

A Word From Our Pastor...



Of the many privations we have had to endure in the past three weeks that of not being able to physically gather as a community to celebrate our faith is surely a heavy burden. These are tough times and we must rely on each other more than ever before. How long can we endure this isolation; how much longer must we extend this Lenten and Good Friday sacrifice?

As challenging as it is to distance ourselves individually and as a group, our unwavering faith and our belief in a just and merciful Lord sustains

us through our present trials. We are an Easter people and our belief in new life give us the courage we require. It is our renewed hope for the future that carries us forward during this one great Sunday, this sevenweek Feast until the glory of Pentecost.

As your Pastor, I very much miss being physically present with you each time I celebrate the Mass. I hold every one of you in my prayers as we continue our journey from Lent into Easter. I am doing my best to reach out and connect with as many of you as possible through the online bulletin, telephone and internet.

A special note of thanks to Alyssa & Scott Kenyon who promptly set up internet meetings for our very active Bible Study group and to Linda Arnold for likewise overseeing and facilitating the RCIA ministry, enabling that group to continue their spiritual and personal connections to each other. Peter Allen has tirelessly kept our Choir performing and enhancing our solemn and joyous liturgies. I also thank the many parishioners and Ministry heads whose extraordinary efforts have actively kept the lines of communication open between us.

Please continue to watch this website and the Sunday bulletin for details as we update you on the latest events at St. Augustine's. In the very near future, I hope to set up a system via "Zoom" whereby parishioners can gather as a community and connect directly with me. It will be good to see your faces again!

Let us all be of stout heart and stay the course. As Jesus himself said "Know that I am with you".

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Fr. Andrzej

This Week

Monday, April 20

17:00pm Mass +Mr. & Mrs. Bill Trainor

Tuesday, April 21

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

Wednesday, April 22

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

Thursday, April 23

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass

Friday, April 24

8:00am Mass

7:00pm Mass +Doreen Mendes

Saturday, April 25

8:00am Mass +Julian Wlosinski

5:00pm Mass +Julian Wlosinski

Sunday, April 26

9:00am Mass

11:00am Mass

5:00pm Mass

Popes Prayer Intention for April

Universal: *Freedom from Addiction*—We pray that those suffering from addiction may be helped and accompanied.

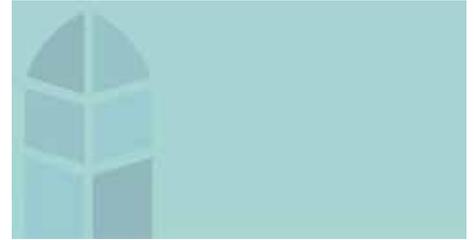
**OFFERTORY**

We are grateful for these gifts

\$5,860.00

Please visit www.staugustineschurch.ca

If you wish to maintain your contributions
via Debit or Credit Card

**Thomas**

In the Gospel we have John's version of Pentecost, birthday of the Church. The risen Jesus appears to his apostles, showing them his wounds and bestowing peace on them. He gives them the gift of the Spirit and inaugurates the mission of the Church, which is the continuance of his own mission (to preach repentance for the forgiveness of sins).

One of the effects of the gift of the Spirit was that the Church had the power to forgive sins. John did not tell us who could exercise this power or how it should be exercised. Though we cannot read back into this text the later Sacrament of Penance, we can confidently say that the Church's use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is one valid and legitimate way of exercising the power over sin given by the risen Jesus to his disciples.

Thomas' profession of faith, 'My Lord and my God', is the supreme Christological statement of John's Gospel. Originally John's Gospel ended where today's passage ends.

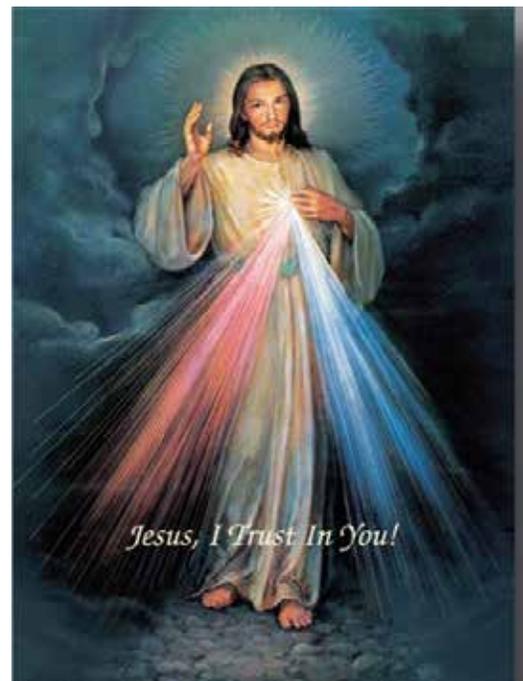
For this and the next five Sundays the Second Reading is taken from the Book of Revelation. The book is the revelation of Jesus Christ, made known through an angel to an unidentified prophet, John. It describes the battle between good and evil, and assures believers that good (God) will triumph. It was addressed to the whole Church and was meant to be read at liturgical assemblies to encourage believers to hold fast to the faith in times of persecution.

Divine Mercy Sunday

The world was in the midst of the Great Depression in 1931 and the memories of World War I were still very much alive in the minds of Europeans when in Poland a sister of the Congregation of Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), is said to have been personally visited by Jesus.

According to her diary, which was listed on the Index of Forbidden Books for more than 20 years, an image was revealed to her of the risen Lord, from whose heart shone two rays, one red (representing blood) and the other "pale" (symbolizing water), with the words "Jesus, I trust in you" at the bottom. Faustina wrote in her diary that Jesus told her, "I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish."

When she was canonized in 2000 under the direction of fellow countryman Pope John Paul II, he proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would henceforth be known as Divine Mercy Sunday, thereby widely promoting the devotional practices associated with Faustina's visions, already popular in many communities.

**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.

Virtual Faith Study - Discover the Holy Spirit



Join us online Tuesday evenings at 7:30 starting April 7th for a weekly virtual gathering to learn more about the Holy Spirit and build community so we can become better disciples of Christ. We will be watching and discussing videos of The Wild Goose

series by Fr. Dave Pivonka. For more information or to register e-mail: biblestudies@staugustineschurch.ca

Weekly Sunday Donations

Weekly offering envelopes can be dropped off at the Parish Office during regular office hours.

If you wish, you can make your Sunday and Special donations using Mastercard, Visa or Preauthorized Debit. Please complete the authorization form which can be picked up at the Parish Office or complete online at www.staugustineschurch.ca

The amount you authorize will be processed on the 20th of each month.

Thank you for your generous financial support.

Message for our Senior Lunch Community

Due to the current health challenges we all face, the previously listed dates (**April 20th and June 8th**) for our much loved **School Hosted Seniors' Lunches** are being cancelled. You are in our prayers as we do all we can to keep everyone safe. We will also be communicating with your Grade 7 prayer partners to seek their prayers for your intentions, and ask that you do the same for our young people.



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.

"Do not be afraid. Open wide the doors for Christ."
— Pope Saint John Paul II

Now more than ever, we must hold fast to the great virtue of Hope. Please go to formed.org for many resources on Catholic faith formation, prayer, Catholic movies and many other resources. If you are a parent with children home from school, there are many original resources available.



St. Augustine's Door Is Open Support Goes Virtual during COVID 19



St. Augustine's parishioners have been supporting the Door Is Open ministry in the downtown eastside for many years with donations to their foodbank. Twice a month volunteers from the parish have collected food donations and taken them down to the DIO. With this ministry unable to continue in the same way, the Social Justice Committee is asking parishioners who would normally bring food, and anyone else who can, to consider either sending a cheque or making an online donation to the Door Is Open. This ministry helps feed hundreds of vulnerable people many of whom are at great risk for Covid 19. Online donations can be made at:

<https://rcav.org/donate-the-door-is-open/>

or send a cheque made out to "The Door Is Open" and marked "Daily Meal Provision" care of:

The Door Is Open
c/o Catholic Charities
4885 Saint John Paul II Way
Vancouver BC V5Z 0G3

Share Lent—2020



As the global human family faces the COVID-19 pandemic, Development and Peace—Caritas Canada wishes its members, donors and partner organizations the best of health and resilience. Our thoughts are especially with communities of the Global South whose hardships are compounded by this crisis.

Share Lent 2020: In-person activities on hold

Following the advice of public health authorities, we at Development and Peace have made the decision to cancel or postpone all our in-person meetings and events across Canada. Each year, our dedicated members bring our Share Lent campaign to life by organizing workshops, fundraising activities, speaking events and more in parishes and schools to highlight our campaign and to raise the funds needed to help millions of people around the world. Even though this is an important time for fundraising and building our movement at Development and Peace, we must put health, safety and the common good first.

A virtual campaign



During this difficult time, the need to support one another is more present than ever, particularly for our sisters and brothers in the Global South, whose struggles will be multiplied by this pandemic. As such, we will continue our Share Lent journey of solidarity virtually. We will remain in close contact by providing content and resources so that you can experience the spiritual renewal of Lent online and show your solidarity with those who need it most.

Your support is vital

As Church closures are already impacting collections in parishes across Canada, we are asking for donations by mail, phone or online:

Send a cheque to:

Development and Peace,
1425 René-Lévesque Blvd. West, 3rd Floor, Montreal (Quebec) H3G 1T7

Call to donate:

1-888 664-3387

Oblate Corner**Recovered, Thanks to a Picture of the Virgin**

Of all the Oblate missionaries, who for more than a century dedicated their lives to the service of the Amerindians in the Canadian Northwest Territories, we no longer know the exact number of those who drowned in the course of their travels to preach the Gospel in these remote missions. We could recall the names of Brothers Joseph Thouminet, who disappeared in 1880, Joseph Rio, in 1907, Emile Portelance and Alexandre Cadieux, in 1909, Auguste Weisch and Joseph Nicolas, in 1910, as well as Fathers Benoît Brémond and Joseph Brohan, 1908, François Frapsauce, 1920, and Honoré Pigeon, 1934. But this list is far from complete.

Father Elphège Allard

This is the story of a young missionary who disappeared tragically, at the age of 48, in dangerous rapids, and whose body was discovered miraculously, thanks to a special intervention of the Virgin Mary. Elphège Allard was born on June 11, 1891 at Saint-Simon-de-Bagot, in a family which would provide the Church with three Oblates and three Sisters of the Presentation of Mary. After his studies at the Seminary of Saint-Hyacinthe, Elphège followed his two older brothers Joseph and Odilon into the Oblate community. He was ordained to the Priesthood by Bishop J. H. Bruneault, of Nicolet. The following month, young Father Allard left for the missions in British Columbia. During seventeen years he showed an extraordinary zeal which produced an abundance of fruitful results. As an itinerant missionary along the railroad line, he visited numerous mining camps. He was entrusted with the missions of Telegraph Creek, McDame, Lower Post, and Stuart Lake. He built many churches, instructed and baptized hundreds of Amerindians. He even found time to take flying lessons, and in 1930, he was one of the first missionaries to obtain a pilot's license.

A fatal accident

This daring apostle of Christ would unfortunately end his days tragically. On July 13, 1935, he was descending on the Dease River in the company of his bishop, Emile Bunoiz. The small boat he was piloting was heavy with baggage, heaped up behind the bishop, who was sitting at the front. Suddenly, they were caught up in rapids and Father Allard was unable to avoid a lowlying branch extending over the river. He was violently thrown overboard and disappeared in the turbulent waters before the very eyes of his companion, who could do nothing to help him. It was miraculous that the bishop survived. After two long days of waiting on the isolated bank, near the wreck, the prelate was finally rescued by a passing commercial vessel and brought to the closest Amerindian mission.

A providential sign

On receiving news of the tragedy, the police and a team of Amerindians left immediately to look for the missing missionary. For three weeks the river was carefully searched unsuccessfully. The group was about to leave when a policeman noticed a piece of paper dangling from a branch that was floating on the water, several kilometers from the wreck. Out of curiosity, he reached out for this unusual object. It was a picture of the Blessed Virgin. Where did it come from? Certainly from one of the packages that fell in the water with the priest. The search was resumed at that spot. Who knows? Could this be a sign from heaven? Soon after, as a matter of fact, the searchers retrieved from the water the precious mortal remains of the valiant missionary. His body had been held on the river bottom by a tree stump which had been uprooted from the bank.

Father Allard has never received the glorious crown of martyrdom, but, before God, his merit is just as great: that of having given his life for the salvation of the most abandoned souls. "His passing from this world was thought an affliction, but he is in peace." (Wisdom 3:2)

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