of ashes was followed by a Penitential Procession.

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.

Ash Wednesday Palms

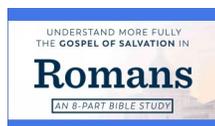


We will be collecting last year's palms until Sunday February 23rd. Palms from last year may be placed in the basket in the Church foyer. In the Catholic tradition, the ashes used on Ash Wednesday are remnants of the palm leaves distributed from the prior year on Palm Sunday. Catholics keep

the palm leaves throughout the year and return them to the Church before Ash Wednesday of the next year. The leaves are then turned into ashes for use in the Ash Wednesday services. During the service, the Parishioners proceed to the front of the Church and the ashes are placed on each person's forehead in the shape of a cross. Ideally, the ashes are not to be washed off but are to remain on the forehead throughout the day of Ash Wednesday.

Nominations for Parish Pastoral Council

Nomination forms for upcoming Parish Pastoral Council elections will be available at the back of the Church from Saturday February 15th to Sunday evening February 23rd. The Elections will take place the weekend of February 29th and March 1st. To be eligible for election potential candidates must be registered and active parishioners of St. Augustine's Parish and agree to be nominated.



Bible Study begins March 10th at St. Augustines

Join St. Augustine's Adult Faith Group to study St. Paul's letter to the Romans. In this 8 session study we will learn that salvation is not merely the removal of a guilty verdict; it is

about entering into Christ's life, death, and resurrection and sharing in his divine life. In Jesus Christ all the hopes and expectations of Israel are fulfilled, leading to the universal ("catholic") family of God. We invite you to join us in the Parish Hall on Tuesday evenings 7:30-9 PM starting March 10. Cost of \$40 for study guide (financial assistance available). Registration is required - email biblestudies@staugustineschurch.ca

We hope you will join us!

FORMED

Looking for good, wholesome Catholic content...tired of searching the internet? Check out formed.org a virtual library with video and ebooks for adults and children! Find comprehensive and

inspiring content. Share with your friends and family! Simply sign up for FREE by visiting formed.org and entering our Parish access code **4FX3T6**. You may then create your personal account.

Senior's Lenten Retreat

We are offering a morning retreat for our Senior's on FRIDAY, MARCH 13 from 11:00 – 2:00 at the Parish Centre.

The focus of the Retreat will be on prayer, a video presentation by Bishop Robert Barron, group discussion and a simple soup and bun lunch.

All seniors are welcome – please register through email to:

Cathie Oberndorf coberndorf@shaw.ca or call 604 488 4151

This Share Lent, let's stand in solidarity with the defenders of the Earth



This year, Development and Peace – Caritas Canada is encouraging us to support all those in the Amazon and the Global South who are caring for God's creation. How can we help?

Attend the Share Lent Workshop on Saturday, February 29th 9:30 – 12:30 at St. Augustine's Parish Centre.

Read Development and Peace's Share Lent literature and **watch** the videos to learn about and hear from the guardians of the Earth.

Donate online at devp.org/give or give during the Solidarity Sunday collection on March

29th, the 5th Sunday of Lent. Your generosity helps support over 149 projects in 36 countries around the world!

For more information or to register for the workshop, please contact Eileen at socialjustice@staugustineschurch.ca.



School News...

Pass the Torch Gala Tickets on Sale!

Le Gala en Blanc, the annual Pass the Torch Gala for St. Augustine's School, will be held on Saturday, April 25th, 2020 at the Hellenic Centre. It will be a magical evening of celebration, friendship, food and dancing with net proceeds going towards finishing our beautiful school.

Parent volunteers will be available after masses on **February 23rd** to assist Non-School Parishioners with the online ticketing process as needed. The ticketing website is: www.passthatorchgala.com.

Around the Archdiocese...

Domestic Abuse Services - Our Lady of Good Counsel Society's AGM

will be held on March 10, 2020 at St. Clare of Assisi Parish (2888 Delahaye Drive, Coquitlam). Registration will begin at 6:30pm. Meeting begins at 7:00pm. Please sign up or renew your memberships before the meeting or come early to do so. Memberships are \$15/year and expire Dec. 31. www.DomesticAbuseServices.ca

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP in the ancient Benedictine tradition as taught by Fr. John Main & Fr. Lawrence Freeman. We meet Tuesday evenings@7:30pm. For more information or to come & see call Maryann @ 778-887-5701, or mlyshug@gmail.com.

The Book of Esther – Christian & Jewish Perspectives

Join us for a multifaceted discussion on the Book of Esther from both Christian and Jewish Perspectives. Persian Feast Buffet followed by an expert panel discussion. takes place Monday, March 2 at 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m at Congregation Beth Israel in Vancouver. The event is organized by the Archdiocese of Vancouver and the Jewish Congregation Beth Israel for an exploration of the Book of Esther.



Oblate Corner

**A rooster that was hard to digest**

Of the hundreds of devoted Oblates who served as pastors or assistants in the parishes of Quebec, several would merit to see their names inscribed on the first page of a glorious honor roll. Father Arthur Guertin is one of them. He left unforgettable memories among the parishioners of Hull and throughout the entire region of Ottawa.

Preacher-pastor (1892-1916)

Born at Saint-Jean-Baptiste-de-Rouville in 1868, Arthur Guertin entered the Oblate Novitiate at the age of 17, following the example of his brother Frederic. Ordained to the priesthood in 1892, he first made a name for himself as a preacher of parish missions during eighteen years. His warm,

vivacious and powerful words struck the imagination of people. In 1910, Father Guertin was named pastor of the great and beautiful parish of Notre Dame, in Hull. During six years he dedicated his talents to the spiritual and material welfare of this mostly working-class parish. He promoted devotion to the Sacred Heart and introduced frequent communion. He started a Parish bulletin, organized a Credit Union, raised Scholarships for students who were poor, and instigated Catholic Labor Unions.

Professor at the University of Ottawa (1916-1932)

In the last sixteen years of his life he taught Canadian History and Literature at the University of Ottawa. His good nature and open cordiality made him popular in this environment. Father Guertin was everybody's friend. No one hesitated to knock at his door for a consultation or confession. A few students may have taken advantage of his confidence in them. This is shown by the following anecdote.

A copious meal for a special guest!

For the past few years, Father Guertin had kept a dozen or so chickens and a majestic rooster in a shed, on Wilbrod Street, near the University. Every day, this proud chanticleer intoned his morning cock-a-doodle-doo which, unfortunately, disturbed the sleep of the students. Three clever young rascals, at their wit's end, decided one day to abduct the wearisome awakener. This also provided the right moment for a succulent meal. They were even brazen enough to extend a friendly invitation to the owner of the winged creature for a famous "coq au vin"! The Oblate accepted, and in the company of the three rogues, confidently sank his teeth into the fruit of their abduction.

In the following days, however, suspicions began to rise in the priest's mind, as he realized that his big beautiful rooster had disappeared. He then called the three suspected hosts to his office... Mum's the word! Mouths closed! None of them, of course, had heard anything about this larceny!

Thus the mystery remained, for many long years. It was only on his deathbed that Father Guertin brought it to light. One of the three thieves came to visit him at the hospital. After the usual greetings and a few reflections on the end of life, the Priest stopped suddenly, and staring fixedly in his visitor's eyes, he asked point-blank: "Today, my dear boy, you can very well tell me... was it you and the others who took my rooster?" The culprit could not hold back his tears. He bent his head without saying a word. Father Guertin had understood.

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.	
<input type="checkbox"/> New Parishioner <input type="checkbox"/> Need Envelopes <input type="checkbox"/> 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